

**City Of Alpine**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 5, 2017**  
**5:30 P.M.**  
**Minutes**

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of allegiance to the flags. – Mayor Ramos called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at 803 West Holland in the City of Alpine, Texas. Councilor Fitzgerald gave the invocation. Mayor Ramos led the pledge of allegiance to the flags
2. Determination of quorum and proof of notice of the meeting. – Councilor Curry, Councilor Fitzgerald, Councilor Escovedo, Councilor Stephens and Mayor Ramos were present. City Secretary said the meeting notice had been posted at 9:30 P. M. on September 1, 2017. City Manager Zimmer, Assistant City Manager/ Finance Director Antrim, and Abel Hinojos were also present.
3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations. – (A. Ramos, Mayor) –
  - A. Proclamation – 70 Years of 06 Alpine Cowboy Baseball – Proclamation was read and presented to Kristen Cavness by Mayor Ramos.

4. Reports –

City Mayor’s Report – (A. Ramos, Mayor – None

City Manager Report – (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – City Manager Zimmer gave the following report.

- A. Paving Update – Blog notice went out about our strategies around the different streets. As a city perspective we divide things into seal coat projects, rebuilt projects. Same as last year we used our city staff to do the seal coating and Jarrett dirt works to do the rebuild. We have migrated from Carpenter Addition to around Centennial School. Murphy Street seems to be getting more traffic, and people migrating toward Centennial School. City employee team will be targeting 7<sup>th</sup> street. Jarrett dirt work team has been working on the streets from 7<sup>th</sup> street to about 10<sup>th</sup> street, or the highway or Sul Ross. Working highways is always a challenge and safety is our number one priority.
- B. Back to school Update – School and university back to classes. Chief Scown stated that patrol has increased in the school area for the first few weeks, citizens are probably seeing police officers following the buses , that is done to encourage safer driving practice to make sure that kids do not get hurt. Also September 8, 2016 was a rough date for our school district with an active shooter. Police officers had a training, a week before school started, just to make sure that something like that would not happen again.
- C. Staffing Update – Staffing continues to be an issue with the city, not only the city, but with other employers. City continues to invest in training and incentives plans tied to advanced certifications. The greater piece of work will be in the next year or two for elected officials and school administrators to see what our future work force will look like. We will have graduates from our school that want to stay in Alpine. How do you prepare your community for these graduates that want to remain in Alpine?

City Staff Updates – NONE

5. Public Hearings –

Public Hearing to obtain citizens views and comments, concerning FY 2017/2018 proposed Property Tax Rate \$0.534970 per \$100 for the City of Alpine, Texas. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) - No Public Comments.

Public Hearing to obtain citizens views and comments, concerning the amendment of Section 54-205, Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54, Health and Sanitation, Abatement of Weeds or Grass in excess of 48 inches. Ordinance 2017-08-1(E. Zimmer, City Manager) –

Oscar Cobos, Ward 5 - Weeds and grass a deep concern and looks horrible.

Amelia Rodriguez, Ward 4 - Some of the residents want to cultivate and create by disarming their individual properties with the intent of conserving main grasses and plants. Also comments – Do not cut the weeds since some are native plants, and for citizens to consider xeriscaping.

Kyle Van John wanted to make a short statement in regards to the arroyos, that the group of engineers back in the early 70's, made a study of. He has an index of work up at Sul Ross that has been put together for all the council members that will be on the agenda sometime in the future. Flood control is something the downtown business people have to think about, because we are in a flood plain. We have 3 creeks and Alpine Creek is one of the three. We need to keep the arroyos clean as they have never been maintained properly. Now they have been abandoned, neglected, and nothing happens.

Joe Torres, AKA Magoo, said we have some properties in the business district that are in bad shape with weeds so high that they are covering the building. He said they have deer and snakes in the property behind Subway and Bealls. Is it the cities responsibility to get them cleaned, or the property owner?

6. Consent Agenda – (Minutes, Financial Reports, Department written reports, board appointments etc.) –

Notice to the public – The following items are of a routine and administrative nature. The Council has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote –

A. Approval of minutes from City Council meeting on August 1, 2017.(E. Zimmer, City Manager)

B. Approval of minutes from City Council meeting on August 15, 2017.(E. Zimmer, City Manager)

C. Approval of minutes from City Council Special meeting August 17, 2017.(E. Zimmer, City Manager)

D. Approval of minutes from City Council Special meeting August 22, 2017. (E. Zimmer, City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2017-09-01, to approve the Council

Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.

**7. Information or Discussion Items –**

- A. Board and Commission Training Feedback and Board Chair Meeting Schedule and Council. (R. Stephens, City Council) – Councilor Stephens stated there was training two weeks ago. Councilor Stephens has two items he wanted to discuss. One, any feedback about the training. Mayor Ramos commented that he received positive feedback from the Training being held. Councilor Curry stated that the Training went well. Councilor Stephens wants the City Secretary to schedule each of the 6 Board and Commission chairs to get on the agenda for City Council to have discussion about the goals and objectives for the year. Councilor Stephens requested 2 or 3 members to have a discussion with the council.
  
- B. Discussion regarding Air Ambulance Service in Alpine. (R. Stephens, City Council) – Discussion within Council. For the last couple of years, there has been air ambulance in Alpine for two reasons. One we want to have it, second is their alternative to be able to get people out of the city that need to go for service outside of the area. Big Bend Regional Medical Center can be accessed by ground if they don't have to go by air. Big Bend Regional Medical Center does have a contract with Elite that allows them to transport to public facilities. The challenge is the air ambulance service that was previously here, Air Methods backed out. The Good news is that there are now two air services in Alpine. One is Elite and they are providing services and the other company is called First Flight.
  
- C. Discuss the request by Wasserman Ranch to establish a retail outlet at the Caboose at Railroad Park. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Gwin Jamison and team have been working on the Railroad Park and working wonders on the esthetics and a lot of other groups got involved and engaged. Gwin and Erik had a conversation about how we can transform the Caboose into something that could get more traffic from visitors to the area. The Wasserman's have established a fantastic environment at the ranch with the festivities last year and the kids could not get enough. This would help provide an extension here in town. The Wasserman's have been doing the background work on the cost analysis and come back with a proposal for the council.

Action items to be accompanied by a brief statement of facts, including where funds are coming from, if applicable. (Action items limited to (up to) 10 per meeting). (Citizens are allowed to comment – limited to 3 minutes – after being called upon by Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem. Citizens are required to state their name and the Ward in which they reside. Priority will be given to citizens of Alpine and those who own businesses or property in the City. Individuals who do not live in, own a business or property in the city limits of Alpine, will be allowed to speak if there is time available.) -

- 8. Discuss and consider appointing a new City Councilor for Ward 2. Procedures are followed with respect to Alpine City Charter Section 3.06. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) Councilor Stephens asked for the three candidates who submitted their desire to represent Ward 2, to come and share with Council why they wanted to represent Ward 2. Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2017-09-02, to appoint Ramon R. Olivas as City Council to represent Ward 2. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried. Ramon Olivas was sworn in by Judge Ferguson as Councilmember for Ward 2.

9. Discuss and consider the second reading of Ordinance 2017-08-02 providing for the abandonment, vacation, and closure of a 222 square foot segment of a street and sidewalk located at 102 East Murphy Street in Alpine, Texas to wit; providing for the terms and conditions of abandonment, vacation and closure. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) - Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2017-09-03, to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2017-08-02. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.
10. "Discuss and consider approving a sale price for the permanent closure of a 222 square foot segment of a street and sidewalk located at 102 East Murphy Street in Alpine, Texas, relative to Ordinance 2017-08-02"(E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, to table this item. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.
11. Discuss and consider request for funds for the Children’s Advocacy Center of the Big Bend. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens to table this item. Motion was seconded by Councilor Olivas. Motion unanimously carried.
12. Discuss and approve Budget Amendment for Fund 04 of the City of Alpine Budget FY 2016-17. Budget amendment will transfer \$50K each (100K total) from 0654-9001 in the Sewer department to 0653-0101 in Water Department. Budget amendment will cover additional wage costs relative to increased amount of water line breaks during this fiscal year. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2017-09-04 to approve the transfer as stated. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.
13. Discuss and consider approving Amendment to Agreement for Municipal Solid Waste Collection Agreement. Amendment would clarify roll-off services offered and delivered within the City limits for the City of Alpine. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – No motion. Motion died.
14. Discuss and consider the second reading of Ordinance 2017-08-01 to amend Section 54-205. Abatement of weeds or grass in excess of 48 inches. (R. Stephens, City Council) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens by Resolution 2017-09-05 to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2017-08-01. Motion seconded by Councilor Olivas. Motion unanimously carried.
15. City Councilmember Comments and Answers – No discussion or action may take place-

Councilor Curry – Congratulations to Councilor Olivas.

Councilor Olivas- gave his gratitude for vote of confidence.

Councilor Fitzgerald –Congratulations to Councilor Olivas.

Councilor Escovedo- Congratulations to Councilor Olivas and thanks everyone for coming.

Councilor Stephens – great to have three people interested in Ward 2 position. Thanks everyone for showing up. Good discussion tonight.

Mayor Ramos- Thank everyone that came this evening, also want to thank everyone that came up to the podium with their ideas. Also thank you to the two candidates for stepping up to the plate.

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2017-09-06 to enter into Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried. (5:41 P.M.)

10. Executive Session – Pursuant to Texas Government Code (Section 551.074 (personnel matters)). –

A. Deliberation regarding the selection of a new City Manager for the City of Alpine. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) (5:42 P.M.)

11. Action after Executive Session – (7:19 P.M.)

A. Take action, regarding the selection of a new City Manager for the City of Alpine. (E. Zimmer City Manager) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens to take no action. Councilor Fitzgerald seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

12. Adjournment. – There being no further action, meeting was adjourned.

NOTICE: The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed on the posted agenda, above, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorney), 551.072 (deliberations about real property, 551.073 (deliberations about gifts and donations), 551.074 (personnel matters), 551.076 (deliberations about security devices) and 551.086 (economic development).

I certify that this notice was posted at 9:30 A.M on September 1, 2017, pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act. (Texas Vernon’s Annotated Civil Statutes, section 551.043, Texas Government Code.) This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking space is available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary’s Office at (432) 837-3301 or fax (432) 837-2044 for further information.

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Andres “Andy” Ramos, Mayor

Attest:

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Cynthia Salas, City Secretary

I, Cynthia Salas, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 9:30 A. M. on September 1, 2017, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

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Cynthia Salas, City Secretary