

City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
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. Fr. Fred Janecek gave the invocation. Mayor Ramos led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.
2. Determination of a quorum and proof of notice of the meeting – Councilor Curry, Councilor Olivas, Councilor Betty Fitzgerald, Councilor Escovedo, Councilor Stephens and Mayor Ramos were present. City Secretary, Cynthia Salas reported that the agenda was posted at 2:00 P.M. on August 30, 2019.
3. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per person).
4. Presentations, Recognitions and Proclamations – (A. Ramos, Mayor)
 - A. Proclamation for Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month
 - B. Certificate of Recognition – Lorena Crespo-Gonzalez – Municipal Courts.
5. Reports -
 - City Mayor’s Report – (A. Ramos, Mayor) – None
 - City Attorney’s Report –
 - TCEQ
 - City Manager Report –
 - Update on employee handbook changes
 - Update on Wastewater equipment
 - Alpine Public Library
 - Evaluations
 - City Staff Updates –
 - Municipal Court
 - Human Resources
 - Training
6. Public Hearings –
 - A. Public Hearing to obtain citizen’s views and comment on Ordinance 2019-08-02, making appropriations for the support of the City of Alpine, Texas for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020; appropriating money to a sinking fund to pay interest and principal on the City’s indebtedness; adopting the annual budget of the City of Alpine, Texas for the Fiscal Year 2019/2020.
7. 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being discussed separately unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon.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 September 3, 2019.

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-01 to approve the consent agenda as written. Motion was seconded by Councilor Betty Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.

8. Information or Discussion items –

1. Discuss setting a date for a Board & Commission workshop for the purpose of discussing potential changes to the language established in the City Ordinance. (R. Stephens, City Council). **Meeting Board Commission to be held on October 1st, 2019.**
 2. Discuss setting a date for a streets plan workshop for the purpose of setting priorities for repairs based on the street study and funding in the budget. (R. Stephens, City Council). **Meeting street plan workshop to be held on October 15th, 2019.**
 3. Receive an update from the City Attorney on the Lechuguilla project, concerning application for the Plat for the Lechuguilla project. Property identification is 5.475 acre tract of land out of Section 102 in Block 9, G.H. & S.A. RY Co Survey being out of a 10.16 acre tract of land described in Book 210 at Page 472 and being all of a 1.0-acre tract of land described in Book 324 at Page 164 both recorded among the Official Public Records of Brewster County, Texas, Property Owner is Skyway Gardens, Ltd (R Stephens, City Council)
 4. Discussion in reference to Peter A. Smyke’s email regarding our new appointed City Attorney. (R. Olivas, City Council)
9. 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.) after being called upon by Mayor or Mayor Pro Term. 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, or own businesses or property in the City limits of Alpine, will be allowed to speak if there is time available.) –
1. Interview Erik Zimmer as a candidate for City Manager and based on that interview consider and take appropriate action to hire a City Manager. (R. Stephens, City Council) - **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-02 to Interview Erik Zimmer as a candidate for City Manager and based on that interview consider and take appropriate action to hire Erik Zimmer as City Manager with an annual salary of \$145,000.00 per year, plus healthcare benefits, plus a city car. Motion was seconded by Councilor Escovedo. Councilor Curry, Councilor Betty Fitzgerald Councilor Escovedo, and Councilor Stephens voted for. Councilor Olivas voted against. Motion was 4 to 1. Motion passed.**
 2. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action to approve the FY 2019-2020 Budget for the City of Alpine. (R. Stephens, City Council) - **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-03 to approve the FY 2019-2020 Budget for the City of Alpine. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously passed**
 3. Discuss and Consider approving and adopting the 2019/2020 tax year proposed tax rate for the City of Alpine, Texas by Ordinance 2019-09-01. A tax rate of \$.545100 per \$100 valuation has been recommended for FY 2019/2020. Maintenance and Operations is \$.504330 and Interest and Sinking is \$.040770. (R. Stephens, City Council) - **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-04 to adopting the 2019/2020 tax year proposed tax rate for the City of Alpine, Texas by**

Ordinance 2019-09-01. A tax rate of \$.545100 per \$100 valuation has been recommended for FY 2019/2020. Maintenance and Operations is \$.504330 and Interest and Sinking is \$.040770. Motion was seconded by Councilor Betty Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously passed.

4. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on updating check signatories for all City of Alpine checking accounts. (R. Stephens, City Council) - Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-05 to updating check signatories for all City of Alpine checking accounts, signatures including City Manager, Erik Zimmer, City Secretary, Cynthia Salas will be the two primary signatures. Captain Darrell Losoya and Director of Gas, Randy Guzman will be the backup signatures. Motion was seconded by Councilor Escovedo. Motion unanimously passed.
5. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action regarding extension of the West Texas Ambulance Service contract with the City of Alpine. (R. Stephens, City Council) - Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-06 in regarding extension of the West Texas Ambulance Service contract with the City of Alpine. Motion seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously passed.
6. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action to allocate \$5,000 from the FY 18/19 reserve account to support the Planning & Zoning Commission City Zoning Map to be updated and available for the City to use in the ARC GIS System. (R. Stephens, City Council) - Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-07 to allocate \$5,000 from the FY 18/19 reserve account to support the Planning & Zoning Commission City Zoning Map to be updated and available for the City to use in the ARC GIS System. Motion was seconded by Councilor Betty Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously passed.
10. City Councilmember Comments and Answers – No discussion or action may take place.
11. Executive Session - Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (consultation with attorney), and 551.074 – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. –

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-08 to go executive session. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried. (8:41pm)

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-09 that City Council extends its meeting beyond the 9:00pm time-limit set by Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilor Escovedo. Motion unanimously carried. (8:48pm)

1. Interim City Manager to provide an update regarding the employee grievances logged in the last 3-4 weeks. (R. Olivas, City Council) –

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), 551.074 (personnel matters).

12. Action – Executive Session –

1. Any action, if any, for Interim City Manager to provide an update regarding the employee grievances logged in the last 3-4 weeks. (R. Olivas, City Council) - Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2019-09-11 for Interim City Manager to provide an update regarding the employee grievances logged in the last 3-4 weeks. Motion seconded by Councilor Escovedo. No Action taken.

I certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 P.M. on August 30, 2019, 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.

Andres "Andy" Ramos, Mayor

Attest:

Cynthia Salas, City Secretary

I, Cynthia Salas, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 P.M. on August 30, 2019, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Cynthia Salas, City Secretary