

**City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 4th, 2015
5:30 P.M.
Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of allegiance to the flags – Mayor Rangra called the meeting to order. Jo Beth McLeod said the invocation. Mayor Rangra led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.**

- 2. Determination of a quorum and proof of notice of the meeting – Mayor Rangra, Councilors Antrim, Salas, Fitzgerald, and Stephens were present. Councilor Gonzales had an excused absence. The meeting notice had been posted at 1:30 P.M. on July 31st, 2015. City Manager Zimmer and City Secretary Taylor were also present.**

- 3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations –**

- 4. Reports –
City Mayor’s Report - (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Mayor Rangra said last week on the 29th, he went to Presidio. He said they are building a new visitor’s center. He said Senator Rodriguez was there and our State Representative Pancho Nevarez was there. He said also the head of TxDot, General Weaver was there. He said they talked about expanding the bridge. He said the man who was the vice- president for the West Texas Pacifico railroad was also there and talked about the pipes being shipped on the old track. He said he had not seen the track used for a long time but we need to be aware of this. He said we had a going away party for Ray Hendryx, and presented him a plaque on behalf of the city and it was fun. He said he will be driving early in the morning to attend a meeting in San Angelo tomorrow for the West Texas Summit Conference. He said one of the topics concerns pipelines.
City Manager Report – (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer said he knew that we would spend quite a bit of time on the discussion at the budget workshop. He said he feels like the conversation that occurred today between 3:30 and 5:30 P.M. today really captured the amount of work that the city staff has been working on for the last couple of weeks. He said he did want to make sure that the public was aware. He said he posted a schedule as far as hearings on the tax rate and the proposed budget. He said he encourages the people to go to the website and review that and pick up the phone and ask questions.
City Staff Updates – None**

- 5. Citizens Comments (on agenda items) – (limited to 3 minutes) –
Bob Litton – said he would like to offer his opinion on the revisions of Ordinance 2014-01-01, perhaps for the last time. He said he has been**

attending City Council meetings since August of 2002. He said he has been interested as to what is happening. He said on one occasion there was a “gag rule” when Ray Hendryx stomped out. He said this is a democracy and this is not a corporate boardroom. He said we should be trying to broaden and enlighten the conversation. He said he likes the rules and procedures the way they are now. He said if the council changes it he would like for them to remove the first citizen comments and leave it where the public can comment during the action items. He suggested that it be left alone, since it was quite satisfactory the way it was.

6. Public Hearings –

- A. Public Hearing to obtain citizens views and comments regarding Ordinance 2015-07-01, amending Ordinance 2014-08-01, and setting the Rules and Procedures for the City Council Meetings. (E. Zimmer, CM) –** City Manager Zimmer said this item is for the public to make public comments on this item. Manfred Fritsche said he would like to second what Mr. Litton. He said he failed to see that we need a revision of the ordinance. He said we have a perfectly workable ordinance that regulates the meeting agenda. He said he does not believe a change is needed. He said there are two sections of the City Charter that are affected. He said it comes down to a definition to preside. He said what this ordinance is seeking to accomplish is to diminish the Mayor’s authority to preside at the meetings. He said he believes it alters the City Charter. He said this ordinance is designed to restrict public input. Angie Bermudez said some of the Council might be thinking that you do not have to listen to the citizens according to other cities. She said there are other cities that will not allow the citizens to speak up. She said we are not just any other city, we are Alpine. She asked why we were changing all of these rules all of a sudden. She said we are unique. She said some people say it takes too much time and our meetings take too long. She said if you cannot contribute this time to your constituents, you have no business running for the City Council. Carl Fleming said basically this has come up before and the same type of thing. He said we have citizen comments three times. He said these are on agenda items, information and discussion and action items. He said with this new ruling the citizens will only be able to comment once. He said at one time citizens could not make a comment if it was not on the agenda. He said that got changed one time and it no longer applies. He said occasionally you will have a citizen who really wants something brought before the City Council. He said this situation does not give them that opportunity. He said if citizens are just going to be able to comment on agenda items then whatever they say will be a long ways away from the action item or discussion item and whatever they have said will be forgotten.
- B. Public Hearing to hear citizens views and comments for rezoning of property from R-3 to C-2 (Ordinance 2015-07-02), for sale of property**

facilitation due to being next to business district property. Property identification/street address is 2210 N. Hwy 118 N., Alpine, Texas 79830. Legal description is Block 9, Section 98, Part of NW/4, 1.8771 acres. Record owner is Rebecca Lewis, Box 24, Fort Davis, Texas 79734. (E. Zimmer, CM) – Mayor Rangra asked if the Planning and Zoning Commission had met and decided anything on this item. City Manager Zimmer said it was on the agenda of the Planning and Zoning Commission but they took no action. He said we had to put this on the agenda because we published it in the paper. Mayor Rangra said he wanted to read an Ordinance concerning having a public hearing 11 days before the Planning and Zoning hearing. He said the second City Council hearing had to be posted 16 days before the public hearing. City Attorney Mick McKamie said we could go forward with the hearing tonight. Carl Fleming said the Planning and Zoning Commission met and this came up and the owner and Code Enforcement Officer were not able to show up. He said two other citizens came forward who did not want change. He said this item was tabled since there were no recommendations at this time from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

- 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. Approve accounts payable. (E. Zimmer, CM) –
Motion was made by Councilor Fitzgerald, by Resolution 2015-08-01 to Approve item 7A on the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.

- 8. Information or Discussion items – (Citizens are allowed to comment – limited to 3 minutes – after being called upon by Mayor.) –**

A. Webbie Carvajal Readout – Family Crisis Center. (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer said they are present to give us a readout this evening. Ms. Carvajal said the handouts she gave to the Council had some statistics. She said she had been with the Family Crisis Center for about 15 years as Business Administrator. She said they serve the citizens of a five county area. She said their service area is 26,000 square miles. She said they serve this area with seven regular advocates. She said

they have an office and a shelter in Alpine, an office and shelter in Presidio and just an office in Terlingua. She said the clients that they serve are the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and violent crimes. She said they counsel, advocate for the people who are assaulted, including children. She said law enforcement says they are a very important part of our society. She said they have an emergency shelter. She said they find other living arrangements for people, find jobs and get an education. She said they are funded by four federal grants, by private foundation grants and by donations of all our community (city, county, individuals). She said some of their upcoming needs are air conditioning units that have gone out. She said they also need a new “people” shelter. She said the distance that they have to travel is also a challenge. She said they appreciate the funds that have been allocated in the city budget. Councilor Salas asked about Fort Stockton and Webbie said Fort Stockton does not have a shelter, but they have been helping those people as well. Councilor Stephens asked about counseling. Webbie said they have to limit counseling to three sessions. Councilor Stephens asked about new client service. Webbie said there were a lot of repeat offenders. She said it takes 7 to 9 times before a woman will leave her abuser or is killed. Councilor Salas asked if they had shelters for men and Webbie said they usually get them a hotel room.

- B. Discuss Planning and Zoning Commission Section 2-201 and Section 2-202, and Ordinance 2012-03-01 amending Appendix C (Zoning) section 7. The purpose of discussion is to point out obvious conflict(s) between Section 2-202....ALL FIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE A VOTE. A MAJORITY OF THREE MEMBERS SHALL BE NECESSARY TO HOLD A MEETING....., and Ordinance #2012-03-01 and Section 2-201....PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION COMPOSED OF “SEVEN (7) MEMBERS....NECESSARY QUORUM REQUIREMENT OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS.” It is my understanding that all seven (7) members have been voting on issues brought before the Planning and Zoning Commission for discussion and consideration. (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Mayor Rangra said we need to have an amendment to Section 2-202. He said he did not know why it was not pointed out earlier. He said seven members have been voting and was there a question of legality. City Attorney McKamie said when they read the ordinance that was adopted in 2012, it appears to be the intent of the council at that time to add two voting members to the commission but the other changes in different parts of the code that correspond to that change do not appear to have been made. He said whether that was due to codification problems or whether that was an oversight. He said he believes that the intention of the Council, the way the ordinance was written, was clearly to have a four member quorum, instead of three, and that all seven members vote. He said the additional of two members should have changed all corresponding parts of the code but apparently it did not. He said the votes of the seven members are valid votes. Mayor Rangra said

he checked with our former City Attorney Rod Ponton and he said the same thing that Mr. McKamie is saying. He said Rod said it was the intent of the Council for all seven members to vote. Councilor Stephens said since this is a discussion topic, his observation since being on the Council is that we have different sets of rules for different sets of advisory boards. He said his recommendation would be, rather than look at this singularly, as Planning and Zoning, we ought to be looking at all of the advisory boards. He said some boards have voting members and non-voting members. He said wouldn't it be nice to have some consistency across Parks, Planning and Zoning and the other boards. Mayor Rangra said he agreed that we needed to have some consistency. He asked the City Secretary to put together some sort of chart which showed the similarities and differences in the boards. City Attorney McKamie said he thought we could make some uniform changes to all the Boards and Commissions if that is what the Council wants to do. Mayor Rangra said in the meantime we will continue with the way we are doing with Planning and Zoning. City Attorney said he believed that was the clear intent of that ordinance. Carl Fleming said this was brought to their attention last Thursday night. He said the reason this came up was that the P & Z Commission was really having trouble making a quorum. He said two applicants applied and both were selected for the at-large positions.

- C. Discuss Investment Officer positions in relation to Resolution 2013-12-01. (E. Zimmer, CM) - City Manager Zimmer said the Council passed a Resolution concerning the investment policy and at that juncture there were four people defined, the City Manager, City Finance Director, City Secretary and an outside financial advisor that would represent the committee on behalf of the City. He said we currently do not have that fourth financial advisor. He said we need to have a recommendation and go ahead and insert that person by Resolution. He said his anticipation is that we can insert that person on August 18th. He said the Council is also responsible for reviewing the investment policy. He said there will be an item later on in tonight's agenda. He said one of the individuals that he and Megan had talked about was Linda Lassiter. He said they are not married to that decision but feel it is important to have discussion on that. He said we do not have excess funds sitting in reserve, but we want to be prepared in case things were to change. Councilor Fitzgerald said Kevin would qualify since he applied for the director position. City Manager Zimmer said Kevin would be someone we could consider. Megan said Linda may be overworked. City Manager Zimmer said his only request would be to have someone local to the area. Councilor Stephens asked if we had an investment of three people and we need four. City Manager Zimmer said we have no money to invest right now. He said we contemplate looking at what markets are doing. Mayor Rangra said there was a lot of turmoil in 2013 about investments. City Manager Zimmer said we could ask Jim Long but he is a new member on the Airport Board.

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)

- 9. Discuss and Consider approving the second and final reading of revised Ordinance to update Ordinance 2014-08-01, an Ordinance setting the Rules and Procedures for the City Council meetings. (R. Stephens and N. Antrim) – Councilor Stephens said a lot of dialogue from people wanting to talk about this particular ordinance. He asked the City Attorney if this ordinance complied with the rules of the City Charter. City Attorney McKamie said he believed they did. He said the Charter has a broad provision in it that gives the Council the right to create its own Rules and Procedures. He said it is a very broad grant to the Council to do that. He said he does not see anything in there that does more than adopt those Rules and Procedures so it does not run counter to the Charter as he reads these rules in the Ordinance. Councilor Stephens asked if this proposed ordinance was typical with what other home-rule cities have done. City Attorney McKamie said it was very typical for each City to adopt their own Ordinance for Rules and Procedures. He said of course they are tailor-made for each city. He said there are probably some provisions that other cities do not have that we have and there are certainly Rules that other cities have that Alpine does not have. He said tailor-making rules is common in Home-Rule cities. Councilor Stephens said he understood that the City of Alpine had more opportunities for citizen comments than any other cities. City Attorney McKamie said there is a very liberal area for comments in the meeting. He said it is typical for cities to allow public comment but he would say the most common public comment is a single public comment. He said agenda items allow comment on virtually any topic. He said of course the public is allowed to comment on public hearing postings. He said in the past he thinks that Alpine has and will continue to offer comments more than is typical in other cities. Councilor Stephens said in his perspective that was the rationale behind why we made these changes. He talked about the “ayes” and the “nays” instead of same sign. He said he was somewhat conflicted about limiting the comments. He said he hoped there would be a lot more discussion with Councilmembers before we voted on this. He said that does not happen. He said he does not receive any phone calls. He said the only time we hear from anyone is when we reach out or they show up at the meeting. Councilor Antrim said it was certainly not their intent to stifle comments. She said they want comments. She said they felt it was important for the Council to get them in a timely fashion, so that they could be considering them as they are discussing the other items, rather than having things thrown at them at different points in the meeting. She said they want input from their constituents. She said**

they wish they did hear from their constituents between meetings. Councilor Stephens said on one hand there is no question that comments are important. He said we could go back and take a look or we could vote on this. Councilor Fitzgerald said he does not get any phone calls either. He said some of the people who commented today were not here last week. He said if you want to have a town hall meeting, have one. He said we have City Council meetings and not Town Hall meetings. Councilor Fitzgerald said he had been on the Council a number of years but he does not think he has gotten three phone calls in the time he has been here. He said he is not tough to get in touch with. Councilor Stephens said from a procedural standpoint, if we make any modifications, we have to go back to the first reading. Councilor Salas asked City Attorney McKamie if he would recommend that we do Citizens Comments at the beginning of the meeting or the end of the meeting after we have gone through all of the agenda. City Attorney McKamie said he did not know if that was a legal question, but most commonly it was done at the beginning of the meeting because that encourages citizens to attend. He said sometimes meetings run later and it is more difficult for citizens to attend. Angie Bermudez said she totally agreed with what Councilor Stephens said. She said just let us comment during the action items and that way we will know what everything is about. Manfred Fritsche said he agreed with Angie. He said he still has not heard why a change is necessary. He thinks we need to have the current ordinance stand. Councilor Stephens said there are things that need to change in this ordinance. Joseph Goldman said there is a certain amount of exchange and information that goes on. He said he does not know if all of that information is available on the website. He said he does not get all of the information before he comes to the Council meetings. He said he agrees to the time consideration but does not agree with the public not being allowed to speak. He said he believed in the separation of the aye's and the nay's. He said he believed the public could comment on each action item just before action is taken. Bob Litton said we should not have to look at other cities to see how many citizen comments we should do. He said he thinks that the second opportunity was the best. He said as far people not calling their council members he said it seems to him that there is a large amount of indifference. He said there are several of them who like to come to council meetings and have citizens say their views. He said he thinks it has been going pretty well over the past year. He said he was astonished that the pipeline people did their research. Dale Christofferson said he shares the views that have been expressed. He said sometimes the citizens make worthwhile points. He said he did want to complement the City Staff for the work that was done on the budget. Councilor Antrim said she felt there were some valid points made, particularly concerning the place of public comments. Councilor Stephens said he agreed, that we should take away the citizen comments at the beginning of the meeting and allow them during the

action items. Councilor Stephens made a motion to table the revised Ordinance 2014-08-01 regarding the Rules and Procedures for the City Council until he and Councilor Antrim had a chance to discuss it further and then bring it back to the council. He said the substance of the change would be to eliminate citizens comments and put citizens comments associated with the action items. Motion was seconded by Councilor Antrim. Councilor Salas asked if it would be at the beginning of the action items or every action item. Councilor Stephens said it would be every action item. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discuss and Consider approving Board and Commission Appointments. (E. Zimmer, CM) - City Manager Zimmer said for this meeting Councilor Salas has recommended Jim Long to represent Ward 2 on the Airport Advisory Board. Councilor Salas made a motion, by Resolution 2015-08-02, to approve Jim Long, to represent Ward 2, on the Airport Advisory Board. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. City Manager Zimmer said Jim Long is a former City Manager as well. He said Mr. Long had served when his city did an airport renovation project. He said he really brings a nice dimension to the board, having worked through this in the past. Motion unanimously carried.
11. Discuss and Consider approving Resolution for TxDot Aviation related to Project rehabilitation for Taxiway adjacent to runway 19 and Apron adjacent to Terminal. (E. Zimmer, CM) - City Manager Zimmer said we reviewed this Resolution at the last Council meeting. He said he told the Council that there would be a formal Resolution on August 4th. He said we will need to submit that tomorrow to TxDot Aviation. He said they have their cue-up meeting on August 6th. He said it is important to approve the Resolution this evening. Motion was made by Councilor Fitzgerald, by Resolution 2015-08-03 to approve the Resolution for TxDot Aviation related to project rehabilitation for the Taxiway adjacent to runway 19 and the apron adjacent to the Terminal. Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.
12. Discuss and Consider a Resolution that the Council has reviewed the investment policy as identified in Resolution 2013-12-01 and investment strategies for fiscal year 2014-15. (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer said we need a very simple resolution this evening where the Council states that they have read and reviewed the investment policy as identified in Resolution 2013-12-01 and investment strategies for the fiscal year 2014-
 15. Councilor Stephens made a Motion, by Resolution 2015-08-04 to approve the Resolution that the Council has reviewed the investment policy as identified in Resolution 2013-12-01 and investment strategies for fiscal year 2014-15. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.

13. Discuss and Consider approving Joint Representation and Waiver Confirmation letter (BBRHD and the City of Alpine, together with other parties (possibly including Brewster County and Big Bend Regional Medical Center)) concerning a ground-based ambulance service and designate the Mayor to sign the letter on behalf of the City of Alpine. (C. Salas) – Councilor Salas said she did not know if everyone kept up with this but between Big Bend Regional Medical Center and the Hospital District, the County and the City, we have actually met and we are pushing hard for the ground transportation. She said the letter states that there could possibly be a joint representation between the County and the Hospital and possibly the City by the Attorney who is representing the County and the Hospital District. She said it is just a waiver She said the attorney will not represent the City. She said it states on the letter that everyone will have to obtain their own individual counsel to represent each entity. She said she believes everyone has looked at it and she believed that the City Attorney looked at it as well. The City Manager said he and Mick looked at it briefly. The City Attorney said if the Council decides they want to sign the letter there is no problem with the wording. Mayor Rangra asked if there was a potential conflict for one attorney to represent more than one client. The City Attorney said the purpose of the letter was to avoid that conflict. He said what Councilor Salas just said was that each entity would be entitled to its own Counsel. Councilor Stephens said he did not understand the intent of where this letter is going. He said he is presuming that we are not committing the city to any financial obligation. Councilor Salas said no, none whatsoever. Councilor Stephens said this is just to ensure that if there is a conflict there is no issue. He said what he is trying to understand is what is the broader strategy of the ground based ambulance service. He said the way he senses where this is going is that this would put our current ambulance service on notice and that we may replace them. He said he was trying to understand what the plan is because we have a contract and he knows that we have some deficiencies. He said he is wondering what we are asking for. Councilor Salas said there is a contract between the City and the Ambulance Service. She said there is also a contract between the County and the Ambulance Service and they do not match. She said the County contract says they will provide three ambulances and the City contract says they will provide two. She said technically they should be able to provide five ambulances for that and we do not have five ambulances. Councilor Stephens said he understands that we do not have five ambulances. Councilor Salas said Commissioner Novovitch is present and he might be able to add on to this discussion. She said we have a committee and the County is pushing for an Emergency Services District. Commissioner Novovitch said he was a County Commissioner for Precinct 1. He talked about the ground based ambulance service and the contracts with the City and the County. He said Terlingua has their own ESD. He said their discussions are about

improving the service and quality, level of care and emergency services. He said we have limited access to care with only two ambulances. He said they refuse to get out of the county. He said if it is a non-life threatening injury we cannot take you to Midland because we do not have an ambulance. He said you are air lifted to Midland and the cost is astronomical. He said we are trying to interest the hospital in financing an ambulance or ambulance service in the form of 1 ambulance which would be staffed and funded by the hospital fully which would only transport people out of the county. He said the position of the county is to fulfill the present contract and see if we can work with the city and hospital district to find the financing we need. He said that is how we stand right now. He said they are looking at creating an Emergency Services District in the County. He said right now they are trying to work in sync with the City to try to see if an acceptable solution can be reached to provide a normal service with the ambulances. He said in parallel they are trying to work with the hospital to see if they will get an ambulance that is fully dedicated to transport patients out of the county. Councilor Stephens said he understands the strategy but this is concern. He said 5 ambulances would cost about \$900,000 per unit. He said it is not realistic to expect the present company to be able to live up to the contract with those expectations. He said if we go to a Regional Medical Ambulance Service, which might be the best thing to do, the citizens of Alpine are going to pay about 75% of that and it will be added to the tax base. He said he wanted to make it clear that we really need to be very thoughtful in working our way through this because if we the City Council is committing to this, the citizens of Alpine will need to pay for this. He said we need to determine how many ambulances we need. He said he is asking for a business prospective before we engage the legal side and from his standpoint so long as there is no commitment on the part of the City of Alpine financially, but he has read it and it does give the authority to engage them. He said he thinks he would like to see a strategy come back and he does not think we need lawyers. Commissioner Novovitch said he felt there was confusion because he thought he did not express himself clearly. He said the County has a contract where three ambulances are supposed to be there. He said the City has a contract for two ambulances and that is five ambulances. He said no one in his right mind would actually expect to have five ambulances. He said he is talking about reality. He said that is the contract that they have. He said what they suggest is that we use the contract as leverage to ask the Scudders and make sure that their two ambulances are staffed and working 24/7. He said that is why they are considering the idea of setting up an ESD because that would relieve the city finances and the county finances. He said he does not think there would be a huge difference in the amount of contributions but most of the financing could be found without extremely taxing Alpine or the county. Councilor Stephens said he wants to believe that but he sees the taxes going up all the time. Councilor Salas said South Brewster County already has an ESD

and they are already established. Councilor Salas also said Fort Davis has an ESD and they are really stable and set to go. She said they have five ambulances and seven staff members. Councilor Stephens said he just wants to save money. Councilor Salas said this is just a waiver and we do not have to sign it. Councilor Stephens said he would like to make an amendment to the letter. Councilor Salas said we would have to amend just for the City because the County has already signed it. Mayor Rangra said his understanding is that the Scudder's currently have two ambulances and one is used but the other has to stay in case of an emergency. He said the hospital does not have an ambulance of their own. He said if the hospital could provide an ambulance the Scudders could use both of their ambulances for service. Commissioner Novovitch said they did not have any intention of trying to cut the Scudder's contract. He said it is supposed to run through October of 2017. He said the idea is not to change everything but to improve the service we have. He said realistically, ambulance service costs a lot of money so what we suggest is that we keep what we have since it is working more or less. He said we are going to try to improve it but we have to find a solution for our out of county transport. He said that would be the hospital coming on board or the establishment of a ESD. Mayor Rangra asked if the costs would be paid by the hospital. Commissioner Novovitch said that is why they are talking to the hospital about this. He said they would provide us with a spreadsheet on the costs. Mayor Rangra asked if this would be an interlocal agreement between these entities since the letter did not address those issues. Commissioner Novovitch said we are still in the preliminary stages of this. Councilor Salas said the ambulance that would be stationed at the hospital would only be for out of county transportation. Commissioner Novovitch said the committee met concerning this every three weeks. Councilor Antrim said she did see in the letter where it talked about legal fees but that it would be a separate agreement with the entities. Councilor Stephens said the agenda states joint representation letter and waiver confirmation. He said he would be okay with signing a waiver confirmation letter but not a joint representation letter. Councilor Stephens asked Commissioner Novovitch if the County had retained a lawyer. Commissioner Novovitch said the County was using the County Attorney. Councilor Salas made a motion, by Resolution 2015-08-05 to approve the joint representation and waiver confirmation letter between the Hospital District and the City of Alpine together with Brewster County and Big Bend Regional Medical Center concerning a ground based ambulance service and designate the Mayor to sign the letter on behalf of the City. Councilor Stephens said he would like to amend the motion to stipulate that no funding be allocated for legal representation without coming back to Council for approval. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Angie Bermudez said something was puzzling her. She asked if the City was invited to the meeting. Councilor Salas said there was City Representation there. Carl Fleming asked if Councilor Salas was representing the Hospital District or the

Council. Councilor Salas said the Hospital District. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Council Member Comments –

Councilor Antrim – said she would like to thank the citizens that were here. She said she appreciated their input and she would like to congratulate the Finance Director and the City Manager for coming up with a very doable budget. She said she could tell there was a great deal of hard work that went into it. She said we appreciate it.

Councilor Salas – said she also would like to thank the City staff and Erik Megan. She said that was an amazing budget you put together. She said it was very professional looking and that to her is important because it shows what kind of work we do. She also thanked the citizens.

Councilor Fitzgerald – said this weekend was the first look that he had at the budget since he had been out of town. He said he immediately texted Erik and complemented him and his staff on an extremely professional budget. He said kudos to all of you.

Councilor Stephens – said he too wanted to complement Erik and Megan for what they did on the budget. He said it is nice to see that we have a good orderly process and we know where our money is and where our accounts are. He said we moved forward, but not without challenges. He said he is the one who does not want to increase taxes. He said we will have to struggle through and make our progress. He said we had lots of dialogue about the Council proceedings and as one who participated in that process with Nancy and Erik, one of the reasons he thought we had too many citizens comments is because we had the same comments over and over and over again. He said he thinks getting it down to where the action items are is the appropriate place and that it will work. He said relative to the ambulance activity he thinks it is exactly the right thing to go and do. He said he thinks we do have some issues and his concern is fiscally the way it is going to look. He said he thinks the Scudder team has done a good job but he does not necessarily think they are very good business people and he thinks they may have gotten themselves into some contracts that may not have been in their best business interests. His worry is about the cost of five ambulances. He said he does not think that is appropriate. He thanked the citizens who are here tonight and asked them to invite all their friends to attend the meetings.

Mayor Rangra – said today the Council listened to the citizens. He said they made a change and solved a problem. He said he has already complemented Erik on the budget. He said he thinks now everyone sees why we hired him. He said he came from corporate management and did

not have any previous experience in working with cities as a City Manager. He said what we are seeing is the marriage of the Corporate world with the City. He praised the way the budget was written and the way it was presented to the Council. He said things are crystal clear as to where we stand, what we can do and what we cannot do. He said we have disagreements, which is normal but what the City Manager is doing and what he has done with the help of his staff is great. He told Megan she did a good job in getting all of the information out. He said this was a well presented, well organized, well researched solid budget. He said he wanted to thank Erik and the taxpayers who pay the salaries. He thanked the citizens for staying and who made a difference.

15. Executive Session – None

16. Action After Executive Session – None

17. Adjournment – There being no further business, meeting was adjourned upon the motion of Councilor Fitzgerald and seconded by Councilor Salas.

NOTICE: The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session Purat 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 1:30 P.M. on July 31st, 2015, 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.

Dr. Avinash Rangra, Mayor

Attest:

Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary

I, Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 1:30 P.M. on July 31st, 2015, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary