

**City of Alpine  
Special City Council Meeting  
Monday, August 29th, 2016  
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. Father Nicholas Roth 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 – Mayor Ramos, Councilors Antrim, Salas, Fitzgerald, Escovedo and Stephens were present. City Secretary Taylor said the meeting notice had been posted at 4:00 P.M. on August 19th, 2016. City Manager Zimmer, City Secretary Taylor, City Finance Director Megan Antrim and Abel Hinojos were also present. Citizens present were Betty Fitzgerald, Father Roth, Joseph Goldman and Julian Gonzales.**
  
- 3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations – None**
- 4. Reports –  
City Mayor’s Report - None  
City Manager Report – (E. Zimmer, CM) - None  
City Staff Updates – None**
  
- 5. Public Hearings –  
A. Public Hearing to obtain citizens views and comments concerning FY 2016/2017 proposed Property Tax Rate (\$.5385 per \$100 – same as last year’s rate) for the City of Alpine, Texas. (E. Zimmer, CM) - City Manager Zimmer said this was our second tax rate public hearing. He said we have not had any phone calls into our office concerning this rate. He said this does give the public the opportunity to speak on this topic. Joseph Goldman from Ward 1 said as he read this public hearing it states that the proposed property tax rate is the same as last year’s rate. He said he thinks this is a highly deceptive statement because it implies that the taxes are going to remain the same. He said it is not so and the reason is it isn’t so is because property evaluations are going up. He said in order to make it the same tax base as it was last year, the tax rate should come down accordingly. He said he thinks someone on the Council has a degree in mathematics and should be able to calculate how much that rate should go down. Father Nicholas Roth said he lives in Ward 3 however his church is in Ward 4. He said he can understand the point the gentleman was making about the tax rate but unless we can invent some sort of machine that is going to allow us to figure out what everybody’s home is worth and then do the math backwards to come up with a different rate, keeping the**

rate the same sounds pretty good to him. He said the Council is doing a great job and as long as we can work on paving the roads, take out the trash and making sure the fire hydrants are working, particularly in Ward 4, we are good.

**B. Public Hearing to obtain citizens views and comments concerning FY2016/2017 proposed City of Alpine Budget containing proposed expenditures and revenues from the General Fund, Enterprise Funds, Capital Expenditures and Hotel/Motel Tax funds. (E. Zimmer, CM) – Julian Gonzales, Ward 4, said he wanted to ask a question even though he knows he will not get an answer. He said we have been having a lot of cities locally losing the ability to make money and what are we going to do if we start losing income. He said we are assuming that we are going to make the money that is being quoted on the budget. He asked if there would be a review or check of some sort to check that out. He said it is important.**

**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.) – None**

**7. Information or Discussion items – None**

**8. 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, or own businesses or property in the City limits of Alpine, will be allowed to speak if there is time available.) - None**

**9. Councilmember Comments and Answers –  
Councilor Salas thanked the City Manager for the budget workshops.  
Councilor Fitzgerald – said the budget looks good to him and thanked the Finance Director, Megan Antrim.  
Mayor Ramos – City Manager Zimmer and City Finance Director Megan have done a great job on the budget.**

**10. Executive Session – None**

**11. Action after Executive Session – None**

**12. Adjournment.**- There being no further business, meeting was adjourned upon the motion of Councilor Salas and seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

**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 4:00 P. M. on August 19th, 2016, 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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Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary

I, Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 4:00 P.M. on August 19th, 2016, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

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Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary