

City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2020
5:30 P.M.
Minutes

1. Call to Order, and Pledge of allegiance to the flags – Mayor Ramos called the meeting to order. The meeting was held via Zoom Conference in the City of Alpine, Texas. 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 via zoom. City Secretary, Cynthia Salas reported that the agenda was posted at 2:00 P.M. on September 11, 2020. City Manager Erik Zimmer, City Secretary, Cynthia Salas, and City Attorney Rod Ponton also attended via zoom.
3. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per person) –
4. Presentations, Recognitions and Proclamations – (A. Ramos, Mayor) – None
5. Reports – Copies of the charts presented during the meeting are posted on the City website at <https://www.cityofalpine.com/Alpine%20City%20Council%20-%20CM%20Report%203-17-2020.pdf>

City Mayor's Report – (A. Ramos, Mayor) – None

City Attorney's Report – None

City Manager Report –

- Coronavirus Update
- Initiatives / Priorities and Challenges
- New Event: Midweek Mercantile and Music

City Staff Updates –

- Update – Utility Billing (Stephanie Ladesic)
- Building Services / Code Enforcement – including AISD HS Build Project (David Hale)
- Update – Alpine Fire Department (Chief Martin)

6. Public Hearings – None
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being discussed separately unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon.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.)

1. Approval of minutes from City Council meeting on September 1, 2020. (E. Zimmer, City Manager)
2. Approval of Bibiana (Bibi) Gutierrez for the Parks Board At Large for Ward 5. (R. Stephens, City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens. by Resolution 2020-09-17 to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilor Olivas. Motion unanimously.

8. Information or Discussion items –

1. Share information and discuss actions and strategies focused on updating the City lighting Ordinance that takes account improvements in technology and consideration of dark sky initiatives. (R. Stephens, City Council)
2. Information and discussion on issues the City of Alpine is encountering with Brewster County. The discussion will also include the magistration process related to the County accepting arrested individuals by Alpine Police Department. (E. Zimmer, City Manager)

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. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action and adopting the 2020/2021 tax year proposed tax rate for the City of Alpine, Texas by Ordinance 2020-08-01. A tax rate of \$0.553753 per \$100 valuation has been recommended for FY 2020/2021. Maintenance and Operations is \$0.512833 and Interest and Sinking is \$0.04092. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-18, adopting the 2020/2021 tax year proposed tax rate for the City of Alpine, Texas by Ordinance 2020-08-01. A tax rate of \$0.553753 per \$100 valuation has been recommended for FY 2020/2021. Maintenance and Operations is \$0.512833 and Interest and Sinking is \$0.04092. Motion was second by Councilor Curry. Councilor Curry voted to approve, Councilor Olivas voted to approve, Councilor Betty Fitzgerald voted to approve, Councilor Escovedo voted to approve, and Councilor Stephens voted to approve. Motion passed 5 to 0.**
2. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on Resolution 2020-09-15 to accept the recommended solicitation of Brokers on the submitted Broker List as required by our Investment Policy.(E. Zimmer, City Manager)- **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-15 to accept the recommended solicitation of Brokers on the submitted Broker List as required by our Investment Policy. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously passed.**
3. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on Resolution 2020-09-16 to approve Strategies and Guidelines to invest according to our Investment Policy. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-16 to approve Strategies and Guidelines to invest according to our Investment Policy. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried.**
4. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on the recommendations on the Woodward Lease at the Airport . (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-19 to approve the recommendations on the Woodward Lease at the Airport. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried.**
5. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action approving Resolution 2020-09-02, to adopt the official newspaper for FY 2020-2021(E. Zimmer, City Manager) – **Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-02 to adopt the Big Bend Sentinel as the official newspaper for FY 2020-2021. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion was amended by Councilor Escovedo to adopt the Alpine Avalanche as the official newspaper for the FY 2020-2021. Motion was seconded by Councilor Olivas. Councilor Curry against. Councilor Olivas for, Councilor Betty Fitzgerald for, Councilor Escovedo for, Councilor Stephens against. Amended motion passed 3 to 2.**
6. Review, discuss, consider, and take appropriate action on recommendations from the HOT committee on the HOT applications (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – **Motion was made by Councilor**

Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-20 to approve the recommendations from the HOT committee on the HOT fund allocation of \$180,000 for FY 2020-2021 leaving in reserve approximately \$1,000,000. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried.

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 on a matter for which it is the duty of the City Attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct conflict with this Chapter and requires discussion of the item in closed session), and 551.071(consultation with attorney regarding potential or contemplated claims against the City) Pursuant to Texas Government Code 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 2020-09-21 to move into executive session and exclude the City Attorney and not cover item number 2. Motion was seconded by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2020-09-22 to adjourn and not go into Executive Session. Motion was made by Councilor Curry. Motion unanimously carried.

1. Discussion of Alpine Police Department Internal Investigation related to the recent case in Media. (R. Stephens, City Council)
2. Discussion of the Municipal Prosecutor / City Attorney. (R. Stephens, 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 Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (consultation with an 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)

12. Action – Executive Session –

1. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if any, on the Alpine Police Department Internal Investigation related to the recent case in Media. (R. Stephens, City Council) –
2. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if any, on the Municipal Prosecutor / City Attorney. (R. Stephens, City Council) –

I certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 P.M. on September 11, 2020, 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

Council minutes: 09-15-2020
Approved: 10-06-2020

I, Cynthia Salas, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 P.M. on September 11, 2020, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Cynthia Salas, City Secretary