

City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
Minutes

WORKSHOP – 4:30 P.M.

1. **Call to order** – Mayor Catherine Eaves called the workshop to order at 4:30 P.M. The workshop was held at City Council Chambers located at 803 West Holland Avenue and via Zoom Videoconference in the City of Alpine, Texas. Mayor Eaves led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.

City Council Members Present:

Mayor Catherine Eaves
Councilor Judy Stokes
Councilor Chris Rodriguez
Councilor Darin Nance
Councilor Martin Sandate
Councilor Rick Stephens

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:

Megan Antrim, City Manager
Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary

Others Present: Approximately 2 other attendees.

Not Present: None.

2. **Workshop regarding employees and the 2023-2024 tax rate.**
3. **Adjourn. (5:25 P.M.)**

REGULAR MEETING – 5:30 P.M.

1. **Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Catherine Eaves called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The meeting was held at City Council Chambers located at 803 West Holland Avenue and via Zoom Videoconference in the City of Alpine, Texas. Mayor Eaves led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.
2. **Determination of a Quorum and Proof of Notice of the Meeting** –

City Council Members Present:

Mayor Catherine Eaves
Councilor Judy Stokes
Councilor Chris Rodriguez
Councilor Darin Nance
Councilor Martin Sandate
Councilor Rick Stephens

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:

Megan Antrim, City Manager
Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary
Marianella Joseph, City Attorney
Darrell Losoya, Chief of Police
Abel Hinojos, Airport Supervisor

Others Present: Approximately 14 other attendees.

Not Present: None.

Mayor Eaves announced that a quorum of the City Council was present at the City Council Chambers and City Secretary, Geoffrey Calderon, reported that the meeting agenda was posted by 2:00 P.M. on September 15, 2023.

3. **Public Comments** – (limited to 3 minutes per person) –

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- Karen Cantrell, Ward 1, addressed the City Council in opposition to adding an invocation to City Council meetings responsive to Information or Discussion Item No. 10.

4. **Presentations, Recognitions, and Proclamations** – None.

5. **Reports** – Copies of presentations displayed during the meeting are posted on the City website at www.cityofalpine.com/reports –

City Mayor Report.

City Attorney Report.

City Manager Report.

1. Finance Update - Revenue & Expenses - March 2023 – August 2023

City Staff Updates.

6. **Public Hearings** –

Open (5:50 P.M.)

1. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the second and final reading of Ordinance 2023-08-01, an ordinance making appropriations for the support of the City of Alpine, Texas for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024; 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 2023-2024.

Public Comments: None.

2. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09-01, an ordinance approving the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed tax rate of \$0.466326 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the fiscal year October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 for use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of Alpine, Texas.

Public Comments: None.

3. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding Special Use Permit 2023-09-01, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 906 W. Sul Ross St. The property owner of record is Casa La Vista Rental LLC. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 10445.

Public Comments: None.

4. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding Special Use Permit 2023-09-02, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 502 N. 8th St. The property owner of record is Andrew Willis and Holly Ammerman. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 12068.

Public Comments: None.

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5. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding Special Use Permit 2023-09-03, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 405 S. 8th St. The property owner of record is Alfonso Ramos. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 12267.

Public Comments: None.

Close (5:53 P.M.)

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 September 12, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)
2. Approval of Daulton Beam to the Place 6 position on the Building & Standards Commission. (C. Eaves, Mayor)
3. Approve the excused absence of Councilor Stokes from the September 12, 2023 Special City Council Meeting due to a previously scheduled family vacation. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)
4. Approval of Special Use Permit 2023-09-01, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 906 W. Sul Ross St. The property owner of record is Casa La Vista Rental LLC. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 10445. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)
5. Approval of Special Use Permit 2023-09-02, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 502 N. 8th St. The property owner of record is Andrew Willis and Holly Ammerman. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 12068. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)
6. Approval of Special Use Permit 2023-09-03, a Short term Rental Special Use Permit allowing a short term rental to be established at 405 S. 8th St. The property owner of record is Alfonso Ramos. The Parcel ID of the subject property is 12267. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-11: On a motion by Councilor Rodriguez and seconded by Councilor Stephens to approve the consent agenda as read, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

8. **Information or Discussion items** –

1. Alpine Public Library report by Executive Director Don Wetterauer. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
2. Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend report by Virginia Sandoval. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
3. Presentation by Steve Belardo regarding the Alpine-Casparis Municipal Airport. (J. Stokes, City Council)

Mr. Belardo was not in attendance at the meeting and the presentation did not take place.

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4. Presentation by the Director of Talent Arts, Kaci Fullwood, regarding the possibility of amending the sign ordinance to include a provision allowing art advertising on utility poles. (C. Rodriguez, City Council)

Ms. Fullwood was not in attendance at the meeting and the presentation did not take place.

5. Discuss parliamentary procedure principles in City Council meetings, discuss the recent presentations at the Texas Municipal League Newly Elected Officials training, and discuss the importance of continuing education. (J. Stokes, City Council)
6. County Liaison Report/update by Judy Stokes. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
7. Discuss the plan for the September 23rd Street workshop and the need for individual Council Members to be prepared to discuss objectives for their wards during the workshop. (J. Stokes, City Council)
8. Share the key Ward 5 Goals and Objectives and Status for each item. (R. Stephens, City Council)
9. Discuss Alpine City Budget financial strategy options that balance budget priorities, tax revenue and the allocation of financial underruns and unallocated balances. (R. Stephens, City Council)
10. Discuss proposed changes to Chapter 23 - City Council to the Alpine Code of Ordinances, including updates to the order of business and updates to rules of procedure and decorum for City Council meetings. (M Antrim, City Manager)

Mayor Eaves called a short recess. (6:47 P.M.)

The meeting resumed. (6:57 P.M.)

9. Action items to be accompanied by a brief statement of facts, including where funds are coming from, if applicable. (Action items are limited to 10 per meeting.) –

1. Approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2023-08-01, an ordinance making appropriations for the support of the City of Alpine, Texas for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024; 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 2023-2024. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-12: On a motion by Councilor Nance and seconded by Councilor Sandate to approve, a roll call vote was taken and the City Council voted in the following manner:

Councilor Judy Stokes:	For
Councilor Chris Rodriguez:	Against
Councilor Darin Nance:	For
Councilor Martin Sandate:	For
Councilor Rick Stephens:	Against

2. Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09-01, an ordinance approving the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed tax rate of \$0.466326 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the fiscal year October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 for use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of Alpine, Texas. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

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RESOLUTION 2023-09-13: On a motion by Councilor Nance and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez to approve, the City Council began discussions on the item.

RESOLUTION 2023-09-14: On a motion by Councilor Nance and seconded by Councilor Stokes to amend the 0.466326 to the voter approval rate of 0.457554, a roll call vote was taken, and the City Council in the following manner:

Councilor Judy Stokes: For

Councilor Chris Rodriguez: For

Councilor Darin Nance: For

Councilor Martin Sandate: For

Councilor Rick Stephens: For

The City Council subsequently voted to adopt the original motion as amended.

3. Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09-02, an ordinance amending the City of Alpine FY 2022-2023 Budget; Providing Repealing and Severability Clauses; A Texas Open Meetings Act Clause; and Providing an Effective Date. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-15: On a motion by Councilor Stokes and seconded by Councilor Nance to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09-02, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

4. Approve Resolution 2023-09-09, a resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Rio Grande Council of Government's Solid Waste Grant Program. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-16: On a motion by Councilor Rodriguez and seconded by Councilor Sandate to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

5. Approve Resolution 2023-09-10, a resolution continuing collaborative improvement efforts for 2023 - 2024 between the City of Alpine and the Alpine Country Club to accompany the 2016 lease. (R. Stephens, City Council)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-17: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Sandate to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

6. Approve the 2023-2024 Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend Agreement. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-18: On a motion by Councilor Stokes and seconded by Councilor Stephens to approve the 2023-2024 Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend agreement, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

7. Approve Director of Tourism Agreement with Chris Ruggia - Vast Graphics. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-19: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Sandate to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

10. City Council Member Comments – No discussion or action may take place.

NOTICE: The City Council reserves the right to reconvene, recess, realign, change the order of business, or adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of the meeting prior to adjournment, to discuss any item listed above, as authorized by 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 551.087 (development).

NOTICE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Alpine will provide reasonable accommodations for persons attending meetings. 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 Office of the City Secretary at (432) 837-3301, option 1, or email city.secretary@cityofalpine.com for further information.

11. Executive Session –

RESOLUTION 2023-09-20: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Sandate to extend the meeting past the 9:00 P.M. deadline, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

RESOLUTION 2023-09-21: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez to move into executive session, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion. **(8:12 P.M.)**

Consultation with Attorney § 551.071, Texas Government Code

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) receive legal advice related to Pending Legal Requests, Potential Claims, and City Council Legal Requests.

1. Pending claims related to the Oath of Office for elected and appointed officials. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
2. Pending claims related to the Municipal Court Judge, the Municipal Court, City Attorneys and/or City Prosecutors related to the processing of cases in Municipal Court. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
3. Consultation with attorney regarding the adoption, amendment, and enforcement of ordinances. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-22: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez to move into regular session, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion. **(9:40 P.M.)**

12. Action – Executive Session –

1. Action, if any, concerning any of the matters listed in Executive Session. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2023-09-22: On a motion by Councilor Stephens and seconded by Councilor Stokes to take no action, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

13. Adjourn. (9:41 P.M.)

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Approved: 10-03-2023

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Catherine Eaves, Mayor

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, Geoffrey R. Calderon, hereby certify that notice of this meeting was posted at City Hall, in a convenient and readily accessible place to the general public, and to the City website at www.cityofalpine.com/agenda pursuant to Section 551.043, Texas Government Code. The said notice was posted by 2:00 P.M. on September 15, 2023, and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the said meeting.

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary

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