

The City of Balcones Heights
Regular City Council Meeting
3300 Hillcrest Drive
Balcones Heights, TX 78201

Minutes

Date: June 25, 2018

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon Jesse M. Pacheco Jack Burton
Lamar Gillian Charles White Stephen Lara

Members Absent: None

Sign in Sheet: Bennie Cass Roger Lawhead James Gardon
Charles Cooley Anna R. Mosie Derek Cottrell
Neira White Andres Urbano R. Ricardo Daniel
Angelina Gonzalez Patrick Isenberg Anita G. Herrera
Leroy Alloway Madeline Slay David Hernandez
Arnold & Elisa Christine Anderson Guadalupe Segura
Greg Anderson Inkie Gillian Coral Ramos
Shana Halpin Cliff Wheeler Syed A. Zahid
Joyner Ronnie Joe Rinconet Flor Estela Cassillo
Sam Cedillo Norma Witherspoon

CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF QUORUM

Meeting was called to order and quorum was present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U. S. A. AND TEXAS FLAGS

Mayor de Leon gave the invocation and led pledges.

Representative from Muscular Dystrophy came up to thank the Balcones Heights Firefighters for their support and going out on Saturdays to raise money for their cause.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation – All “A” 6th Grade Honor Roll (Mayor)

Proclamation will be given at the next regular city council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Citizens signed up to speak on Item #7

- Angelina Gonzalez – Resident

- Helen Nicholson – Business Owner
- Phil Zavala –
- Syed A. Zahid
- Cliff Wheeler - Visitor

1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approval of minutes for Special meeting of May 14, 2018
- b. Approval of minutes for Regular meeting of May 21, 2018
- c. Finance Report for the month of May 2018

MOTION: Motion to approve in their entirety.

Motion by: Councilmember Gillian Second: Councilmember Burton 5/0/0 PASSED

Pl. 1 Lara-Yea Pl. 2 Pacheco-Yea Pl. 3 Burton- Yea Pl. 4 Gillian- Yea Pl. 5 White-Yea

PUBLIC HEARING:

2. City Council will conduct a **PUBLIC HEARING** on amending Ordinance 2018-04 as it pertains to regulating oversized vehicles storage and parking of recreational vehicles, boats, trailers and vehicles in residential districts. *(Public Hearing was recessed until next regular council meeting)*

Public Hearing opened at 6:05 p.m. and closed at 6:06 p.m.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

3. Consideration and **ACTION** on application submitted to be considered for appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

MOTION: So moved.

Motion by: Councilmember Gillian Second: Councilmember Lara Withdrawn

Motion and second was withdrawn to bring back agenda item to the next meeting to state appointment to the Board of Adjustments.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

4. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt an ordinance with proposed amendments to Ordinance 2018-04 Parking and Storage of trailers and vehicles. (Hoyl)

City Administrator addressed this item on the ordinance with proposed amendments that Planning and Zoning members voted to make recommendation to City Council to approve.

MOTION: Motion to approve.

Motion by: Councilmember Gillian Second: Councilmember Pacheco

Councilmember White submitted additional proposed amendments to Ordinance 2018-04.

Councilmember Gillian stated he would like to send the changes back to Planning and Zoning.

Motion and second was withdrawn.

MOTION: I would like to make a motion to send back to Planning and Zoning with the comments that Mr. White just made so that they can make the recommendations.

Motion: Councilmember Gillian Second: Councilmember Burton 5/0/0 PASSED

Pl. 1 Lara-Yea Pl. 2 Pacheco-Yea Pl. 3 Burton- Yea Pl. 4 Gillian- Yea Pl. 5 White-Yea

Item #7 was addressed before Item #5

5. Discussion and possible **ACTION** regarding business temporary sign permit fees, use and registration. (White/Hoyl) (*Item tabled 5-21-2018*)

City Administrator gave background on this item and stated that staff was proposing to add to fee schedule the option to apply for an annual temporary sign permit.

Councilmember White is proposing a one-time annual fee of \$25.00 to \$50.00 with time restraints.

Councilmember Pacheco and Councilmember White recommend more leniency on requirements for businesses.

MOTION: I make a motion to table.

Motion by: Councilmember Pacheco Second: Councilmember Gillian 5/0/0 PASSED

Pl. 1 Lara-Yea Pl. 2 Pacheco-Yea Pl. 3 Burton- Yea Pl. 4 Gillian- Yea Pl. 5 White-Yea

6. Discussion and possible action regarding C-6 trash notification, will be limited to a visible public nuisance on the property. (White) (*Item tabled 5-21-2018*)

Councilmember White recommended that action on trash notifications be limited to visible public nuisance on the property.

MOTION: Trash notification will be limited to a visible public nuisance on the property.

Motion by: Councilmember White Second: Councilmember Pacheco 4/1/0 PASSED

Pl. 1 Lara-Yea Pl. 2 Pacheco-Yea Pl. 3 Burton- Yea Pl. 4 Gillian- Nay Pl. 5 White-Yea

7. Discussion regarding the importance of VIA Metropolitan Transit to our city and the meeting held on June 14, 2018 between representatives of our city and VIA concerning the reduction of sales tax increment dedicated to VIA operations. (Gillian)

Councilmember Gillian read from a written statement prepared in reference to this item. The written statement will be included as part of minutes per Councilmember Gillian's request.

Leroy Alloway representative from VIA Metropolitan Transit gave a power point presentation on the national perspective of services i.e. VIA services provided, VIA ridership profile, VIA services in Balcones Heights, Primo Expansion in 2019, Rapid Transit Corridor Draft Plan, and Fiscal impact of withdrawal.

Citizens to be heard in support of VIA:

- Helen Nicholson – Business Owner in Balcones Heights
- Phil Zavala – Business Owner in Balcones Heights
- Angelina Gonzalez - Resident
- Syed A. Zahid – Business Owner in Balcones Heights
- Charles Cooley - Resident
- Coral Leising - Resident
- Madeline Slay – Resident and Business Owner in Balcones Heights
- Niera White - Visitor
- Ronnie Joyner - Visitor
- Joseph - Visitor
- Derek Cottrell - Resident
- Christine Anderson – Resident

Councilmember Pacheco spoke and stated he had no intention of removing VIA from Balcones Heights but that his intention was to ask VIA for help with repairs in the city.

Councilmember Burton spoke and stated Councilmember Pacheco spoke on items he was going to share and also stated concerns with bus stops.

Councilmember Gillian stated he stands by his opening comments and stated he did not state that Councilmember Pacheco wanted to withdraw from VIA but that he was told by the Mayor that Councilmember White mentioned the city would have to withdraw from VIA.

Councilmember White spoke and stated that when VIA was not listening to them and at one point did say the city would have to leave VIA. He then stated when asked if they (Councilmember Pacheco and Councilmember White) wanted to leave VIA that they both answered No. He stated his ploy was to get subsidies for the roadways.

Mayor de Leon stated the reason there was a meeting at VIA was because of the agenda item to reduce VIA tax at the meeting held on May 21, 2018 and the mention by Councilmember White of withdrawing from VIA. She stated the meeting was to inform Council and staff how important VIA is to the city.

Director of Economic Development and Public Affairs Lorenzo Nastasi came and shared regarding the economic impact and the important role VIA plays in the City of Balcones Heights.

Councilmember Gillian asked for clarification on what was actually said by Councilmember White about withdrawing from VIA. He directed his question to City Administrator and Senior Official from VIA and both concurred that Councilmember White stated that we should withdraw.

Councilmember White also asked for clarification from VIA representative whether or not he heard when Councilmember Pacheco and he stated they did not want to withdraw from VIA.

Mayor de Leon stated that this item was not going to be placed on any future agenda and that the city was not withdrawing from VIA.

Mayor de Leon called for a five-minute recess at 7:52 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS:

8. Department Report and Q&A (Police Department, Fire Department, Community Development, Economic Development and Public Affairs, Finance)

Chrissie Kolb reminded council and staff to RSVP if not already done for the VIP Jazz Fest opening night.

9. Announcements by City Administrator

- a. Citizen Kudos
- b. Recognition of City employee actions
- c. New Departmental Initiatives

- Chrissie Kolb appointed to the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers (TAMIO) Board of Directors.
- David Harris attended the Texas Municipal City Managers (TMCA) Conference
- Chick Fil A in operation
- New Intern Samantha Martinez from St. Mary's University recommended by City Attorney Frank Garza
- Councilmember Jesse Pacheco's birthday coming up
- July 4th Holiday
- Jazz Fest July 6th

10. Requests by Mayor and Council Members for items to be placed on a future City Council agenda.

Item tabled.

11. Announcements by Mayor and Council Members

- a. City and community events attended and to be attended
- b. City Council Committee and Liaison Assignments
- c. Continuing education events attended and to be attended
- d. Recognition of actions by City employees
- e. Recognition of actions by community volunteers

- Councilmember Burton – Donation of gift bag to KLRN – Thank you to Chrissie Kolb
- Councilmember Pacheco attended training at AACOG for Newly Elected Officials
- Councilmember White
 - Senator Cruz brings money to Texas
 - TML training in August at the Hyatt Regency
 - Supreme Court - benefit of sales tax

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

DELIA R. SANCHEZ
City Secretary

Minutes approved at City Council Meeting held July 23, 2018.