

City of Balcones Heights
Regular City Council Meeting
VIDEO/TELE CONFERENCE (ZOOM) and In Person
Minutes

DATE: February 22, 2021

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon Stephen Lara Gloria Cantu
John Halpin Lamar Gillian Miguel C. Valverde

Members Absent: None

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

Councilmember Cantu gave the invocation and led pledges.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one signed up to be heard.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Covid-19 Memorial Day Proclamation (Mayor)

Mayor de Leon presented the proclamation and proclaimed support of the designation of the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Memorial Day” in remembrance of those who have lost their lives and in honor of those who continue to suffer from the impact of the virus.

1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approval of minutes for Special Meeting of January 21, 2021
- b. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting of January 25, 2021
- c. Finance Report for the month of January 2021

MOTION: Mayor I want to make a motion to approve all items in their entirety.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Gloria Cantu 5/0/0 PASSED

BUSINESS ITEMS:

2. Strategic Plan Presentation, Comprehensive Land Use and Economic Development. (Nastasi)

Director of Community Development Janet Thelen gave updates on the following:

- Update on Residential Rental Property Registration
- Update on Fredericksburg Rd. Pedestrian Crossing
- 6S Engineering – Hillcrest Drive project to include plan to enhance sidewalks
- Capital Improvement Plan – Vivian Lane
- Pleasant Drive recommendations and awarding of grant funds

3. Finance Committee Update. (Gillian)

Councilmember Gillian gave update on finance committee meeting held. City Administrator informed council that vacant positions can now be filled.

4. Infrastructure Committee Update. (Thelen/Lara)

This item was pulled.

5. Discussion regarding a possible Dog Park. (Valverde)

Councilmember Valverde updated council on this item.

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

- New SPA coming in – The Beauty Lab by Maya
- Fire Department update during freeze
- Police Department update during freeze
- Update on Sgt. Sepulveda and Edgard Ortiz

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS:

7. Announcements by City Administrator

- Apartment issues during freeze
- CDBG Grant
- Special Council Meeting – March 8TH
- After Action Items
- Generator

8. Announcements by Mayor and Council Members

- Tacos Machetes is now La Tequila Jalisco Restaurant Bar and Grill
- Mayor de Leon at TML Board Meeting – March 5th

9. Agenda Item Requests by Mayor and Council Members to be placed on a future City Council agenda.

There were no agenda item requests submitted at this time.

Mayor de Leon called for a recess at 6:58 p.m. and reconvened at 7:05 p.m. to go into Executive Session at 7:06 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:06 p.m.

10. Discussion pursuant to §551.086 (Economic Development) of the Texas Government Code regarding possible business development near or around Fredericksburg Road.

RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: 8:16 p.m.

11. Council may act in open session on item discussed in Executive Session.

Discussions regarding the City's acquisition of a partnership interest in the Wonderland Mall of the Americas owned by Crossroads.

MOTION: I make a motion to move forward with the Memorandum of Understand (MOU) between Crossroads Mall Partners Ltd (Crossroads) and the City of Balcones Heights.

Motion by: John Halpin Second: Stephen Lara 3/2/0 PASSED

Roll Call Vote:

Council Place 1 Stephen Lara – Yay
Council Place 2 Gloria Cantu – Yay
Council Place 3 John Halpin – Yay
Council Place 4 Lamar Gillian – Nay
Council Place 5 Miguel Valverde - Nay

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by:

DELIA R. SANCHEZ
City Secretary

Minutes approved by council on March 22, 2021