

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

Minutes

DATE: September 27, 2021

TIME: 6:01 p.m.

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon Gloria Cantu Juan M. Lecea, Jr.
Lamar Gillian Miguel C. Valverde Stephen Lara

Members Absent: None

Signed in Sheet: Agnes Lecea

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 Miguel Valverde gave the invocation and led pledges.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no citizens signed up to be heard.

1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Approval of minutes for Special Meeting of August 9, 2021
- b. Approval of minutes for Special Meeting of August 13, 2021
- c. Approval of minutes for Special Meeting of August 16, 2021
- d. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting of August 23, 2021
- e. Approval of minutes for Special Meeting of August 30, 2021
- f. Finance Report for the month of August 2021
- g. Council approval to adopt Ordinance to reinstate TMRS COLA
- h. Council approval to adopt Resolution amending TEXPOOL authorized representatives
- i. Council approval to adopt Resolution amending Lone Star authorized representatives

MOTION: Motion to approve all.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Gloria Cantu 4/0/0 PASSED

Councilmember Valverde left the room and was not able to vote on this item.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

2. Consideration and **ACTION** regarding election of Bexar Appraisal District Board of Directors for 2022-2023 – Nomination Phase. *(tabled at 8-23-2021 meeting)*

No action was taken.

3. Discussion and possible **ACTION** to amend animal control procedures for loose animals. (Gillian)

Item pulled.

Mayor de Leon asked that this time be taken to introduce Officer Holmes in the presence of his family and was pinned by his wife Monica Holmes.

4. Discussion and possible **ACTION** regarding driveway surfaces allowed in city. (Gillian)

Councilmember Gillian gave background and stated concerns with base material for driveway.

Concept: Timeframe to have them paved and base is phased out

Recommend: Process be changed but with a 5, 7, 10 year time frame that is reasonable to give people time to save up and plan for that.

MOTION: I make a motion to send back to Planning and Zoning the task to look at that concept and come back with a recommendation to either do it or not.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Miguel Valverde 5/0/0 PASSED

5. Discussion and possible **ACTION** regarding height clearance of trees above sidewalks. (Gillian)

MOTION: I make a motion for PZ to take a look at the height clearance of trees and reduce to 8 feet over the sidewalk and keep 14 feet for the street.

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

6. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt a Resolution proclaiming World Teachers' Day in the City of Balcones Heights. (Mayor)

MOTION: Motion to approve recognizing World Teachers' Day in the City of Balcones Heights.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Stephen Lara 5/0/0 PASSED

7. Consideration and **ACTION** to renovate street name signs. (Harris/Thelen)

City Administrator gave update and background on this item.

MOTION: I would like to make a motion that by December staff come back and give us the cost for replacing all signs regardless of color and bounce that against the signs that need replacing.

MOTION: Lamar Gillian Second: Stephen Lara 5/0/0 PASSED

8. Consideration and **ACTION** to award bid for Street Striping. (Thelen)

Janet Thelen gave background and quotes on stripping main thoroughfares.

MOTION: Motion to approve with amendments.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Motion failed for lack of second

Mayor de Leon allowed Jessica Jefferson the Manager of Balcones Urban Flats to speak at this time as part of citizens to be heard.

9. Discussion regarding EMS/EMT Training. (Ward)

Update on 24hr ambulance stationed at the Fire Department - \$600,000
Paramedic First Responder ½ the cost
Possible training with Acadian

10. Discussion regarding Safety Corridor Street Light Initiative and Phase 1 – Gentleman Rd. (Lara)

- Corridor Light Up for Safety proposal
- Street light plan for dark areas
- Infrastructure meeting to discuss
- CPS has not responded

11. Briefing update on IRS audit. (Harris)

City Administrator gave an update on the IRS audit – 1099's Vendor Tax ID #'s
Municipal Judge – Employee and not contract per IRS

12. Economic Development Report. (Lorenzo Nastasi)

No Report

13. Strategic Plan Update. (Nastasi)

- Comprehensive land use plan
- Public safety
- Crossroads project
- Interview Channel 12 promoting walkability on Crossroads
- Improve infrastructure

14. Finance Committee Update. (Gillian)

- Budget repairs and close outs
- Incode Software
- Capital Plan needs updating

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

- National Night Out
- Shots Fired not necessarily in Balcones Heights
- Urban Flats

- 400 Crossroads complete

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS:

16. Announcements by City Administrator

- City Administrator out of office
- TML Conference
- Economic Development Training

17. Announcements by Mayor and Council Members

None

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

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:50 p.m.

19. Discussion pursuant to §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and §551.074 (Personnel Matters) of the Texas Government Code regarding dismissal of former City executive and legal guidance on resolution.

20. Discussion pursuant to §551.086 (Economic Development) of the Texas Government Code regarding Wonderland of the Americas project.

RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: 8:08 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by:

DELIA R. SANCHEZ
City Secretary

Minutes approved at the Council Meeting held on October 25, 2021.