

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

Minutes

DATE: February 28, 2022

TIME: 6:00 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: 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 Gillian gave the invocation and led pledges.

PRESENTATIONS

- CPS Energy Interim President & CEO, Rudy Garza

Mr. Garza came up and introduced himself and informed Mayor and Council on his focus to rebuild trust with the community.

- Announcement and Pinning Ceremony for new hires and promotions (Jahanara)
 - Sgt. Theodore Herrera – Promoted to Patrol Sergeant – Pinned by Wife
 - Corporal Edgard Ortiz – Promoted to Corporal in CID – Pinned by Girlfriend
 - Officer Christopher Aguirre – Promoted from Dispatch Supervisor to Police Officer – Pinned by wife
 - Leticia Salinas – Promoted to Dispatch Supervisor

- Introduction of Owners at property located at 4210 Fredericksburg Rd., Balcones Urban Flats

Rachel Rainosek, Manager at Balcones Urban Flats came up and gave an update on the work that has been done and will be done on the property. She also stated some of the problems on the property.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Abigail Villarreal – Teen Reina Latina – Thomas Jefferson Highschool – Briefed on National Rare Disease Day – Mayor de Leon presented her with a Proclamation recognizing Rare Disease Day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:47 p.m.

1. Discussion pursuant to §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), of the Texas Government Code, regarding 1139 Babcock Rd.

RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: 7:12 p.m.

2. The City Council will conduct a hearing and take possible **ACTION** on the abatement order issued on December 17, 2021, for the residence and outbuildings at 1139 Babcock Road.

Power point presentation was given of the following:

- Pictures of Property
- 2nd hearing request
- Concerns with \$100,000 estimate

Linda Larson and son Chris Larson came up to speak and presented an updated proposal with timelines and bids for roof and plumbing.

After a question and answer period the following motion was made:

MOTION: Motion to continue with the original abatement order.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Seconded: Gloria Cantu a record vote of 4/1/0 PASSED

Nay vote – Juan Lecea

Second Motion: To provide proof of contract with ENSCO to start the demolition and proposal for timeline.

Motion by: Stephen Lara Seconded: Lamar Gillian a record vote of 4/0/1 PASSED

Abstained – Juan Lecea

BUSINESS ITEMS:

3. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting of January 31, 2022
- b. Finance Report for the month of January 2022
- c. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt an Ordinance declaring unopposed candidates for the offices of Mayor, Council, Place 1, and Council, Place 2 in the May 7, 2022 Balcones Heights General Election providing that the election will not be held.

MOTION: So, moved. (to approve Consent Agenda items 3a – 3c)

Motion by: Stephen Lara Seconded: Juan Lecea a record vote of 5/0/0 PASSED

Item 9 was addressed before Item 4.

4. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application due April 2022 for the 300 block of Crestview Drive Street Reconstruction project. (Thelen)

Mrs. Thelen and Jess Swain briefed council

MOTION: Motion to approve the application.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Seconded: Stephen Lara a record vote of 5/0/0 PASSED

5. Consideration and **ACTION** approving a project budget for the reconstruction of the 300 Block of Crestview Drive (Leisure Drive to Hillcrest Drive) for the Bexar County 2022 Community Development Block Grant Application and approving the preliminary engineering design services and related activities. (Thelen)

MOTION: Motion to approve the budget.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Seconded: Juan Lecea a record vote of 4/1/0 PASSED

Nay Vote – Juan Lecea

6. The City Council will conduct a **PUBLIC HEARING** to amend the Balcones Heights Code of Ordinances Sec. 153.7.1.3 regulating the maximum height of a residential front yard fence.

Public Hearing opened and closed at 8:07 p.m.

7. Council will receive report and take **ACTION** on the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to amend Sec. 153.7.1.3 regulating the maximum height of a residential front yard fence. (Thelen)

Janet Thelen gave a power point presentation on the background with the concerns on height of fences and meeting held by Planning and Zoning.

MOTION: I make a motion to go from four foot to five foot maximum height fences.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Seconded: Gloria Cantu a record vote of 2/3/0 FAILED

Nay Vote – Stephen Lara, Juan Lecea, Miguel Valverde

Yay Vote – Gloria Cantu, Lamar Gillian

8. Consideration and possible **ACTION** approving an Ordinance amending Code of Ordinances, Chapter 90; providing for the mandatory microchipping regulations for dogs and cats; therefore, removing the requirement for an annual city license for dogs and cats. (Thelen)

Janet Thelen recommended amending the ordinance to provide for mandatory microchipping regulations.

MOTION: I make a motion to approve with implementation after a 90 day notice.

Motion by: Juan Lecea Seconded: Lamar Gillian a record vote of 5/0/0 PASSED

9. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt an ordinance amending the FY 2021-22 approved budget to create and fund expense lines in the capital and economic incentive funds. (Messick)

Mr. Messick came up and gave background on the ordinance to be adopted for the budget amendment.

MOTION: Motion to approve.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Seconded: Juan Lecea a record vote of 5/0/0 PASSED

10. Discussion regarding Board, Commission, and Committee appointments.

Recommendation was made to search for Board Members to fill vacancy.

11. Comprehensive Land Use project update.

- Survey
- Community Meeting – March 24th

12. Strategic Plan Update. (Nastasi/Thelen)

- Update on Hillcrest Drive Reconstruction
- Pleasant Project
- Street Lights
- Master Plan new approach

13. Economic Development Corporation Summary. (Nastasi)

- Wonderland of the Americas rebranding to work in tandem with the city's branding
- Clay Binford Agreement
- Pending lease update – Sid Weiss

14. Finance Committee Update. (Gillian)

- Meeting with auditors
- Finance update
- Audit – March Agenda

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

- Fire Protection Inspection Passed

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS:

16. Announcements by City Administrator

- Burrito restaurant coming to city
- PD – 10 hour shifts
- Expansion at hospital off the table
- Council computers on order

17. Announcements by Mayor and Council Members

- March 17th – BH Blood Drive – School Yard at Wonderland of the Americas
- March 10th – Neighborhood Watch
- Residents Mary Esquivel and Rafael Ruiz passed away

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

- Newsletter

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:25 p.m.

19. Discussion pursuant to §551.074 (Personnel Matters), of the Texas Government Code, regarding City Administrator's evaluation.

20. Discussion pursuant to §551.073 (Deliberations about Real Property), of the Texas Government Code, regarding 201 and 203 Altgelt Ave.

RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: 10:47 p.m.

No Action

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Submitted by:

DELIA R. SANCHEZ
City Secretary

Approved by City Council at the regular meeting of March 28, 2022.