

**City of Alton City Commission
Regular Meeting 7:30 pm
August 25, 2015 Minutes**



Members Present

Mayor Salvador Vela
Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr
Commissioner Ricardo Garza
Commissioner Richard Arevalo
Commissioner Emilio Cantu Jr

City Staff Present

Jorge Arcaute
Baudelia Rojas
Jeff Underwood
Ricardo Gonzalez
Rosie Tello
Javier Garcia
Janie Gaytan

Others Present

Arnoldo Corpus
Craig Verley
Kirk Richardson

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT:

With a quorum of the Alton City Commission present, Mayor Salvador Vela called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG:

Mayor Salvador Vela led the group in prayer. Commissioner Ricardo Garza led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Arnoldo Corpus announced his candidacy for Hidalgo County Commissioner Precinct 3 Place 2.

Craig Verley stated that on behalf of MCISD, he wanted to personally and publicly thank the City of Alton and Greater Alton Chamber of Commerce for participation in the 2nd Annual Back to School Bash held August 7, 2015.

Samm Mercado, Alton Special Projects Coordinator briefed the Commission on the 2015 Summer Program. He and the City Commissioners presented a certificate of appreciation to volunteers of the Summer program.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

Approve the minutes of the City Commission meeting of August 11, 2015.

Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Ricardo Garza. Motion carried 5-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion on proposing the adoption of the 2015 tax rate.

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the City has lowered its taxes for 7 years in a row. The 2015 tax rate is .4540 and will be approved on September 29, 2015. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve tax rate on September 29, 2015 was moved by Commissioner Ricardo Garza and second by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Consider and approve the second reading of Ordinance 2015-12, amending Ordinance 2015-06-0414 as amended, concerning sewer rates and related matters.

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated there were no changes to from the first reading. Mr. Jeff Snowden with CAPEX presented a brief power point to the Commission on the wastewater rates from surrounding cities. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve second reading was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Consider and approve the second reading of Ordinance 2015-13, amending Ordinance 2014-01-0527 as amended, concerning solid waste rates and related matters.

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated there were no changes to from the first reading. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve second reading was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Consider and approve Memorandum of Understanding with Moore Air Base APHS-PPQ.

Kirk Richardson, Base Manager at Moore Air Base briefed the Commission on the MOU presented. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Ricardo Garza. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Consider and approve designating Lone Star National Bank as the City's depository.

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated Lone Star National Bank submitted a bid for Depository Services. They have been the City's depository for several years. Staff recommends Lone Star National Bank as the City's depository. Motion to approve

was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Emilio Cantu Jr. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **Adoption of Resolution 2015-16, a resolution by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Alton, Texas authorizing and approving publication of notice of intention to issue City of Alton, Texas Combination Tax And Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2015A in a maximum principal amount not to exceed \$240,000.00; complying with the requirements contained in securities and exchange commission rule 15c2-12 and the laws of the State of Texas; authorizing the City's staff, and bond counsel to proceed with all actions necessary for completion of the contemplated financing; providing an effective date; and approval of other matters appurtenant thereto.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated resolution is a USDA loan component. Project is substantially complete. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Approve the opening of a new bank account, "City of Alton, USDA Sewer Connections Project Fund" at Lone Star National Bank and to authorize the commission members and City Manager as signers of such account.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the opening of the bank account is a requirement from USDA. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

8. **Consider and approve awarding a bid for Contract labor for Grounds Maintenance.**

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated 2 sealed bids were received on August 3rd for landscape maintenance at city facilities. Palm Valley Maintenance Services \$45,461.20/year and Native Land Design \$80,009.03/year. Staff recommends rejecting low bid due to lack of sufficient manpower and equipment and awarding the bid to Native Land Design. Motion to award bid to Native Land Design was moved by Commissioner Ricardo Garza and second by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. Motion carried 5-0.

9. **Consider and approve the selection of Land Surveying firms for public projects within Alton.**

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated 4 surveying firms submitted qualifications for public projects within Alton on August 3rd: Halff, Rio Delta, Rio Grande Valley Surveying and ROW Surveying. Staff recommends negotiating with the top 2 firms: Halff – 77.5 and Rio Delta – 57.3 and utilize them in a rotating basis.

Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Emilio Cantu Jr. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Consider and approve the selection of Civil Engineering firms for public projects within Alton.

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated 5 civil engineering firms submitted qualifications for public projects within Alton on August 3rd: L&G, S. Tex Infrastructure, J. Hinojosa, Halff and Lefevre. Staff recommends negotiating with all 5 firms and utilize them in a rotating basis. Motion to approve was moved by Commissioner Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071 & 551.072

None

VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

CITY OF ALTON


Salvador Vela, Mayor

ATTEST:


Baudelia Rojas, TRMC|CPM
City Secretary



Approved by City Commission 09/08/2015