

**City of Alton City Commission  
Regular Meeting 7:30 pm  
August 22, 2017 Minutes**

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**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  
Samm Mercado  
Steve Pena  
Rudy Garza  
Rosie Tello  
Janie Flores  
Monique Martinez

**Others Present**

Jose de Leon III  
Crystal Puente  
Arnoldo Cantu Jr  
David Cantu

**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 7:43 pm.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1. Solicit input from the public on submittal of grant application for Josefa Garcia Park to Texas Parks and Wildlife.**
- 2. Solicit input from public on the Josefa Garcia Park which is located within the 100 year floodplain.**

Mayor Salvador Vela opened the public hearing at 7:43 pm. Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the City is required to hold a public hearing for the grant application in order to solicit input from the public. The grant application is being developed by utilizing the Master Parks Plan which was developed using public survey responses. The City is also required to hold a public hearing to hear comments from the public related to the development of a park in the 100 year

floodplain. No comment received from the public. Mayor Salvador Vela closed the public hearing at 7:45 pm.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Arnoldo Cantu Jr, Judge County Court at Law No. 5 briefed the Commission on the services the court at law provides for the residents of Hidalgo County.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Approve the minutes of the City Commission meeting of August 8, 2017.**

**Discuss and consider approving the first reading of Ordinance 2017-08, adopting a new official zoning map and repealing previous zoning maps.**

**Discuss and consider approving the first reading of Ordinance 2017-09, adopting the City of Alton Unified Development Code, repealing any conflicting ordinances.**

**Consider and approve Ordinance 2017-10, amending Ordinance 2001-16, creating a Design District and adopting a Wireless Services Design Manual, waiving second and third reading.**

Motion to approve was moved Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Consider and approve the fiscal year 2017-2019 Lower Rio Grande Valley Development (LRGVDC) PSAP Interlocal Agreement.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated agreement is a renewal. 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.

**2. Adoption of Resolution 2017-18, a resolution by the City of Alton, Texas authorizing and directing the City Manager to submit an application to the Office of the Governor for body armor.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated this was a requirement of the grant. 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.

**3. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-07, granting to One Gas, Inc acting by and through its Texas Gas Service Company Division and its successors and assigns for a period of twenty-five (25) years from approval and acceptance of this ordinance, a non-exclusive franchise, waiving second and third reading.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager recommends approval with the provision that it is reviewed and approved by City Counsel. Motion to approve with the provision was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 5-0.

- 4. Adoption of Resolution 2017-19, authorizing staff to apply for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Park Department Grant for Josefa Garcia Park.**  
Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the City is applying for grant funding from Texas Parks and Wildlife for improvements to and the expansion of Josefa Garcia Park. The resolution is required by TPW to begin the grant application process. 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. Adoption of Resolution 2017-20, resolving to prevent mining and drilling on city property being utilized for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Park Development Project.**  
Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the agreement outlines reasonable communication and coordination of efforts between the department and the agencies. Staff recommends approval. 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 2017-21, authorizing an Interlocal agreement with Hidalgo County for the purposes of implementing the Scofflaw Program.**  
Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the Scofflaw Program, which is being implemented by Hidalgo County, requires that anyone attempting to obtain a vehicle registration with an outstanding warrant or fine due to a traffic violation must pay the fine prior to obtaining their vehicle registration. This program will reduce outstanding warrants for the City. Only additional cost to the City is a one-time fee from Incode of \$2,475. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Emilio Cantu Jr. Motion carried 4-0
- 7. Discuss and consider entering into an agreement with Hamer Enterprises for Internet Processing Professional Services related to the implementation of the Hidalgo County Scofflaw Program.**  
Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the agreement allows a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, Hamer Enterprises to electronically collect fees related to the Scofflaw Program. Hamer Enterprises has partnered with Hidalgo County to provide pay stations at the Tax Collector's offices in order to facilitate the collection of outstanding warrants and traffic fines. 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
- 8. To approve the establishment of the "Municipal Court Collection Fund", a Special Revenue Type fund; its corresponding new bank account at the Lone**

**Star National Bank and to authorize the Commission members and City Manager as signers of such account.**

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the establishment of a separate fund and corresponding bank account for the Scofflaw Program will allow for better tracking of the proceeds from the program and facilitate the required payments to County for the program administration. 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.

**9. Discuss and consider renewing a contract for General Construction Services.**

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the city bid out general construction services in 2015 and Construction and Electrical Company of South Texas, LLC was the successful bidder. The contract was initially for 1 year but allows for two – 1 year extensions. If approved, this will be the final 1 year extension. 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.

**10. Discuss and consider renewing a contract for Grounds Maintenance at City Facilities.**

Jeff Underwood, Assistant City Manager stated the city bid out grounds maintenance services for the city facilities in 2015. Native Land Design was the successful bidder. The company has done a good job and been easy to work with. The contract was initially for 1 year but allows for two – 1 year extensions. If approved, this will be the final 1 year extension. 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.

**11. Discussion on the 2017 Effective Tax Rate, Rollback Tax Rate and Last Year's Tax Rate for proposing the adoption of the new tax rate.**

Crystal Puente, with Hidalgo County Tax Assessors office presented the Commission with the effective tax rate, rollback tax rate and last year's tax rate. Upon review, the City Commission decided to go with the proposed tax rate of \$0.4440. No public hearing will be necessary. Motion to approve the tax rate of \$0.4440 was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr and second by Commissioner Ricardo Garza. Motion carried 5-0.

**12. Presentation of the City of Alton Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.**  
Presentation only.

**13. Consider and approve authorizing staff to advertise for sealed Request for Proposals (RFP) for Municipal Audit Services.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the City utilized the services of Mr. Noel Garza CPA for the past eight years as the external auditor for the City's financial

statements. Staff recommends proceeding with RFP for municipal audit services. 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.

**14. Consider and approve an agreement between the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and the City of Alton for the purpose of providing improved and more accessible services for the residents of Alton.**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley will provide improved and more accessible services for the residents of Alton. 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.

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

**VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Jorge Arcaute, City Manager stated the warehouse is being remodeled for the Fire Academy. MCISD will notify us of the library opening at the Mission Collegiate High School sometime in October.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 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 CPM, TRMC|CMC  
City Secretary

Approved by City Commission 09/12/17

