

**City of Alton City Commission
Regular Meeting 7:30 pm
November 23, 2021 Minutes**



Members Present

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

Members Absent

Commissioner Ricardo Garza

City Staff Present

Jeff Underwood
Ricardo Gonzalez
Baudelia Rojas
Jonathan Flores (via Zoom)
Janie Flores
Mauro Sandoval
Janie Gaytan
Samm Mercado
John Salinas

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 7:34 pm.

II. CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the minutes of the City Commission meeting of November 9, 2021.

Discuss and consider request by Javier Hinojosa Engineering, representing 4MLD, LLC, owner, for final plat approval of the proposed Shary Estates Subdivision Phase II.

Discuss and consider approving Ordinance 2021-17, an ordinance for a voluntary annexation request from L&R Freight, LLC, owner, to annex the south 9.40 acre tract, more or less, out of Lot 45-10, West Addition to Sharyland Subdivision.

Motion to approve the consent agenda was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 4-0.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Discuss and approve the 2021 Tax Roll for the City of Alton as per Section 26.09(e), of the Texas Property Tax Code.**

Jeff Underwood, City Manager stated that approval by the Commission is required as per the Texas Property Code. The taxable value for all properties in Alton is \$583,541,013 which will produce a levy of \$2,549,578.79. Staff recommends approval of the 2021 Tax Roll. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 4-0.

2. **Presentation of the Annual Tax Collection Report from the Office of Pablo “Paul” Villarreal Jr. Tax Assessor & Collector for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.**

Julio Espinoza with the Tax Assessor & Collectors Office stated that the certified report shows the current year 2020-2021 base collection as \$2,171,464.19, delinquent \$156,551.72, rollback \$3,026.98, total base \$2,331,042.89, total penalties and interest \$99,290.71, total collection attorney fees \$36,624.63. Total collections for fiscal year are \$2,466,958.23. Mr. Espinoza stated that current collections was at 94.44% collection rate which was very good compared to 2019-2020 that was at 93.19% which is more than a 1.25% increase. Mr. Espinoza stated that overall Alton residents are doing very well and paying their taxes. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Ricardo Cantu. Motion carried 4-0.

3. **Discuss and consider the adoption of Resolution 2021-28 for the FY2022 Border Zone Fire Department Grant (BZFD).**

John Salinas, Fire Chief stated this request for approval was for the resolution to allow them to move forward with applying to the Border Fire Department Grant which has a cap of \$250,000.00. With this grant the department would be able to provide equipment to create an Alton Rescue Border Task Force. This would get staff surfwater certified, surfwater equipment, radios for communication in the EMC department and also provide vehicles. Chief Salinas stated that the department has been working with Jason Martinez, Business Development Manager, in putting the paperwork together. Staff recommends adoption of the resolution. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 4-0.

4. **Discuss and consider the approval of Resolution 2021-29, related to the sale of Lot 2, Alton Industrial Park.**

Jeff Underwood, City Manager stated that the sale of this lot was approved at the previous City Commission meeting but the City Attorney, Ricardo Gonzalez would like to have the sale done through a resolution to ensure that everyone knows the sale is for public purpose. There is no change to this item. Staff recommends approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 4-0.

5. **Updated Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to public health emergency.**

Jeff Underwood, City Manager stated the dates to the declaration have been updated and is recommending approval. Motion to approve was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Richard Arevalo. Motion carried 4-0.

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

- a) Pending and/or potential litigation
- b) Personnel
- c) Real Estate

VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

- a) Pending and/or potential litigation
- b) Personnel
- c) Real Estate

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Jeff Underwood reported that Alton Police Department applied for a Cops Grant through the U.S. Department of Justice. Congressman Gonzales was instrumental in securing a grant of nearly \$625,000 which would allow the City to hire four police officers. The grant would essentially cover the salary of these four police officers for four years.

Rancho Grande Estates repaving project that is being done through Urban County has received bids with the lowest being by Earthworks in the amount of \$280,066. The bid amount is all in the Urban County budget so no money would come from the City. After approval by the County Commission and signing of contracts the repaving project will more than likely commence in the first couple of weeks of January.

Mr. Underwood went over a projects update handout and the City calendar for the remainder of the year showing the projects coming up with the most important one being the Chirstmas tree lighting on December 1st

Mr. Underwood stated the he would like to thank McAllen Commissioner Tanya Ramirez for donating 100 turkeys for Alton seniors and thanked Fire Department for delivering several of the donated turkeys.

IX. ADJOURNMENT


Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arturo Galvan Jr. and seconded by Commissioner Emilio Cantu Jr. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY OF ALTON



Salvador Vela, Mayor

ATTEST:



Baudelia Rojas CPM, TRMC|CMC
City Secretary

