

**City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
June 18th, 2013
6:00 P.M.
Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of allegiance to the flag – Brad Maguire with Alpine Ministerial Alliance, gave the invocation and Mayor Rangra led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.**
- 2, Determination of a quorum and proof of notice of the meeting – Mayor Rangra and Councilmembers Bermudez, Davidson, Fitzgerald, Gonzales and Castelli were present. Meeting notice had been posted at 2:00 P.M. on June 14th, 2013.**
- 3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations – None**
- 4. Reports –**

City Mayor's Report - Mayor Rangra said he was going to let the City Manager tell about the swimming pool. He said it opened last Saturday. He said all the kids seemed to be happy.

City Attorney Report – The City Attorney said he had no report but he did request an executive session later on this evening.

City Manager Report – The City Manager said he would report on the swimming pool. He said we opened Saturday and it was a busy day. He said they served hotdogs and had the ribbon cutting. He said the smiles on the kids faces made it all worthwhile. He said they were so glad to have a pool. He said it was very successful and we had quite a few people both days.

A. Verizon Cell Tower Site – The City Manager said he wanted to report to Council that he is working with a representative of Verizon for a location for a cell tower on city property that would help our cell service, especially south of town. He said we looked at two or three different sites.

B. Contract Accounting Assistance – The City Manager told the Council that he was going to hire a contract person to help with the accounting. He said there are a lot of things to go through. Councilor Bermudez asked if this position was advertised. The City Manager said this was just a contract person. He said we are not creating a position but just contracting with a

person to do some work for us.

C. Utility Billing Operations – The City Manager said he talked to some of the Council before about the possibility of moving our utility office to the gas office so all of our utilities could go one time to one place. He said we are probably several months away. He said we would only have one bill and it would better help our citizens. Councilor Castelli asked why we would go to the gas company instead of moving the gas bills to City Hall. The City Manager said there were a number of reasons. He said they have more space and they have a drive through window. He said they also have a better night deposit situation than we have here at City Hall. Mayor Rangra asked how much money we are talking about saving by combining the water and gas bills and location. The City Manager said we are talking about postage savings. He said we are not talking about laying anyone off. He said we have to get moving with utility billing and we still have some issues. Councilor Fitzgerald asked who would do the programming for this. The City Manager said it would be the same people who do our software. He said we will provide the utility billing but Hill Country will do the interface.

D. Public Hearing by Airport Advisory Board on Drones – The City Manager said tomorrow night we are scheduled to have a public hearing with the Airport Advisory Board regarding a request for operating drones out of our airport. He said this was something that originally came up in April but they were not here to represent themselves and the Airport Board asked the City Manager to get in touch with them and have them come and make a presentation at a public hearing so the public could have an opportunity to ask questions and address things. He said it will be tomorrow night at 6 P.M. He said we did post the possibility of a quorum and the Council is welcome to attend.

Councilor Gonzales asked about K street and what was going on with that street since we have had a lot of rain with the flooding. The City Manager said he has not had any reports of flooding. He said Hector went out there with a County Commissioner. He said it has been a number of years since we had a big flood. He said there has been a berm built and it turns a lot of water to the east but we are still looking a ways to help this situation. He said it could be a half mile or so of underground drainage. Councilor Bermudez asked if K street was on City or County property. The City Manager said that was one of the issues we had. He said part of it is in the County and part of it is in the City. He said part of it is in the County right of way. He said that is one of the issues we are trying to resolve and correct the situation.

City Staff Updates –

Deborah Pattison – Interim Finance Director, said she could not thank the Council enough for making the decision to change to Hill Country Software. She said having worked with the existing software for the last few weeks, the type of reports and financial updates she would like to provide the council are very cumbersome on the existing software. She said we are going to go live with the new software on June 28th, next Friday. She said the first payroll will be July 5th so we have a lot of work ahead of us to get ready for that. She said thank you. She said in time you are going to see more and more reports and information coming to you. She said she gave the council some reports tonight and there is good news with the amount of the sales tax. She said there is also a summary of the cash basis of the 2013 bank account history done from actual bank statements. She said there is also a brief summary that confirms the primary cash reserves, secondary cash reserves, hotel occupancy tax fund, revenue bonds, insurance and total percentage of cash. She said there is also a year to date report coming out of the pure data coming out of the current accounting software from the accounts payable. She said this will tell us where we are on expenditures. Councilor Castelli asked if this was as scary as it looks. The City Manager said it is kind of scary. He said he is working with the insurance person concerning healthcare. Mayor Rangra said he was looking at the nine month summary and asked if Deborah had found any unusual transactions. Deborah said she has not come to that point. She thanked the council again for letting us work with a contract person. She said there is a backlog of records management issues.

1. **Transferred Vehicle for use in carrying emergency equipment** – Chief Scown said this was a vehicle transfer from the fire department. He said in 1998 the city bought the fire department this truck. He said it is a 1998 GMC. He said at one time it was used as a rescue vehicle and it had the jaws of life. He said the police department has equipment that it needs to carry to accidents, barricades and signs. He said they plan to use this for that purpose. He said this vehicle still belongs to the City of Alpine. He said it is just a transfer from the fire department to the police department. Councilor Fitzgerald asked about the condition of the vehicle. Chief Scown said it was a 1998 model but it was in very good condition. He said it only had 15,000 miles on it. He said it was in very good shape.

Mayor Rangra wished Councilor Julian Gonzales Happy Birthday, since his birthday was today.

5. **Citizens Comments (on agenda items)** – None

6. **Public Hearings** – None

7. Consent Agenda – (Minutes, Financial reports, Department Written Reports, board appointments, etc.) –

- A. Approve Council Minutes of May 21st, 2013. (C. Harrington, CM)**
- B. Approve Accounts Payable. (C. Harrington, CM)**

Motion was made by Councilor Davidson, by Resolution 2013-06-11, to approve the Consent Agenda in full. Motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzales. Motion unanimously carried.

8. Information or Discussion items –

- A. Presentation and Discussion regarding status of Elder Care Facility Center in Alpine. (C. Harrington, CM) – Jim McDonald gave an update. He said there has been an increase in support. He said he is a consultant on this project. He said he got involved because of his position on the Chamber of Commerce Board. He said this is something he feels strongly about and he is Chair of the Economic Development Committee. He said he had an opportunity to get involved just a little less than a year ago and about ten months ago he made a brief statement to the then Council and Mayor. He said the bad news is that ten or eleven months have passed and we have not gotten as far as he hoped. He said he was hoping that we might be able to break ground by September of this year and we are not even close. He said the good news is that we have learned a lot. He said support is a growing thing. He said from his perspective one thing he did not know about is that the BBRHD Board has been very active. He said he did know they requested and paid for a feasibility study that was completed in March of 2012. He said the feasibility study is truly a study that shows the need within a 60 mile radius of our community is such that it could justify the building of an Elder Care facility. He said it does not speak to the financial feasibility and that is the issue that we are really struggling with at this point. He said the study suggested that there was an immediate need for 72 beds for skilled nursing and also some beds for assisted living, around 30 and also 16 independent living units. He said in looking at those numbers and in getting some costs for construction numbers, preliminary numbers, it seemed that was more than we could afford at this point so we began to pare back a little. He said it turns out that based on the regulatory plans with the feds and state, that there is a magic number and the magic number is 60 beds. He said you have to evidently staff up enough resources for 60 beds even if you only have 20 or 30 or 40. He said if you go to 61 it increases significantly the amount of labor costs and other resources. He said so 60 beds is what we are looking at, at this point, and it seems like a nice number. He said the feasibility study that we have been trying to do and by the way we do have preliminary costs on construction and development, of 60 beds, 30 beds for assisted living and 16 independent living units. He said the 16**

independent living units would be like small apartments. He said the numbers range between seven and eight million dollars for the total package. He said that is a lot of money. He said with the current plan of politics and healthcare and particularly with the changes in the healthcare system, federal and state, impacting Medicare and Medicaid primarily, which would be a significant factor in terms of supporting it in any part of the country but certainly in a rural area like this. He said we simply don't know what things are going to look like. He said we already know that those reimbursement numbers are not keeping up with inflation. He said some of them have been cut. He said as we talk to people, potential operators and potential private supporters we begin to hear that they are not sure it is going to work. He said we will tell you right now that we are not sure it is going to work, however, he continues to be optimistic and here is the reason. He said they have had conversations with the US Department of Agriculture and they see this as a project that they would like to have in this area, so they will support it obviously within their guidelines and within their mandates. He said they will support a guaranteed loan program for a project. He said that would be a 60% portion of this. He said the other part of the project would have to be private money. He said USDA is one way we can go and we are still exploring it. He said the second thing we have discovered just in the last month or so, based on conversations that have been put together by the hospital district board, which has become more and more involved with this. He said he is impressed by what they are doing. He said they discovered that there are some state monies available through the Health and Human Services Division and would have to do with different regions and there is money left over in the region which has not been used. He said it is really complicated but he is going to meet with the regional director of this program and see if he can educate himself a little better. He said that looks like a potential way. He said those funds are essentially grant money and could be as much as 60%. He said this would just be for the skilled nursing facility and not the entire package. He said that is one possibility. He said the third possibility is a bond election. He said you may know the hospital district has the ability to float a bond election based on the income that they get on taxes for the hospital district. He said that we see as probably a third choice but it may be the choice that they have to look seriously at. He said they are going to be talking with an expert that puts together bond elections and see what his options are. He said by next week we may know a lot more about where we are going. He said right now we have preliminary costs and preliminary operating expenses for a facility of this size. He said as we talk to operators, there is an operator out of Fort Worth who has an interest in this area and he is very interested and very concerned as to whether or not it is financially feasible to actually operate under the conditions that we are in and will continue to be for probably some years. He said he is going to give us a conference call and he believes his expertise will be very helpful in

moving us ahead. He said there are a lot of “ifs”. He said we need to get some feedback from the community as to how important it is. He said they need to know, or be fairly sure that the community is supporting this, an additional tax rate. He said he did not think it would be much. He said they are planning to have a series of public hearings, hopefully within the next 6 weeks. He said there would be one here, in Alpine for sure, one in Marfa and one in Presidio because going through the district board for Presidio County, as well, takes in indigent care which will be part of the need here. He said if we need to sell this as a regional entity, obviously all the other communities would rather have it there. He said he is not sure financially if there is any way in the world that they could survive in any other place, other than Alpine. Councilor Davidson asked when they thought they would have the hearings. Mr. McDonald said in the next 3 to 6 weeks. He said the sooner the better. He said he spoke to Judge Beard the other day and she is running this through the Commissioner’s Court, so that is one opportunity. He said we could possibly do this through the School Board and City Council. Mayor Rangra said he thought this was very important to have a nursing home here. He asked if Mr. McDonald was looking for support from the City financially for this. Mr. McDonald said obviously if it comes to that, they are going to be asking everyone how they can support them. He said there are many ways the city could support this and the county could support this. Councilor Fitzgerald said Mr. McDonald might want to talk to Doctor Maestas at SRSU about the possibility of using the Espino Center for a hearing. He said it is much bigger and can hold more people than the City Council Chamber or Commissioner’s Courtroom for a hearing.

Action Items to be accompanied by a brief statement of facts, including where funds are coming from, if applicable. (Action items limited to 15 per meeting.)

- 9. Discuss and Consider approving second and final reading of Ordinance 2013-06-01, an Ordinance of the City of Alpine, Texas, establishing a Municipal Court Technology Fund as allowed by Section 102.0172 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. (C. Harrington, CM) – Motion was made by Councilor Fitzgerald, by Resolution 2013-06-12, to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2013-06-01, an Ordinance of the City of Alpine, Texas, establishing a Municipal Court Technology Fund as allowed by Section 102.0172 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. Motion was seconded by Councilor Davidson. Councilor Castelli asked if there were any changes made to the Ordinance since we last saw it. The City Attorney said no changes had been made. Joseph Goldman asked how much the fee would be. The City Attorney said the fees are assessed and collected for the conviction of the defendant in the Alpine Municipal Court as court costs and as promulgated by the State of Texas. He said this ordinance makes us righteous in terms of our ability to collect the fees. He said the**

fee is \$4 per conviction and is part of the court costs. He said it is used in acknowledging that is administered by the City Council in the City of Alpine in terms of appropriate technology of what the costs are. He said generally it will be computers, software, microphones and things of that nature. He said the finance director will administer the fund balance. He said it is not a high fund balance right now. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discuss and Consider approving the second and final reading of amendment to Section 70-102 of the Code of Ordinances. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Manager said this was the second and final reading of amendment to Section 70-102 of the Code of Ordinances. He said basically it removes the city from enforcing spice, an artificial type of marijuana substances. Motion was made by Councilor Gonzales, by Resolution 2013-06-13, to approve the second and final reading of amendment to Section 70-102 of the Code of Ordinances (Ordinance 2013-06-03). Motion was seconded by Councilor Bermudez. The City Attorney said there were no changes since the last time. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discuss and Consider request by the Museum of the Big Bend for Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for the Frederick Remington Exhibit in the amount of \$20,000. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Manager said the request came in from the Museum of the Big Bend for Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for the Frederick Remington Exhibit in the amount of \$20,000. He said one of the works is called Roughriders and was last exhibited on the road in the 1980's so this is a pretty big coup. He said most of the exhibit will be free to the public. He said they included a proposed budget. He said they are requesting the city give them \$20,000 in hotel/motel tax money. He said staff has reviewed the request. He said the request does qualify for hotel/motel tax money. He said there is no question about that. He said the project is showing a projected profit of \$38,000. He said a maybe more appropriate number for the city to contribute from hotel/motel tax might be in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range. Mary Bones, Curator with the Museum of the Big Bend, said she was here tonight representing the Museum of the Big Bend. She said their director, Liz Jackson, could not be there tonight. She said they are here to ask for funding for the Remington Exhibit. She said they are asking for \$20,000. She said the Museum of the Big Bend is a permanent and creative exhibit of the dynamic history of the American west. She said they have been here for 27 years and have presented the best in contemporary cowboy gear and fine western art and held an exhibit and sale with the Trappings of Texas. She said this year they will showcase one of the greatest Western artists, Frederick Remington. She said Remington is to western art as Roger Staubach was to the Dallas Cowboys, Earl Campbell was to the Houston Oilers and today Tony Parker is to the San Antonio Spurs. She said tonight she is here to ask the City Council to invest in a world class blockbuster exhibition at the Big Bend Museum. She said the exhibit will showcase the breadth and depth of the artist. She said

September 19th kicks off 3 event filled days that includes presentations from internationally recognized Remington scholars, a grant exhibition including a reception, a private tour and barbecue lunch at the Fort Davis National Historic site and Saturday evening a gala hosted by the Holland Hotel. She said they are conservatively estimating 410 people to be at these events. She said all of these special events are ticketed. She said beginning Saturday morning at 9 AM and running from September 21st through December 8th, the Remington Exhibit will be open to the public at no charge. She said the museum is committed to the mission of providing an educational experience open to all. She said the museum has already initiated an advertising campaign to Alpine and the Big Bend Region. She said they have mailed over 3,000 save the date cards and sponsorship brochures. She said they have distributed hundreds of save the date cards to area hotels and motels to alert the owners to this event and to hopefully encourage their guests to come back for another stay this fall. She said they have placed ads in the major western art magazines, Cowboys and Indians, Southwest Art, Western Art and Architecture, True West and Western Horseman. She said these are not one time, one shot ads. She said they have contracted them to run for four times in Cowboys and Indians, Southwest Art, Western Art and Architecture and True West and they will have ads placed in Western Horseman twice. She said each of these publications will produce feature articles about the Remington Exhibit in their September issues. She said they will have high profile exposure from late summer through early fall in these national publications. She said they are working through the Chamber of Commerce Organization "Visit Alpine, Texas" through Stewart Ramser and Texas Mountain Trails to help promote this event. She said in addition the Museum will send individual invitations to 3,000 plus potential visitors and guests with information about area hotels, motels, restaurants, night life, places to go and things to do at no charge to these businesses. She said they want to support our local economy and encourage our guests to stay longer and shop locally. She said to continue their efforts to promote this event, they are seeking funds to bring a larger audience to this area. She said they are requesting the funds for mailing and for printed publications and they want to increase their visual presence throughout the region, Texas and the country at large. She said this is a nationally significant event! She said this event will be bigger than any other event that Alpine has seen. She said treasures from the Frederick Remington Art Museum exhibit will be a huge attraction, drawing visitors from across the state and country to come and stay in Alpine during the opening weekend and will continue to bring visitors to the Big Bend country through the fall. She said they are asking for financial assistance from the City of Alpine to help us partner, to increase our public image, bring visitors to stay in our hotels and motels and help raise awareness of Alpine to a broader national and even international audience. Pete Petersen said he is the chair of the advisory board for the Museum and he said he wanted to tell the Council

why he is supporting Mary. He said he thinks this is the most important exhibit that has come to this area, ever. He said Remington is the pinnacle of Western Art in this country. He said these pieces, that are coming here, have not left Ogdensburg, New York, except for a very brief period of time since Remington died. He said this is a very important thing for this area and it should bring a lot of people to this area. Councilor Davidson asked if the "Visit Alpine, Texas" website would be listed on all the advertisement so that people can use it to search for lodging and accommodations. Mary said she cannot answer that question, but she was certain that if they were to receive funding from the City of Alpine Hotel/Motel tax fund, they would have Alpine's logo on all of the advertising. Councilor Davidson said his vote might be contingent on the "Visit Alpine, Texas" being placed on the advertisement. He said they can do their planning right there as soon as they see that ad. Councilor Gonzales said it might be as simple as putting the website address on their sites. Mary said they were planning on listing the hotels and having the phone number but she is also advocating that they have the Chamber of Commerce, web addresses as well for people who want to dig around a little more. Councilor Davidson said the hotel/motel funds have been generated by all the hotels and motels. He said there may be hotels that are not listed with the Chamber so this would potentially give business to all of them. He said it should say for lodging, visit "Visit, Alpine, Texas." Councilor Fitzgerald asked if they were going to advertise in Texas Monthly. Pete said they were trying to get a gratis ad in Texas Monthly because they are extremely expensive. Mary said she they were really going to address and target the travel and leisure section of the major newspapers, contact the editors and really work hard with them to get advertising and continue promoting Alpine. Councilor Castelli asked if this was something that could be used for hotel/motel funding since it puts heads in beds one time. The City Manager said the money is for bringing something special to town. He said art activities are definitely under the hotel/motel funding requirements. He said he thinks that this is exactly what this money is for. He said it is not just for hotels, but for restaurants and businesses in town. Pete said one of the things that the Museum is doing is seeking accreditation from the American Association of Museums. He said there are not very many accredited museums in the country. He said one of the things that helps an accredited museum is that it allows the museum to have exhibits that are far higher in their standards than most museums. He said one of the things that this will help the Museum do is grow in that direction, which will help eventually put more heads in beds. Councilor Fitzgerald said he polled the Ramada, Hampton and Holiday Inn Express to see what they thought the Museum should be funded. He said they all thought it was a great deal but they all agreed on the amount of \$10,000 for funding. Motion was made by Councilor Davidson, by Resolution 2013-06-14, to approve the request by the Museum of the Big Bend for Hotel/Motel Tax Funding for the Frederick Remington Exhibit in an amount of up to \$15,000. Motion was seconded by Councilor Bermudez.

Councilor Gonzales said he has been to the Museum and is very impressed by the Museum and the functions that they have. Councilor Fitzgerald said he believed that \$15,000 was a good compromise. Councilor Davidson said certainly a weekend event like this will allow us to see at the end of the event what impact this had on our community. He said we can see how much more money we can make. He said once the Museum gets accredited, we can line up other exhibits. He said this should give us an idea. Councilor Bermudez asked how much money was left in our Hotel/Motel funds. The City Manager said the amount fluctuates. Councilor Gonzales asked if we had enough for this event. The City Manager said we did. Pete Peterson said that this was all for advertising and promotion. Carl Fleming said with an event of this significance, he hoped a lot of money would be spent on security with the police, sheriff's office or Texas Rangers to help protect the event. Councilor Gonzales said he just wanted to make sure that the address "Visit Alpine, Texas" would be included. Mary assured him that it would be. Motion unanimously carried.

12. Discuss and Consider continued participation with CGI Communications, Inc. in the Community Video Program. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Manager said for approximately three years we have been entered into an agreement with CGI Communications. He said what this does is have a stream video on the Alpine website which gives information about Alpine. He said things have changed over three years. He said we have a new Mayor. He said there is no financial bond with the City. He said all we have to do is generate an introduction to the video which is very descriptive with photos of our City. He said the staff recommends continuing with this program since it does not cost us anything. He said he thinks after he went and looked at it, it is worthwhile. He said they will need to come and update it and we will have to have a new letter of introduction. He said it is a good production. Councilor Castelli asked if we gave them exclusive video rights. The City Attorney said in terms of this project, yes. Councilor Davidson said they are working with the Chamber of Commerce on this. Motion was made by Councilor Bermudez, by Resolution 2013-06-15, to approve continued participation with CGI Communications, Inc. in the Community Video Program. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Discuss and Consider adjusting admission fees at the Municipal Pool. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Manager said one of the requirements of our City Ordinance is every year the city has to review the fiscal structure of the pool. He said we have done some research around and found what Sul Ross and Balmorra charge for their pools. He said Balmorra is free but you have to pay \$7.00 to get into the park. He said the City of Odessa charges \$2.50 per child and \$4.00 per adult. He said we are not going to suggest that amount. He said our daily admission presently is 50 cents a day. He said we suggest we raise that to \$1.00 per day for children and

\$2.00 for adults per day. He said for summer passes we could raise from \$15 to \$20. He said the family rate would be no limit for \$40, which was previously \$25. He said the family pass is unlimited. He said the pool costs us a lot just to pay for lifeguards. He said we will not break even, but this will bring us a little closer to what our expenses are. He said especially in our community, the pool is important. Motion was made by Councilor Davidson, by Resolution 2013-06-16, to approve adjusting the admission fees at the Municipal Pool. \$1.00 daily admission for a child, \$2.00 daily admission for adult. Summer pass for a one child or individual will be \$20.00 and a family pass, which is unlimited, will be \$40. Motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzales. Ray Hendryx asked how much this would increase the income. The City Manager said it is too early to tell. He said the daily take in fee could be doubled. Motion unanimously carried.

- 14. Discuss and Consider approving first reading of Ordinance, repealing current Section 18-37 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alpine, Texas and replacing it with new Article 18-37 of said Code, and amending Section 18-39 of the Code of Ordinances by increasing the fine for violation from \$500 to \$2,000. (C. Harrington, CM) - The City Attorney said this is part of our ongoing effort to modernize and update our ordinances. He said the first issue is to raise the fine from \$500 to \$2,000. He said we are bringing that in line with the state law. He said secondly the dangerous building ordinance. He said we have been successful lately but did not have ordinance authority behind us. He said fortunately an agreement was made. He said this is a very simple ordinance concerning dangerous buildings. He said it states what is required for buildings in addition. He said after notice there is a hearing. He said later on we will have a second reading of the ordinance appointing the Municipal Court Judge as the hearing authority. He said the reason we have done that is that there was a supreme court case out of Dallas County that has given cities pause in chapter 214 of the Local Government Code. He said if we have a problem and we need to appeal one of these, having a civil court of record will give us a better edge as far as our appellate record. He said property cannot be demolished without the City Council giving its say so in terms of the expenditures and money. Councilor Gonzales asked if the Board of Adjustments was involved in this. The City Attorney said he said "like a Board of Adjustments". He said the appellate standard appealing this up to the District Court has the same standard that a Board of Adjustment would have. Motion was made by Councilor Davidson, by Resolution 2013-06-17, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2013-06-04, repealing the current Section 18-37 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alpine, Texas and replacing it with new Article 18-37 of said Code, and amending Section 18-39 of the Code of Ordinances by increasing the fine for violation from \$500 to \$2,000. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Councilor Castelli said this was a good step in a long process. Motion unanimously carried.**

15. Discuss and Consider approval of traffic control devices for five uncontrolled intersections. These intersections are on W. Eagle Pass Street and the intersections of N. 15th Street and N. 16th Street, and W. Uvalde Street at the intersections of N. 15th Street, N. 16th Street and N. Middle School Drive. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Manager said he was going to defer this item to Chief Scown since he had conducted the investigation on these intersections. Chief Scown said these are five intersections where there are no traffic control devices. He said when school is in session, this is a precaution and a safety measure. Motion was made by Councilor Bermudez, by Resolution 2013-06-18, to approve traffic control devices for five uncontrolled intersections. These intersections are on W. Eagle Pass Street and the intersections of N. 15th Street and N. 16th Street, and W. Uvalde Street at the intersections of N. 15th Street, N. 16th Street and N. Middle School Drive. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Councilor Fitzgerald said all of those locations are in his Ward and he definitely believes something is needed. He said it is a straight thoroughfare all the way through and it is needed for the safety of the children that close to the school. Councilor Gonzales asked why they were just using yield signs. Chief Scown said stop signs require much more intensive study. The City Manager said he does not feel that these intersections warrant a stop sign at this point. He said there is not a high accident rate. He said we are going to start with yield signs and see if we can control it that way and then eventually look at stop signs if necessary. Councilor Gonzales said he was a little concerned because he has seen a lot of traffic here in Alpine who do not stop at a stop sign, let alone a yield sign. He said that is why he brought up the question. He said it is so remote, it is really bad. He said they do a California stop. Mayor Rangra said you want more enforcement. The City Manager said any law or sign is only as good as its enforcement. He said there are a number of locations where we need to evaluate the traffic. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Discuss and Consider approval of appointment of Municipal Court Judge as Administrative and Civil hearing officer when Municipal Court has Civil Jurisdiction. (C. Harrington, CM) – The City Attorney said this is the second part of the dangerous buildings ordinance, Ordinance 2013-06-02. He said this does provide for our Municipal Court, which is a Court of record and is granted by this council to allow the Municipal Court to handle this. He said this does not provide the Judge with any administrative authority over court. He said it allows the Judge to sit as the administrative hearing officer in a civil case. He said there are no changes. Motion was made by Councilor Fitzgerald by Resolution 2013-06-19, to approve the appointment of the Municipal Court Judge as Administrative and Civil hearing officer when the Municipal Court has Civil Jurisdiction. Motion was seconded by Councilor Bermudez. Motion carried unanimously.
17. Citizen's Comments (limit 3 minutes) –

Mary Bones – said thank you to the Council for helping to acknowledge the relationship between Sul Ross State University and the City of Alpine. She said she was thrilled by the seal where underneath is “Home of Sul Ross State University”. She said she wanted to thank the city for doing that for Sul Ross.

18. Council Member’s Comments and Answers –

Councilor Bermudez – said she really liked the swimming pool

Councilor Davidson – said he would like to ditto that and from the number of comments received by the citizens, the pool is really important to our community.

Councilor Fitzgerald – said the pool is important and everyone is really happy with the pool. He said he wanted to commend the City Attorney and the Finance Director. He said the ordinances are extremely important and it is a great job that they are doing.

Councilor Gonzales – said ditto on the pool and he wished more Councilmen had been there for the grand opening. He said it was a photo opportunity.

Councilor Castelli – said he was very proud of what we are doing as a city and council. He said he thought we were light years ahead of where we have been.

Mayor Rangra – said TV Channel 7 was here in Alpine on Sunday and visited the pool. It was good to see kids so happy and running around the pool, and swimming of course. He said he was really proud of the staff and the City Manager, especially, for making sure the pool was done by the 15th of June.

Motion was made by Councilor Bermudez, by Resolution 2013-06-20, to enter into Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.

19. Executive Session – Pursuant to subsection 551.071, Texas Government Code, Consultation with Attorney. (C. Harrington, CM)

A. District Attorney, City Attorney, Texas Ranger, Council and City Manager to discuss possible legal matters. (C. Harrington, CM)

20. Action – Executive Session – Motion was made by Councilor Davidson not to take any action. Motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzales. Motion

unanimously carried. District Attorney Rod Ponton said regarding the investigation by the 83rd District Attorney's office and the Texas Rangers into Ricky Chavez, it is an ongoing investigation and the District Attorney's Office and Texas Rangers have uncovered proof of theft by Mr. Chavez of money and other items. He said that matter has been confessed to by Mr. Chavez and that matter will be presented to the Grand Jury in the future. He said in this matter the city has offered its full cooperation and provided all the documents that have been requested. He said they have not found that others have violated criminal laws but the investigation is ongoing and if there is any evidence of that the investigation will follow. In the case against Mr. Chavez, fairly and legally, as with any case, that is inside our community, we will protect you, and prosecute persons who steal public funds.

21. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, meeting was adjourned, upon the motion of Councilor Fitzgerald, seconded by Councilor Bermudez. Motion carried.

I certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 PM on June 14th, 2013, pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act. (Texas Vernon's Annotated Civil statutes, section 551.043 Texas Government Code.) This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking space is available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the city secretary's office at (432) 837-3301 or fax (432) 837-2044 for further information.

Dr. Avinash Rangra, Mayor

Attest:

Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary

I, Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary, do certify that this notice was posted at 2:00 PM on June 14th, 2013, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary