

**City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 6th, 2015
5:30 P.M.
Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of allegiance to the flags – Mayor Rangra called the meeting to order. Father Nicholas gave the invocation. Mayor Rangra led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.**

- 2. Determination of a quorum and proof of notice of the meeting – Mayor Rangra, Councilors Antrim, Salas, Fitzgerald, Gonzales and Stephens were present. The meeting notice had been posted at 4:00 P.M. on October 2nd, 2015. City Manager Zimmer, City Finance Director Antrim and City Secretary Taylor were also present.**

- 3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations –**
 - A. Proclamation for Lawrence Cutrone – Utilities Director for AA Certification. (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Mayor Rangra presented a Proclamation to Lawrence Cutrone, Utilities Director for obtaining his AA Certification in Water and Wastewater. Lawrence said he enjoys being in Alpine. He said we have some obstacles to overcome but we will get there. Mayor Rangra said the AA was a wonderful achievement.**
 - B. Proclamation – Pilot International Day (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Councilwoman Nancy Antrim (also president of the Pilot Club) and Betty Fitzgerald accepted the proclamation for Pilot International Day, October 18th. Councilor Antrim said the Pilot Club has a very strong presence in this community.**
 - C. Proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Mayor Rangra said this is something very serious as all of us know. He presented the proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month to members of the Family Crisis Center. Annette said she would like to thank Mayor Rangra for the recognition and proclamation. She shared statistics. They said there would be a candlelight service on October 13th at the Courthouse and there would also be a walk. She said they would also be at the Law Enforcement Appreciation picnic at the park this evening.**

- 4. Reports –**
 - City Mayor’s Report - (A. Rangra, Mayor) – Mayor Rangra said he would not give a report tonight.**
 - City Manager Report – (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer gave the following report:**
 - Update from September, 2015, Texas Railroad Commission Audit of**

Local Gas Department – City of Alpine –

- **Audit Conducted Week of September 14, 2015**
- **Outline presented from auditor at end of week – copies provided**
- **Very good O & M procedures in place – follow guidelines from PHMSA**
- **Key recommendations identified in report**
- **No violations noted at this time!!!**
- **Formal report due out this quarter**
- **TML Insurance Risk Pool Annual Audit results of Local Gas Department – City of Alpine (Texas Railroad Commission Audit Results)–**
 - **TML IRP audit completed week of August 27th**
 - **Scored high again this year (99% compliance)**
 - **Recommendation's surrounded focus on O & M training, public safety awareness continuance and DIMP continuance**
 - **Full output of audit included in backup information**
- **Electronics Recycling Event Results –**
 - **Record amount (weight) of Electronic Items – Over 31,000 pounds**
 - **Items included: CRT's PC's, Flat Panel TV's, Faxes and other miscellaneous items**
 - **Volunteering from Keep Alpine Beautiful and National Junior Honor Society**
 - **Items came from as far as Sierra Blanca ISD**
 - **GREAT COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION!!!**
- **East Side Sewer Infrastructure Research Update –**
 - **Interest from several businesses on the east side of the City**
 - **Reviewing three alternatives**
 - + **Package Processing Plant**
 - + **Force sewer back to main near Sonic**
 - + **Run new line around East side of Hancock Hill**
 - **Interest from SRSU in options associated with Package Processing Plant**
- **Airport Taxiway and Apron Crack Remediation Update –**
 - **Results from TxDot Engineering study have communicated to us poor adhesion of asphalt to base**
 - **Quotes received from two vendors up to this date**
 - + **EGL Enterprises from El Paso**
 - + **Tracey Clinkenbeard Inc. from Midland**
 - **Jeff Dubose from Ace Asphalt is scheduling a site vitsit and quote**
 - **Reviewing needs on both runways as minor cracking is appearing**
 - **Targeting NPE funds from 2013 and 2014 for the off-set in costs (90-10 dollars)**

- Will review final recommendation with Council for approval
City Staff Updates – None

5. Public Hearings – None

6. Consent Agenda – (Minutes, Financial reports, Department written reports, board appointments, etc.) – (Notice to the Public – The following items are of a routine and administrative nature. The Council has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote.) –

A. Approve accounts payable. (E. Zimmer, CM) –

B. Approve Minutes of August 18th, September 1st and September 11th, 2015 (A. Rangra, Mayor) –

Motion was made by Councilor Salas, by Resolution 2015-10-01, to approve items A and B of the Consent Agenda, which includes the accounts payable, and the minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Information or Discussion items – (Citizens are allowed to comment – limited to 3 minutes – after being called upon by Mayor.) –

A. Discussion regarding lease rates on Airport Ground Leases, pertaining to older lease language and new lease language. (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer said we have new lease language on the new leases and in those leases it contains the CPI. He said the intent this year is to raise the old leases the one cent. He said we do not want people to feel discriminated against, so if people want to change to the new lease, we are going to offer that opportunity. He said the old lease requires that we sent out a 60 day notice so we are getting those out.

Action Items to be accompanied by a brief statement of facts, including where funds are coming from, if applicable. (Action items limited to (up to) 10 per meeting.) (Citizens are allowed to comment–limited to 3 minutes – after being called upon by Mayor)

8. Discuss and Consider waiving of annual PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) fees for Alpine Housing Authority. (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager said for several years the Council has passed the Pilot Fee. He said we felt like the

Council wanted more information and the school district also wanted more information. He said we have been working with Mrs. Elva Torres to put together information which has been included in your packets this week. He said we also put El Paso's waiver in the Council packets. He said this has become a necessary service. He said Elva provided her budget and we talked about that there will be a short fall. He said they have some critical plumbing needs that need to be remediated over the next few years. He said they talked through that and we also provided a copy of the audit. He said he would recommend that the Council waive the Pilot Fees. Councilor Stephens made a motion, by Resolution 2015-10-02, for the Council to waive the Pilot Fees for three years in order to ensure that the limited funds that the Housing Authority has can be extended to meet the needs of the citizens of Alpine. Motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzales. Oscar Cobos addressed an item that was not on the agenda. Elva Torres said she wanted to thank the Council. She said they would put the funds to good use. She said the City has helped them out a lot. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Discuss and Consider approving HOT Recommendation for allocation of projected revenues from the HOT Fund to specific activities and events during FY 2015-16. (E. Zimmer, CM) –** City Manager Zimmer said we received several applications this year and the same group came together to review them as did last year. He said this time we had less of a request for dollars. He said the recipients received the amounts that had been recommended. He said he received some positive and appreciative feedback from the recipients. He said our real focus is to continue to grow our advertising. Councilor Antrim asked why the Family Crisis Center was included. City Manager Zimmer said the Family Crisis Center has been funded for several years. He said every year they put on a dance and dinner. He said the allocation is for advertising. Councilor Fitzgerald said a lot of work went into this. He said Art Walk asks for more money every year. He asked when they would be more self-sufficient. Councilor Salas asked if the City was paid for the booth fees and the City Manager said the City did not get those funds. Councilor Stephens asked why Sul Ross branding was not on the list this year. City Manager Zimmer said they were asked but did not apply this year. Councilor Gonzales asked about advertising and what sources were used in Alpine. Motion was made by Councilor Salas, by Resolution 2015-10-03, to approve the HOT Recommendation for allocation of projected revenues from the HOT Fund to specific activities and events during FY 2015/2016. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.
- 10. Discuss and Consider approving C-SEP application to TCEQ for case number: (City of Alpine, Docket #2014-0519-MLM-E). (E. Zimmer, CM) –** City Manager Zimmer said this is critical. He said it predates his existence here as City Manager. He said we do have an enforcement order asking us

for compliance. He said the application for SEP is due on October 16th. He said the approval of our application this evening does not guarantee that TCEQ will accept it. He said we have spent a lot of time figuring out what the necessary improvements that are needed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said the fine amount is in the \$49,000 range. He said the total project will be north of \$100,000. He said we are looking at an additional aerator and water boxes. He said Lawrence will come up to talk about a couple of slides. Lawrence talked about a walkway and putting in another aerator. City Manager Zimmer said we cannot spend anything until our application is approved. He said the second part is putting in the new watering box. Lawrence talked about the race track, drying beds and oxidation ditch. He said all of our drying beds are in need of rehab. He said before him they decided on drying bags. He said when you cut the bags open, the sludge is still wet. He said the beds are not doing what they advertise they will do. Lawrence said we are years behind in wasting and the water boxes will help a lot. He said they keep the solids in while allowing the water to go out. He said it will be ready to haul in 24 hours. Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2015-10-04 to approve the C-SEP application to TCEQ for case number (City of Alpine, Docket #2014-0519-MLM-E). Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.

11. Discuss and Consider postponing the November 3rd, 2015 Council Meeting to Wednesday, November 4th, 2015, due to November Constitutional Amendment Election. Council Chambers is being used as the regular polling place for the County. (E. Zimmer, CM) – Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2015-10-05, to postpone the November 3rd, 2015, Council meeting to Wednesday, November 4th, 2015, due to November Constitutional Amendment Election since the Council Chambers is being used as the regular polling place for the County. Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.
12. Discuss and Consider approval of a letter and proposed resolution to send in support of Congress passing Legislation to extend the deadline for the completion of the Positive Train Control established in the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008. (R. Stephens) – Councilor Stephens said this is a proposed Resolution to send in support of Congress passing legislation to extend the deadline for the completion of Positive Train Control established in the Rail Safety Improvement Act. He said they cannot get it done until 2017-2018. He said Congress is considering some extension. He said we need to send a letter to Congressman Hurd to extend the deadline for the Positive Train Control. Motion was made by Councilor Stephens, by Resolution 2015-10-06, to approve the letter and proposed resolution to send in support of Congress passing legislation to extend the deadline for the completion of the Positive Train Control established in the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008. Motion was

seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion unanimously carried.

13. Council Member Comments And Answers –

Councilor Antrim – complimented Lawrence and said good job. She said it was nice to see so many people here.

Councilor Salas – also complimented Lawrence. She thanked Erik and his staff and told everyone to go to National Night Out tonight at Kokernot Park.

Councilor Fitzgerald – said Lawrence’s AA’s was a heck of an accomplishment.

Councilor Gonzales – congratulated Lawrence and thanked everyone for coming.

Councilor Stephens – said thanks for coming and asked the Mayor if we could adjourn and go to the park.

Mayor Rangra - said thanks for coming.

14. Executive Session – None

15. Action After Executive Session – None

16. Adjournment – There being no further business, meeting was adjourned upon the motion of Councilor Salas and seconded by Councilor Gonzales. Meeting was adjourned.

NOTICE: The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed on the posted agenda, above, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorney), 551.072 (deliberations about real property), 551.073 (deliberations about gifts and donations), 551.074 (personnel matters), 551.076 (deliberations about security devices), and 551.086 (economic development).

I certify that this notice was posted at 4:00 P.M. on October 2nd, 2015, 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 4:00 P.M. on October 2nd, 2015, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Margaret "Molly" Taylor, City Secretary