

**City of Alpine
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 7th, 2017
5:30 P.M.
Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of allegiance to the flags – Mayor Ramos called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at 803 West Holland in the City of Alpine, Texas. Virginia Knab from St. Jonah Orthodox Church gave the invocation. Mayor Ramos led the pledge of allegiance to the flags.**

- 2. Determination of a quorum and proof of notice of the meeting – Councilor Antrim, Councilor Salas, Councilor Escovedo, Councilor Fitzgerald and Councilor Stephens were present. Mayor Ramos was also present. City Secretary, Kalea Cotton said the meeting notice had been posted at 9:30 A.M. on March 3, 2017. City Manager Zimmer, City City Assistant Manager/Finance Director Megan Antrim, Police Chief Russell Scown and Abel Hinojos were also present.**

- 3. Presentations, recognitions and proclamations – (A. Ramos, Mayor) – Proclamation to declare March 22, 2017 as SBDC Day in the City of Alpine. Mayor Ramos presented the proclamation to Manny Ybarra.**

- 4. Reports –**
 - City Mayor’s Report – (A. Ramos, Mayor) – Mayor Ramos welcomed new City Secretary, Kalea Cotton and said we had a successful Cowboy Poetry event last weekend.**
 - City Manager Report – (E. Zimmer, CM) – City Manager Zimmer gave a report which contained the following topics: Full Report is available on the City of Alpine website.**
 - **Keep Alpine Beautiful**
 - **Vision Plan Update**
 - **City Website Update**
 - **NCourt Payment System for Utility Billing**
 - **Fuel Cards for City Vehicles**
 - **Parks Update**
 - **Annual Racial Profiling Report**

- Councilor Salas asked questions regarding the fuel cards.**
- 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being discussed separately unless requested by a Council Member, in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon.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 Council Minutes of February 21, 2017. (E. Zimmer, CM)
Motion was made by Councilor Salas, by Resolution 2017-03-01, to approve the minutes from February 21, 2017. Motion was seconded by Councilor Antrim. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Information or Discussion items –

A. Preliminary update on City Fiscal Year Audit (2015-2016) with Gibson, Ruddock (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – This item was passed on due to technical difficulties.

B. Update from Councilor Fitzgerald on City-County initiatives. (J. Fitzgerald, City Council) – Ladder truck was taken to Odessa, TX to replace batteries, and run diagnostics for repairs. No definite price was quoted. Still searching for a template for a proposed interlocal agreement. Inventory of EMS equipment was discussed, as well as, replacing Code Red. Councilor Fitzgerald and Hugh Garrett will meet again later this week.

C. Discuss Police Department recommendation on 8th Street and Sul Ross Ave. traffic control signs. (N. Antrim, City Council) – Chief Scown addressed the council concerning visibility at various intersections in town. Chief Scown was reluctant to install 4-way stop signs, in some locations. Chief Scown also discussed improving temporary no parking zones like 5th and Murphy, changing yield signs to stop signs, monitoring parking on streets, and having officers monitor cones.

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 or Mayor Pro Tem) Citizens are required to state their name and the Ward in which they reside. Priority will be given to citizens of Alpine and those who own businesses or property in the City. Individuals who do not live in, or own businesses or property in the City limits of Alpine, will be allowed to speak if there is time available.)

8. Traffic Safety discussion and consider proposed Resolution (R. Stephens, City Council) – Councilor Stephens proposed a Traffic Safety Resolution, Resolution No. 2017-03-02 and said there were four recommendations in this resolution. These are

- 1.) Ask the City Manager and the Police Chief to review traffic intersections in Alpine where changes in parking, signage or other action would result in those locations substantially improving in the safety for Alpine.**
 - 2.) Based on the review the City Manager and Police Chief return to the City Council with recommendations for temporary implements of those changes.**
 - 3.) Based on that review the City Council would authorize the City Manager and Police Chief to temporarily implement those changes for a period not to exceed thirty days.**
 - 4.) After which, the City Manager and Police Chief would recommend to the City Council ordinances that would propose implementing those changes that are in the best interest of protecting the citizens of the City of Alpine, and while insuring that commerce is minimally impacted.**
- Motion was made by Councilor Stephens to approve the Resolution No. 2017-03-02, concerning Traffic Safety. Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.**

9. Discuss and Consider setting date for final readout of City Fiscal Year Audit (2015-2016) with Gibson, Ruddock. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – City Manager Zimmer said the City Council needed to call a Special Meeting to accept the final readout of the FY 2015-2016 audit, before the end of March. Meeting date was set for March 29, 2017 at 5:30PM upon the motion of Councilor Antrim, by Resolution #2017-03-03. Motion was seconded by Councilor Salas. Motion unanimously carried.

10. Discuss and Consider Certification of Councilor Jim “Fitz” Fitzgerald as Unopposed Candidate for Ward 3, City Council in the City of Alpine, Texas, and Order cancelling the election scheduled to be held on May 6, 2017 for Ward 3, City Council and declare Councilor Jim “Fitz” Fitzgerald as elected. Councilor Fitzgerald will be sworn in with the other elected candidates after Election Day and he will be given a certificate of election after Election Day with the other elected candidates. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Councilor Salas made a motion by Resolution #2017-03-04 to approve the Certification of Councilor Jim “Fitz” Fitzgerald as Unopposed Candidate for Ward 3, City Council in the City of Alpine, Texas, and approve the Order cancelling the election scheduled to be held on May 6, 2017 for Ward 3, City Council and declare Councilor Jim “Fitz” Fitzgerald as elected. Councilor Fitzgerald will be sworn in with the other elected candidates after Election Day and he will be given a certificate of election after Election Day

with the other elected candidates. Motion was seconded by Councilor Stephens. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discuss and Consider approving May 6, 2017 election agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County Elections Administrator for Elections Equipment and Election Services. (E. Zimmer, City Manager) – Motion was made by Councilor Salas by Resolution No. 2017-03-05 to approve the May 6, 2017 election agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County Elections Administrator for Elections Equipment and Election Services. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fitzgerald. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Councilmember Comments and Answers –

Councilor Antrim – Welcomed new City Secretary, Kalea Cotton. Thanked students and Chief Scown for attending the City Council meeting.

Councilor Salas – Welcomed new City Secretary, Kalea Cotton. Thanked Chief Scown for attending the City Council meeting.

Councilor Fitzgerald – Welcomed new City Secretary, Kalea Cotton. Thanked Chief Scown for attending the City Council meeting.

Councilor Escovedo – Said she was thankful for a quick meeting.

Mayor Ramos – Gave comments earlier in the meeting.

Councilor Stephens – Welcomed new City Secretary, Kalea Cotton. Said he thought the meeting was efficient, and thanked everyone for attending.

13. Executive Session – None

14. Action after Executive Session – None

**15. Adjournment – There being no further action. 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 9:30 AM on March 3, 2017, 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.

Andres "Andy" Ramos, Mayor

Attest:

Erik M. Zimmer, City Manager

I, Erik M. Zimmer, City Manager, do certify that this notice was posted at 9:30 A.M. on March 3, 2017, and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Erik M. Zimmer, City Manager