

MINUTES
CITY OF HONDO
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Called the meeting to order.
Mayor McAnelly called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. Quorum check.
Mayor John McAnelly, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Vela, Council Member Jose “Porky” Ytuarte, Council Member Brett Williams, Council Member Wesley Huesser, Council Member John E. Villa.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Attorney Molly Solis, City Secretary Sue Ann Reyes, IT Network Administrator Josh Rodriguez, IT Support Specialist Adolfo Tellez, Public Information Officer Jamie Kindred, Director of Parks and Recreation Lora Socarras, Director of Aviation Ryan Elder, Development Services Director Jessica Carpenter, Chief Financial Officer Chris Hill, Police Chief Justin Soza.

3. Invocation by Councilman Bret Williams.
4. Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Citizens’/Public Comments: *Persons who desire to address the City of Hondo City Council will be received at this time. Those persons wishing to speak should complete a Public Comment Form and submit it to the City Secretary prior to the meeting. If the speaker wishes to comment on a particular agenda item, then the speaker should indicate such item(s) to on the form. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Speakers must conduct themselves in a civil manner. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City of Hondo City Council cannot deliberate or take action on items not listed on the meeting agenda)*

Chavel Lopez, 1002 Avenue S, expressed his concerns regarding the hiring of the interim city manager without public discussion. He stated the City was hiring a former city manager that left the city broke when he left. He stated he could see the former mayor’s hand in the decision-making by the city council. He did not think it was right to hire someone that was a former city manager to be the city manager again.

PRESENTATIONS

6. City Manager’s Report. (Scott Albert)

No report.
7. Public Works Report. (Rene Saenz)

No report.
8. Proclamation for National Library Week. (Mayor McAnelly)
Mayor McAnelly read and presented the proclamation for National Library Week.
9. Proclamation for Teacher Appreciation Week. (Mayor McAnelly)

Mayor McAnelly read the proclamation for Teacher Appreciation Week.

10. Presentation regarding City of Hondo 4th of July Celebration. (Lora Socarras)

Director of Parks and Recreation Lora Socarras stated the Fourth of July event would be held on Sunday, July 2 from 5 p.m. until dark at City Park 1, 2 and the fair hall. Ms. Socarras stated the music would consist of The TexManiacs and Flaco Jimenez and that the firework show was pending any burn bans. There will also be food and games. It is a free event excluding the food and drinks.

Council Member Ytuarte asked if people would be able to stay in the park once, the fireworks start. Mrs. Socarras stated they would be able to stay during the fireworks show.

Council Member Villa asked who paid for the band. Ms. Socarras stated it would come from the City Council Celebration Fund and the Recreation Special Event Fund. Council Member Villa also asked if the vendors paid a fee to the City. Mrs. Socarras stated no with the exception of the TABC beer license vendor and the payment would be based on the amount of sales. Council Member Villa asked who the beer vendor was and Mrs. Socarras stated it was a TABC licensed beer and wine vendor called DBC Group.

CONSENT

Council Member Vela moved to approve consent agenda items 12 and 13, excluding item 11; seconded by Council Member Williams. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Vela, Ytuarte, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

12. Discuss and consider the 2nd Quarter Investment Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2023, as presented. (Chris Hill)
13. Discuss and consider the 2nd Quarter Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2023, as presented. (Chris Hill)

The following item was pulled from the consent agenda and considered individually.

11. Discuss and consider approving the minutes from April 10, 2023. (SueAnn Reyes)

Mayor McAnelly stated he had three corrections to the minutes. The invocation was made by Pastor J. Paul Bruhn and on page four Rene Saenz's title should read Public Works Director.

Council Member Vela made a motion to approve the minutes with correction from April 10, 2023 minutes; seconded by Council Member Williams. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Vela, Ytuarte, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Hold a public hearing regarding the City of Hondo Police Department applying for the USDA Grant-Patrol Units. (Chief Soza)

Lieutenant Aaron Garza stated the public hearing was to inform the public that the City was applying for the USDA Grant.

Council Member Vela asked how many units were in the application. Lt. Garza stated they were

applying for two units and it was a 50/50 match. He hoped to receive the vehicles by summer.

Mayor McAnelly opened the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.

With no one wishing to speak Mayor McAnelly closed the public hearing at 6:16 p.m.

15. Discuss and reconsider approval of the pool rules and regulations. (Lora Socarras)

Director of Parks and Recreation Lora Socarras stated the rules were back before the Council due to the pool manager visiting with the local daycares to inform them of the new rules and regulation. The daycares were supportive of the rules except for the ratio. Letters were presented from daycares asking to amend the ratio. Staff was comfortable with the request as long as there was a note stating the daycares were still required to comply with the state rules and regulations for their staffing ratios, which is dependent on the age of the children brought in. Staff is comfortable with the one to ten ratio from a safety perspective for groups of ten or more. The ratios may be less if the children are younger.

Council Member Villa asked what the daycare state requirements for supervision were.

Mrs. Socarras stated the state rules were dependent on the age of the youngest child they would be bringing. If the youngest child brought by the daycare was five years or older it was a one to ten ratio. If the youngest child was four years, that ratio was one to eight. If the child was three years, it was a one to six ratio, etc. It depended on the age of the youngest child. Daycares typically bring five and older because that is your school age child. In case a younger child was brought, staff wanted to make sure the state rules were not circumvented.

Council Member Ytuarte asked if the information was from the Texas Administrative Code and Mrs. Socarras stated yes. Council Member Ytuarte asked if staff could reference the verbiage from the code in the rules and regulations. Mrs. Socarras stated they could incorporate it into the signage for the rules.

Council Member Vela made a motion to approve the revised City of Hondo pool rules and regulations to require a ratio of one supervising adult for every 10 children in the pool and add a note to the rules and regulations that states that all daycares are responsible for meeting the state requirements for supervision; seconded by Council Member Williams. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Ytuarte, Vela, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

16. Discuss and consider approval to enter into agreement with Freese and Nichols for Professional Services to design, bid and construction site visits for Ave. V Wastewater Line limprovement Project, (Phase 1). (Rene Saenz)

Council Member Ytuarte made a motion to approve the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Freese and Nichols for Professional Services to design, bid and construction site visits for the Ave. V Wastewater Line limprovement Project (Phase 1); seconded by Council Member Williams. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Ytuarte, Vela, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The City Council of the City of Hondo convened into executive session at 6:26 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. Executive Session: The City Council of the City of Hondo may convene in Executive Session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code:
- Section 551.071(1) (A) and (2) (Consultations with Attorney) and Section 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), Section 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), or Section 551.087 (Deliberations Regarding Economic Development Negotiations); Section 551.086 (Meeting concerning municipally owned utility-competitive matters);*
- a. Discussion regarding the issuance of an RFB on Airport Property. (Ryan Elder)
 - b. Clarification regarding Recreation Center titles and pay grades. (Lora Socarras)
 - c. Discuss and consider the Interim City Manager agreement. (Mayor McAnelly)
 - d. Discuss and consider employment agreements or other options for personnel continuity for the Chief of Police and the Chief Financial Officer. (Mayor McAnelly)
 - e. Discuss and consider the employee disciplinary action taken by City Manager and HR Department regarding the misuse of the City of Hondo credit card discovered during the ongoing investigation of Blue Santa. (Councilmen Vela and Huesser)

The City Council of the City of Hondo reconvened into regular session at 8:14 p.m.

18. Discuss and consider appropriate action on items resulting from Executive Session.

Council Member Huesser made a motion to approve the issuance of an RFB for 100.763 acres of airport property; seconded by Council Member Vela. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Ytuarte, Vela, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

Council Member Villa made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to negotiate an interim city manager agreement with approve terms with Robert Herrera and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with an effective date of May 03, 2023; seconded by Council Member Vela. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Ytuarte, Vela, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

19. Adjourn.

Council Member Ytuarte made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Council Member Villa. The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Ytuarte, Vela, Williams, Huesser, Villa. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22th DAY OF MAY 2023.

JOHN McANELLY, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

SueAnn Reyes, TRMC
City Secretary