

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 6:00PM

City Council Chambers, 1600 Avenue M Hondo, Texas

1. Call to order.

Mayor McAnelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Quorum check.

Mayor John McAnelly Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Jose “Porky” Ytuarte, Council Woman Rachel Ramirez, Councilman John E. Villa

Absent: Councilman Brett Williams, Councilman Bobby Vela

Staff Present: City Manager John Naron, City Attorney Richard Lindner, City Secretary Rebekah Dolphus, IT Administrator Josh Rodriguez, Public Relations & Recreation Director Jamie Kindred, Director of Aviation Ryan Elder, Public Works Director Rene Saenz, Development Services Director Uche Echeozo, Electric Superintendent Val Sanchez

3. Invocation by Pastor Mike Vasquez, Hondo Baptist Church.

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.*

No Citizens’/Public comments.

PRESENTATIONS

6. City Manager’s Report. (John Naron)

a. Ave V Project: Status update on current schedule and delays.

Mr. Naron proposed using pipe bursting as an alternative to trenching, emphasizing that this method would be significantly cheaper—costing only one-third as much—and could begin within 90 days. Mr. Saenz provided a detailed \$3.8 million cost estimate for the trenching method, in response to a request from Councilman Villa. He also mentioned that this information had already been shared at the Council Meeting on February 26, 2024.

b. Fair Building status: status update on work completed and remaining work to be completed.

- **We are still in the process of getting bids for the bathrooms.**

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- Working with an attorney on the bid package as he has requested engineering for the AC.
- AC for the Bathroom, Kitchen, and other rooms has been installed and operating.
- The entry Hallway has been remodeled and recessed lighting added.
- Drop ceiling and LED lights have been completed in the Kitchen and Pantry area.
- The Hall has been painted and is 85% complete. We still need to add trim and paint the bay doors.
- The spray foam will need to start during the process of the change out of the AC.
- A sound system was added after a grant from NASA for the eclipse event.
- We expect to have leftover funds and will complete another exercise with the council and staff to prioritize additional repairs.

c. Pickle Ball courts status update.

- Sunset Park Pickleball & Basketball Rehab Project cost estimate of \$16,500
- Hondo City Park #3 Pickleball and Basketball Rehab Project cost estimate of \$6,800
- T.A. Lopez Park Pickleball & Basketball Rehab Project cost estimate of \$7,600

d. Swimming Pool: status update on repairs, painting, etc.

- New chemical feeder installed.
- New interior lights installed.
- New exterior lights installed.
- New GFCI switches installed.
- All lifeguards have been hired and are currently undergoing drug screening and will then have their swim test. Lifeguards who are re-hires will have a refresher date with Karissa soon.
- Pool Party Reservations: We were able to offer pool party reservations online for the first time. It went very well and all the available slots for pool parties are taken. (We offer parties Thursday through Sunday during the Open Swim Season).
- Swim Lessons are currently being ironed out and will be posted ASAP. Mindi and Karissa will have in person signups for this event as parents normally have several questions, and Karissa has prelim questions as well.
- NEW Aqua Combat class will start as soon as the lifeguard taking the class returns from the course around the middle of May.
- New Ladders and Umbrellas have been ordered to prepare for the upcoming season.
- A deck is being built to cover the existing baby pool.
- Facility has been power washed and furniture is being moved out to be cleaned and ready for the season.
- Len and his crew are taking care of a few minor repairs (leaky toilet) and maintaining/preparing grass/planting flowers.
- Patrons can now purchase season passes, fitness passes and recreation passes online.
- May 1: Water aerobics and water Zumba begin.
- May 28: Open Swim begins. NEW Sensory Swim hour from 11-12 will begin at this time also.
- August 4: Last Open Swim date.

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- We would like to continue Water Aerobics and Aqua Zumba through September, maybe October. We tried this last year for the first time and it was very successful.

e. Golf Course: regular hours of operation and update on past and upcoming closures.

- The golf course is currently only closed on Monday or if we have significant rain events, maintenance, or holidays. Here are the dates it was closed and the reason as to why.

DAY	DATE	REASON
SAT	3-Feb	RAIN
SAT	10-Feb	RAIN
WED	14-Feb	RAIN
WED	28-Feb	RAIN
THURS	29-Feb	RAIN
TUES	5-Mar	MAINTENANCE
WED	6-Mar	MAINTENANCE
THURS	7-Mar	MAINTENANCE
SUN	17-Mar	RAIN
WED	27-Mar	RAIN
FRI	29-Mar	GOOD FRIDAY
SUN	31-Mar	EASTER

f. TXDOT Update on FM 462 pavement repairs.

Response from Frances Merecka with TXDOT:

We are in the midst of a drainage study. I think we are around 60% on that, but I need to double check on that. We also just submitted for some pavement repairs, however that is for next year's contract, which would not be effective until September 1st, 2024 and then we have to wait for money to be released before we can do any work. Also, just because we submitted this location, doesn't mean it's on the contract for sure. We are fighting with 12 other counties for money and locations on that contract. I hope to be able to schedule a meeting with you and the drainage consultant in the near future.

Councilman Ytuarte emphasized the need to address the issue of near head-on collisions.

Mr. Naron responded by expressing his hope to meet with Ms. Merecka soon to convey this message and discuss the matter further.

g. Code Compliance questions:

- The process and timeline of receiving an approved permit.
- Current Status of the Development Services Department.

Mr. Naron provided an update on major projects, but attention was drawn by Councilman Ytuarte and Councilwoman Ramirez to smaller projects and ongoing customer service issues. In response, Mr. Naron mentioned that transferring Stephanie Velasquez to a new role would significantly aid in streamlining processes and improving communication with citizens, keeping them updated throughout the process.

h. Bond Projects: an update on all projects related to the Bond.

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Department	Fund	Description	Debt	Status
PARKS	GENERAL	BASEBALL FIELD PROJECTS	\$400,000	Conceptual plans have started by staff and council. Staff is waiting on bid information to create an opinion of probable cost that will allow council to prioritize improvements based on available funding.
FAIR HALL	GENERAL	FAIR HALL RENOVATION	\$400,000	The Fairhall's main hall has been freshly painted, and trim has been installed. In the kitchen and auxiliary areas, drop ceilings and LED lighting have been added. The entryway has undergone remodeling to include recessed lighting, a new thermostat, and hooks for curtain rods, which are popular among decorators. A new air conditioning unit has been installed to cool all areas except the main hall. We have received bids for replacing the AC unit and for installing open-cell spray foam insulation. Our staff is currently consulting with our attorney to finalize the agreement details. Bids for bathrooms are expected soon, and with staff assistance we expect to start work soon. Additionally, a sound system has been installed, funded by a grant secured by Elsie and the Library staff. Staff anticipates a budget surplus and plans to present
ELECTRIC	ELECTRIC	AIRPORT RE-CONDUCTOR PROJECT	\$550,000	The Electric Department is preparing bid documents for procurement.
WATER	UTILITY WTR	DOWNTOWN GROUND STORAGE TANK	\$750,000	Awaiting attorney approval
WATER	UTILITY WTR	WELL #2 ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	\$250,000	The Water Department is preparing bid documents for procurement.
WATER	UTILITY WTR	WATER RIGHTS PURCHASE	\$1,500,000	Staff will be looking for assistance with the purchase of water rights after all projects have begun.
WASTEWATER	UTILITY WTR	WEST SIDE TRUNK MAIN	\$7,200,000	Task orders have been signed, and KSA has begun engineering and design for this project.
AIRPORT	AIRPORT	AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS	\$250,000	Bids have been received, work is expected to begin no later than mid may.

7. Public Works Report. (Rene Saenz)

a. Ave V Project: status update on construction.

Mr. Saenz confirmed that the topics were thoroughly covered in the City Manager's report and during the February 26, 2024, City Council Meeting. He assured that everything is proceeding on schedule as previously presented.

b. Status and planning on city wide pothole repair efforts.

Mr. Saenz addressed that Rise Broadband has worsened a significant number of potholes, with the acknowledgment that efforts are being made to keep up without making excuses. Councilwoman Ramirez raised concerns about the alley area behind Valero on Avenue M and Highway 90. Mr. Saenz responded by stating his intention to repair that specific area with concrete and confirmed that plans for this are already in progress.

c. Status and planning on city wide curbing efforts.

Mr. Saenz stated the plan is to prioritize solving drainage issues before addressing curb installations. It was noted that while some streets have curbs, others do not, and sometimes only one side of the roadway is equipped with curbs. The goal is to ensure that good drainage systems are in place first, which will then facilitate the proper installation and maintenance of curbs across all streets.

d. Rise Broad Band status and repair costs.

Mr. Saenz stated as of today, the project is 94% complete. The next steps, per Rise Broad Band, involve running 7,000 linear feet of conduit, followed by pulling fiber through the conduit. No heavy machinery will be allowed during this phase. Financially, water-related

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costs are at \$34,647.89 and sewer-related costs at \$21,833.18, totaling \$56,481.07. These figures have been forwarded to legal counsel, and the process of charging for these damages is underway.

PROCLAMATIONS

8. Proclamation for City of Hondo efforts to preserve the monarch butterfly population. (Mayor McAnelly)

Mayor McAnelly presented a proclamation to Soledad Najera.

CONSENT

The Consent Agenda is considered self-explanatory and will be enacted by the Council with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless they are removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of the Mayor or a Council member.

Councilman Ytuarte moved to approve items 9, 10, and 11; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

9. Consideration and approval of the April 8, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting minutes. (Rebekah Dolphus)

10. Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 425-24, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HONDO, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TEXAS HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS RSP AGREEMENT APPLICATION WHICH SHALL INCLUDE HRA, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND DISASTER PROGRAM THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE HOME PROGRAM RESERVATION SYSTEM; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE HOME PROGRAM RESERVATION SYSTEM.

11. Consideration and approval of various Appointments to Boards and Commissions. (Mayor McAnelly)

- Board of Adjustments: Lee Taylor, George Adams, & Ernest Garza
- Economic Development Commission: Brett Riff
- Cemetery Advisory Board: Russ Renaud

OTHER BUSINESS

12. Discuss and consider action on proceeding with Electrical System Mapping-Modeling Planning Study and funding source. (Rene Saenz & Val Sanchez)

Mr. Sanchez presented details to Council & Mayor.

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Councilman Ytuarte moved to authorize the City Manager to proceed with Electrical System Mapping-Modeling Planning Study for an amount not to exceed 202,311.56 and be obtained via Electric Department Reserves; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

13. Discuss and consider potential action on the scope of Phase 2 Street Project and construction/remediation processes and products to be used. (John Naron & Rene Saenz)

Mr. Naron suggested applying HA5 on top of chip seal or as an alternative to chip seal as a strategy to provide multiple options and address citizen complaints about dust from chip seal. He proposed initiating this during the hotter months of June, July, or August. Councilman Villa has requested a detailed proposal for this plan by the second meeting in May.

No action taken.

14. Discuss and consider Ordinance No. 1285-04-24, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HONDO, TEXAS REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1284-03-24 AND AMENDING CHAPTER 5 "BUSINESS REGULATIONS", ARTICLE 5.04 "PEDDLERS, CANVASSERS, VENDORS AND SOLICITORS" OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ESTABLISH DIVISION 3 "CHARITABLE PURPOSES" WHICH CREATES PROCEDURES FOR THE PERMITTING OF LOCAL CHARITABLE FOOD VENDOR EVENTS; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION OF ORDINANCE. (John Naron)

Mr. Lindner, the City Attorney, presented to the council an update on the changes made to ordinance. He also answered questions from the council members, providing clarifications and additional information about the ordinance modifications.

Councilman Villa moved to accept Ordinance 1285-04-24; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

15. Discuss and consider Ordinance No. 1286-04-24, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1197-04-19 CODIFIED AS CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13 TO REVISE AND CLARIFY PROVISIONS RELATED TO COMBINED UTILITY BILLING STATEMENTS, UTILITY APPLICATIONS; DELINQUENCY PAYMENTS; PARTIAL PAYMENTS, DISCONNECTION, AND COLLECTION FEES; REPEALING ALL PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING A CLAUSE; AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (John Naron)

Mr. Naron presented to council and addressed inquiries from the council members.

Councilman Ytuarte moved to accept Ordinance 1286-04-24; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

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The City Council of the City of Hondo convened into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

16. 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. Update on payment dispute regarding Withum Consulting.
- b. Discuss SRO contract for 2024-2025 school year with Hondo ISD.
- c. Review Project Gladiator including potential easement.

The City Council of the City of Hondo reconvened into regular session at 8:40 p.m.

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

Councilman Ytuarte moved to authorize Mayor McAnelly to send a letter to the Hondo ISD school board in his official capacity; seconded by Councilman Villa. Motion passes unanimously.

18. Adjourn.

Councilman Villa moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Ytuarte. Motion passes unanimously.

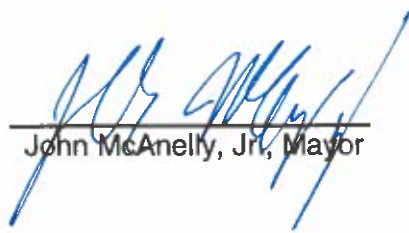
Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY 2024.

ATTEST:


Rebekah Dolphus
City Secretary




John McAnelly, Jr., Mayor