

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, August 12, 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., Councilman Brett Williams, Councilman Joe Claire, Mayor Pro Tem Jose “Porky” Ytuarte, Council Woman Rachel Ramirez, Councilman John E. Villa

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager John Naron, City Attorney Michael McCann, Chief Finance Officer Chris Hill, City Secretary Rebekah Dolphus, IT Manager Josh Rodriguez, Public Relations & Recreation Director Jamie Kindred, Chief of Police Justin Soza, Director of Public Works Rene Saenz, Executive Director of Hondo EDC Sean Patty, Development Services Manager Uche Echeozo, Human Resources Manager Michele Thacker, Assistant Finance Director Olivia Hancock

3. Invocation by Mayor John McAnelly Jr.

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 public comments.

PROCLAMATIONS

6. Recognize Hondo Little League Baseball & Softball Senior Division accomplishments. (Mayor McAnelly)

Mayor McAnelly read Softball Proclamation and had Councilman Williams present to coaches and players.

Mayor McAnelly read Baseball Proclamation and had Councilman Ytuarte present to coaches and players.

The Mayor and Council expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the businesses that have generously supported the Hondo Little League teams. Their contributions were acknowledged as vital in helping the teams achieve their success.

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PRESENTATIONS

7. City Manager's Report

A. 2024-2025 Hondo ISD School Year

Mr. Naron emphasized the City's commitment to supporting the school in any way possible. Councilman Williams mentioned that School Resource Officers (SROs) have been reassigned due to state laws, but assured that all schools will remain secure. He reiterated the City's desire to assist in any way. Councilman Ytuarte clarified that the decision regarding the placement of SROs was made by Hondo ISD, not by the City Council, the Mayor, or the City Manager.

B. Update on current projects

- **The meeting on baseball field lights was successful, with a favorable price that allows for better utilization of the \$400K budget allocated by the Council. There is also consideration for building a new field. Hope all to be completed for next season.**
- **The Fair Hall bathroom project is in progress and expected to be completed within three weeks before it's rented out. A stainless steel table for the kitchen is also planned.**
- **The Fair Hall HVAC proposal has been advertised, with work set to begin in the next couple of months.**
- **The Downtown storage tank assessment by KSA is underway, with the project expected to start in early 2025.**
- **The electrical study and reconductor project at the airport is in the design phase, with construction scheduled for late 2024 to early 2025.**
- **The 30th Street trunk main is in the design phase, with construction planned for late 2025 through 2026.**
- **Electrical work at the golf course well is set to begin soon, as parts have been ordered.**
- **The City Hall electrical repair contractor is expected to complete the work within the next month.**
- **The Ave V sewer project is currently in progress.**
- **The HA5 project is almost complete, with chip sealing to begin soon. The map is nearly ready, and work will start in a few weeks.**
- **The Spatz well is 90% complete.**
- **The Downtown water tank lights are complete, awaiting a blue lens.**
- **The Downtown water tower fence project is underway, in compliance with TCEQ requirements, with a new electric gate also being added.**
- **The airport sign placement and engineering are underway, along with the demolition of the old sign.**

C. Stage 3 Water Restrictions

Mr. Naron stated that the water restriction level has been reduced from Stage 4 to Stage 3, and the new notice now aligns better with the Ordinance. All notices will be updated accordingly.

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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 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13 on the Consent agenda; seconded by Councilman Williams. Motion passes unanimously.

8. Consideration and approval of the July 22, 2024 Regular City Council minutes. (Rebekah Dolphus, City Secretary)

9. Consideration and approval of the 3rd Quarter Financial Report for FY 2024. (Chris Hill, Chief Finance Officer)

10. Consideration and approval of the 3rd Quarter Investment Report for FY 2024. (Chris Hill, Chief Finance Officer)

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

- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board – Enrique Hernandez

12. Approval of Ordinance No. 1291-08-24 A ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HONDO, TEXAS GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF A BEAUTY/HAIR SALON ON PROPERTY ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL TWO DISTRICT, AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 3.12 OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND SETTING AND EFFECTIVE DATE. (Codification of action taken at July 22, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting).

13. Approval of Ordinance No. 1292-08-24 A ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HONDO, TEXAS GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF A WINDOW TINTING RETAIL SHOP ON PROPERTY ZONED AS CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 3.12 OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND SETTING AND EFFECTIVE DATE. (Codification of action taken at July 22, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting).

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Discussion and possible reconsideration and action on Longevity and Certification pay proposals that were discussed on July 22, 2024 at Regular City Council Meeting.

Councilman Williams moved to reconsider the action taken on Longevity and Certification pay proposals that were passed at the July 22, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting ; seconded by Councilman Ytuarte. Motion passes unanimously.

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The discussion focused on concerns about Certification pay, not Longevity pay. Councilman Williams believes the pay grade analysis from the compensation study already accounts for Certification and suggests keeping it as is without adding the extra \$50K, while examining it further. Councilman Ytuarte agrees it should be reviewed across all departments, not just two. Councilman Claire supports the proposal as it was passed on July 22. Councilman Ytuarte also requested that Mr. Hill review the Compensation Study during this process. Councilman Williams expressed concern about "double dipping" in the study, but Mr. Hill explained that the goal is to adjust Certification pay to a reasonable amount.

Councilman Williams moved to increase Longevity to \$10/month and not increase Certification pay, at this time, and have staff do a comprehensive study on certification pay; seconded by Councilman Ytuarte.

Councilman Ytuarte amended motion to reject Certification pay increase; seconded by Councilman Williams. Record Vote: Place 1 Councilman Brett Williams - Aye, Place 2 Councilman Joe Claire - No, Place 3 Councilman Jose "Porky" Ytuarte - Aye, Place 4 Council Woman Rachel Ramirez - No, Place 5 Councilman John E. Villa - Nay. Motion Fails 2-3.

Councilman Williams moved to accept Longevity increase to \$10/month as proposed; seconded by Councilman Villa. Record Vote: Place 1 Councilman Brett Williams - Aye, Place 2 Councilman Joe Claire - Aye, Place 3 Councilman Jose "Porky" Ytuarte - Aye, Place 4 Council Woman Rachel Ramirez - Aye, Place 5 Councilman John E. Villa - Aye. Motion passes unanimously.

License/Certification pay proposals for Water and Waste Water as follows;
D=\$130/month, C=\$300/month, B=\$400/month, and CDL=\$130/month.

License/certification pay will start on pay period following City Council meeting and if you are dual licensed one will pay 100% and the other will pay 50%.

Councilman Villa moved to accept Certification pay as proposed on July 22; seconded by Councilman Claire. Record Vote: Place 1 Councilman Brett Williams - Nay, Place 2 Councilman Joe Claire - Yes, Place 3 Councilman Jose "Porky" Ytuarte - Nay, Place 4 Council Woman Rachel Ramirez - Yes, Place 5 Councilman John E. Villa - Yes. Motion passes 3-2.

15. Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Chris Hill, Chief Finance Officer)

Mr. Hill provided a recap of the information included in the packet and reviewed the topics discussed during the workshops.

Public Hearing opened at 6:58 p.m.

- Chavel Lopez, 1002 Avenue s

- Believes employees deserve 5% raise

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- Animal shelter needs insulation and at some point have A/C
Public Hearing closed at 7:02 p.m.

16. Discuss and consider action on setting the proposed Property Tax Rate and set Public Hearing date, time, and location. (Chris Hill, Chief Finance Officer)

Mr. Hill discussed the proposed budget tax rate of \$0.48, explaining the details that have been covered in the budget workshops and the agenda packet.

Councilman Villa moved to propose \$.48 Tax Rate and set the public hearing date for August 26, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers; seconded by Councilman Claire. Record Vote: Place 1 Councilman Brett Williams – No, Place 2 Councilman Joe Claire - Yes, Place 3 Councilman Jose “Porky” Ytuarte – No, Place 4 Council Woman Rachel Ramirez - Yes, Place 5 Councilman John E. Villa - Yes. Motion passes 3-2.

17. Discuss and consider action on the proposed City of Hondo Water Master Plan. (John Naron, City Manager)

Mr. Naron emphasized that this budget involves extensive planning, including a Water Master Plan with hydraulic study to determine if the city can meet future water demands, such as increased pressure and additional storage tanks. He noted that water rights are now very expensive, and suggested using the \$1.5 million for infrastructure improvements rather than purchasing water rights. The cost of the proposal is \$97K. Mayor McAnelly highlighted the need to address exclusions in the proposal. Given the current issues with water pressure and quality, the Council recognized the importance of this study, which is expected to take about 10 months. They requested that the proposal be brought back for the next meeting to potentially begin the project if approved.

18. Discuss changing the area from 14th Street to 18th Street and Avenue N to Avenue U to R3. **Mayor McAnelly mentioned that the proposal includes sections of the Central Business District and explained the process through Planning & Zoning. Mr. Ytuarte stated that he requested this topic be placed on the agenda for discussion and to be sent to P&Z. He also emphasized that the city should not dictate what property owners can afford. The Mayor noted that some owners prefer to retain the R2 zoning while making exceptions through the proper process. Mr. Naron will return with a completed application for the zoning change to move the process forward at the next meeting.**

19. Adjourn.

Councilman Villa moved to adjourn; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

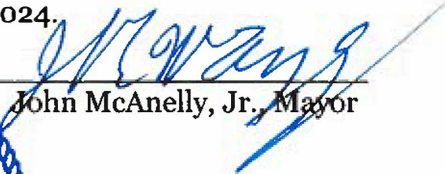
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PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

ATTEST:



Rebekah Dolphus, City Secretary



John McAnelly, Jr., Mayor