

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, January 27, 2025 @ 6:00PM
City Council Chambers, 1600 Avenue M Hondo, Texas

1. Call to order.

Mayor McAnelly called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Mike McCann, City
Secretary Rebekah Dolphus, IT Manager Josh Rodriguez, Public Relations &
Recreation Director Jamie Kindred, Development Services Director Uche Echeozo,
Director of Aviation Ryan Elder, Public Works Director Rene Saenz, Human
Resources Manager Michele Thacker**

3. Invocation by Pastor Beverly Kelling, St. Paul Lutheran 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. Employee Awards. (Michele Thacker, Human Resources Manager)

Tenure Awards Presented:

Michael Ibarra – Parks Crew Leader – 5 years

Jonathan Velasquez – Airport Services Technician – 5 years

Israel Carrillo – Parks Operator – 10 years

Joe Gonzales – Street Crew Foreman – 15 years

Recognized - Not Present:

Mark Valenzuela – Code Compliance Officer – 5 years

Zachary Justice – Patrol Sergeant – 5 years

Mary Escamilla – Custodian – 5 years

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John Silva – Street Operator I – 5 years

Cassandra Maldonado – Municipal Court Administrator – 10 years

Other Awards Presented:

Lance Ward – Supervisor Award

Valeria Ruiz – Supervisor Award

Joe Alex Quintanilla – Supervisor Award

Val Sanchez – Supervisor Award

Samantha Burns – Newcomer of the Year

Will Winchester – Above and Beyond

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 Villa moved to approve items 7 and 8 on the Consent agenda; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

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

Animal Care Services Advisory Board

- Ruth Fauber

- Carolyn Haynie

Cemetery Advisory Board

- Rick McCue

8. Consideration and approval to reappoint Stacey Cross to the Medina County 9-1-1 Communications District, Board of Managers. (Mayor McAnelly)

OTHER BUSINESS

9. Specific Use Permit request from Joe Ruiz Sr. (applicant) for an automotive paint & body repair facility.

1.13-acre tract of land, more or less, situated within the corporate limits of the City of Hondo, in Medina County, Texas, being lots 1-7, Block 1, West End, of the City of Hondo. The subject property is located at 2303 19th Street and identified as Assessor's parcel identification No. 18403.

A. Open Public Hearing

Public Hearing opened at 6:12 p.m.

B. Staff presentation (Uche Echeozo)

Mr. Echeozo, Development Services Manager, presented the Planning & Zoning Commission's January 27, 2025 deliberations and approval.

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C. Applicant presentation

Mr. Ruiz spoke about his plan in the City of Hondo and his experience in other cities.

D. Public comments (limited to 3 minutes per person)

No public comments.

E. Adjourn Public Hearing

Public Hearing adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

F. Discuss and consider action on Specific Use Permit request from Joe Ruiz Sr. (applicant) for an automotive paint and body repair facility.

Councilman Ytuarte moved to approve Specific Use Permit request from Joe Ruiz Sr. (applicant) for an automotive paint & body repair facility; seconded by Councilman Villa. Motion passes unanimously.

10. Rezoning request No. 002-24: Request from the City Council of the City of Hondo (applicant) for a rezoning request from Residential-R2 to Residential-R3 on land situated between Avenue P to Avenue U and 14th Street to 18th Street within the City of Hondo, in Medina County, Texas out of abstract No. 427.

Councilman Villa and Councilwoman Ramirez abstained from discussion and decision-making on this item due to a conflict of interest. Both council members were not present at the dais during this portion of the meeting.

A. Open Public Hearing

Public Hearing opened at 6:15 p.m.

B. Staff presentation (Uche Echeozo)

Mr. Echeozo, Development Services Manager, presented the Planning & Zoning Commission's deliberations from the January 27, 2025, meeting, where the Commission recommended not approving the proposed change. Mr. Echeozo also gave a brief description of the difference between R2 and R3.

C. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per person)

Chavel Lopez, 1002 Avenue S, expressed concerns that the notification letter was only in English, limiting understanding for Spanish-speaking residents. He opposed the R-3 zoning change, citing concerns about gentrification and the impact of townhomes, duplexes, and triplexes. He also noted that the letter did not explain the differences between R-2 and R-3 zoning.

D. Adjourn Public Hearing

Public Hearing adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

F. Discuss and consider action on rezoning request No. 002-24.

Councilman Ytuarte inquired about the timeline for creating a new zoning designation. Mr. McCann responded that the process would take approximately 2-3 months if all steps, including notices and Planning & Zoning Commission review, proceed smoothly.

Councilman Claire moved to deny rezoning request No. 002-24, as recommended by Planning and Zoning Commission; seconded by Councilman Williams. The motion

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carried by the following vote: AYE: Councilman Claire and Councilman Williams NAY: N/A ABSTAIN: Councilman Ytuarte

11. Discuss and consider action on authorizing the City Manager to execute a task order with KSA Engineers for the closure of Runaway 17R-35L and improvements to runway 17L-35R (Ryan Elder, Director of Aviation)

In July 2022, the Council voted to close this runway, but due to funding constraints, the closure has not yet occurred. The far west runway accounts for only 1.5% of operations and is not eligible for federal funding. It has significant cracks and grass overgrowth. Benefits of closure include eliminating maintenance costs and opening up land on both ends. The closure will require remarking the remaining runway, with options for either friction treatment or grooving. Councilman Williams inquired about the cost and longevity of each method.

Councilman Ytuarte moved to authorize the City Manager to execute a Task Order with KSA engineers to prepare the project documents and initiate the bid process in the amount of \$29,878; seconded by Council Woman Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously.

12. Discuss and consider action on authorizing the City Manager to execute a permanent easement agreement with Holland and Lee Properties for the construction of a new Airport Monument Sign on Castro Ave. (Ryan Elder, Director of Aviation)

Councilman Ytuarte moved to approve the City Manager to execute a permanent easement agreement with Holland and Lee Properties; seconded by Councilman Williams. Motion passes unanimously.

13. Discuss and consider action on the proposed 2025 HA5 street preservation plan. (John Naron, City Manager)

Mr. Naron presented the HA5 street preservation plan, noting that \$165,000 is budgeted for streets. To fund the project, \$294,000 will be reallocated from the 2022 tax notes originally designated for City Hall upgrades, along with \$292,524 from the General Fund. The project is expected to begin around May 2025.

Councilman Ytuarte moved to approve the 2025 HA5 street preservation plan as presented in the amount of \$751,524; seconded by Councilman Williams. Motion passes unanimously.

14. Discuss and consider action on a request for speed bumps on 22nd Street. (John Naron, City Manager)

Mr. Naron stated that this issue was brought up by Councilman Claire, prompting a vehicle speed report, which showed an average speed of 29.6 MPH with one instance of excessive speeding. Key considerations include existing ordinance compliance,

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site-specific requirements, and the cost-sharing policy, along with gathering input from area residents. Council members noted that speeding is a citywide concern and recommended a study to determine appropriate locations for speed bumps, along with increased patrols before installing them in one area over another. The consensus was to conduct a comprehensive study before moving forward.

15. Adjourn.

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

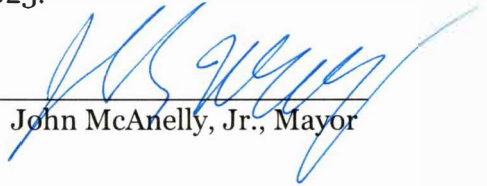
Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY OF MARCH 2025.

ATTEST:



Rebekah Dolphus, City Secretary



John McAnelly, Jr., Mayor