

**State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio**



**DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex
114 W. Commerce
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call with the following Councilmembers present:

Present 10 - Mayor Taylor, Toney, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Taylor recognized George P. Bush, Newly Elected Texas Land Commission and stated that she looked forward to working with him.

Mayor Taylor addressed Item 1.

1. Briefing on the findings of a Police Body Worn Camera Pilot [Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus presented an update on the Body Worn Digital Recording Systems Pilot Program. He stated that that In-Car Video (COBAN) was deployed in all San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) marked patrol vehicles. He noted that Body Cameras were deployed with all San Antonio Airport Police. He mentioned that the Downtown Bike

Patrol and San Antonio Park Police did not have In-Car or Body Worn Video. He outlined the Body Camera Policy noting that it addressed the following key issues: 1) When to begin and end a recording; 2) When not to record; 3) Who can access stored records; 4) Who can authorize requests to view videos; and 5) Video retention and deletion time table.

Chief McManus spoke of the purpose and goals of Body Worn Cameras which include following events and ensuring transparency of Officer and Citizen interactions. He stated that there were key issues to consider when determining whether to fully implement the program such as cost; storage requirements; and support personnel. He noted that Video Upload and Tagging would take approximately 30 minutes per Officer per day and mentioned concerns with rapidly evolving technology systems. He proposed deploying with 210 Police Officers noting that Park Police and Downtown Bike Patrols occurred primarily on foot or bicycle. He outlined the fiscal impact in which the initial cost would be between \$445,000 and \$1.65 Million. He recommended a Budget Improvement for FY 2016 to equip Bike Patrol and Park Police with the Body Worn Cameras. He noted that they would continue to monitor and evaluate Body Camera Systems for future deployment and develop a lifecycle management plan. He played two videos showing the use of Body Worn Cameras.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation and asked of the costs. Chief McManus replied that the initial costs would cover the deployment of 210 Body Worn Cameras. He noted that the costs varied based on the type of storage utilized. Mayor Taylor stated that she wanted to be proactive but also carefully consider all costs associated with implementing new technology.

Councilmember Saldaña thanked staff for their work thus far and asked if there was any technology that would outweigh other systems. Chief McManus replied that he had spoke with other Police Chiefs throughout the country and the only large department that had implemented Body Worn Cameras was Fort Worth. He noted that he was in favor of a system that utilized a combination of Body Worn Cameras and In-Car Systems for continuous video as necessary. Councilmember Saldaña stated that Body Cameras would moderate behavior for both citizens and Police Officers

Councilmember Viagran asked if there had been a decrease in reports or lawsuits against cities with Police Officers utilizing Body Cameras. Chief McManus replied that citizen complaints usually decreased when there were video recordings. Councilmember Viagran spoke of the potential to request funding for Body Cameras at the State Level and asked of the additional time needed to upload and tag video. Chief McManus responded that it would require adding more time at the end of a Police Officer's shift to complete the task. Councilmember Viagran asked of feedback from Police Officers that had worn the Body Cameras. Chief McManus introduced a Police Officer who stated that they had positive

results from the Pilot Program.

Councilmember Gallagher stated that he was pleased that San Antonio was being proactive on this issue but noted concern with video retention. He asked if there were any direct downloads available. Chief McManus replied that only In-Car Cameras were automatically uploaded at the end of a shift and Body Cameras had to be manually uploaded.

Councilmember Gonzales spoke of the additional staff that would be needed and asked of the funding. Mrs. Sculley stated that Public Safety Funds would be utilized which were part of the General Fund. Councilmember Gonzales asked of the three hours of video available. Chief McManus noted that although the shifts were eight hours; the cameras were only turned on when necessary.

Councilmember Nirenberg stated that they should be cognizant of ever-changing technology but noted the need to be proactive. He asked if any data was gathered regarding the Pilot Program. Chief McManus responded that they tracked complaints but did not distinguish those of the Pilot Program. Councilmember Nirenberg asked if there was an option to lease equipment. Chief McManus replied that they hoped to have a service agreement that would replace older technology as new ones were available. Councilmember Nirenberg stated that this was a move in the right direction and was supportive of moving forward.

Councilmember Lopez stated that it was important to understand if the technology would help strengthen evidence and give Police Officers a tactical advantage. Chief McManus stated that it was important for transparency purposes and giving the public greater confidence in the SAPD.

Councilmember Krier spoke of the potential to utilize the audio as necessary when the video was not the best quality. Chief McManus stated that audio would be a great help and that video would be beneficial when there was not close contact. Councilmember Krier asked of release of a video to the public. Martha Sepeda stated that the video would not be released right away as it could be considered part of an ongoing investigation.

Councilmember Toney stated that it would be important to find the best option and spoke of the increased transparency.

Councilmember Medina stated that this was a step in the right direction that would increase transparency. He asked of the cost per camera. Chief McManus replied that each camera was \$1,200. Councilmember Medina asked of the lifecycle management plan. Chief McManus responded that they would have a plan to replace the camera after it was no longer useful.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation and stated that she would like to move forward with the confidence of knowing they were trying to provide transparency.

2. Interview of applicants and selection of up to 3 applicants for District 1 City Council Vacancy. [Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk]

Mayor Taylor welcomed the District 1 Applicants and thanked them for submitting their application to serve on the City Council. She explained that they would each be given three minutes to provide a statement regarding their interest in serving and state their background. She stated that the City Council may ask questions following their individual statements. She noted that in an effort to be fair, District 1 Applicants would be seated in a separate room until they were called.

City Clerk Leticia M. Vacek stated that applications, letters of interest, resumes, and Financial Disclosure Reports were received from each applicant for the District 1 Vacancy advertised for the period of November 20, 2014 through December 5, 2014.

City Clerk Vacek noted that the District 1 Applicants would be interviewed by Mayor Taylor and the City Council in the order that their application packets were received.

- 1) Susan K. Galindo
- 2) Joaquin Gonzalez
- 3) Frank A. Quijano, Sr.
- 4) Christopher M. Forbrich
- 5) J. Gavin Rogers
- 6) Holly L. Keyt
- 7) Dru Van Steenberg
- 8) Bob L. Comeaux
- 9) Melanie A. Castillo
- 10) C. Kenneth Parker
- 11) Frederick M. Chapa
- 12) Justin P. Nichols
- 13) Roberto C. Treviño
- 14) Jack M. Finger

RECESSED

Following the interviews of the District 1 Applicants, Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 5:27 pm to discuss Item E the Applicants and Selection for the District 1 Vacancy:

- A. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.087 (economic development) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- B. Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.072 (real property) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- C. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Discuss legal issues related to *Abimelch Garcia v. City of San Antonio* pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Deliberate the appointment, evaluation and duties of public officers and discuss legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Executive Items A, B, C, and D were not addressed.

RECONVENED

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 5:55 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Councilmember Toney moved to interview Susan K. Galindo, Holly L. Keyt, and Roberto C. Treviño at the City Council Meeting on December 11, 2014. Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Taylor, Toney, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

Executive Session Items A, B, C, and D were not addressed.

RECESSED

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 5:56 pm and announced that the meeting would

resume at 6:00 pm for Citizens to be Heard.

PUBLIC HEARING

The City Clerk read the caption for Item 3:

3. First public hearing regarding the voluntary annexation of approximately 1,906.12 acres located within the Government Canyon State Natural Area, as requested by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; John Dugan, Director, Planning and Community Development.]

Mayor Taylor opened the Public Hearing.

Nina Nixon-Mendez stated that this was the First Public Hearing regarding the voluntary annexation of approximately 1,906.12 acres located within the Government Canyon State Natural Area.

Mayor Taylor announced that there were no citizens registered to speak and closed the Public Hearing.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Taylor called upon the citizens registered to speak under Citizens to be Heard.

Sister Gabriella Lohan and Diane Duesterhoeft representing Citizens Organized for Public Service (COPS) and Metro Alliance addressed the City Council. Ms. Duesterhoeft urged the City Council to vote in favor of an Ordinance adopting new Tax Abatement Guidelines and amending an Ordinance regarding Economic Development Incentive Fund Guidelines at the City Council Meeting of December 11, 2014.

Mark Perez expressed concern with the unlawful issuance of permits and lack of maintenance permits affecting public safety.

Sylvia Villarreal urged the Mayor and City Council to stop the growth of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez spoke against the decoration of trees to celebrate Christmas.

Rhett Smith spoke against the use of City Public Service Energy Smart Meters for those who do not want them or do not want to be assessed a fee to opt out of their use.

Gary Hack spoke of a lawsuit settled on July 29, 2014 between the City of San Antonio and San Antonio Auto and Truck which has not been complied with as of yet.

John McCann spoke in support of the proposed Transportation Networking Company Ordinance and noted the high costs charged by traditional Taxicab Companies.

Theresa Berlanga stated that the United States should remove sanctions from Russia and spoke of the need to preserve Social Security and Medicare.

Kellie Gretschel addressed the City Council in opposition to the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Fidel Castillo spoke of his work with juveniles in detention facilities and issues with drugs they are administered. He stated that he was the founder of Veterans for Education Reform and working to address Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He expressed concern with racial profiling and an assault that occurred by a VIA Metropolitan Transit Driver.

Jack M. Finger addressed the City Council in opposition to the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony noting that the State of Texas has the most inmates. He commended Mayor Taylor for her work and diverse staffing complement. He expressed concern with increased CPS Energy Bills. He asked the city to identify other alternatives before implementing a plastic bag ban.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/MMC
CITY CLERK