

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



**DRAFT  
Meeting Minutes  
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex  
105 Main Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

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Wednesday, February 22, 2017

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

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

**PRESENT:** 9 - Mayor Taylor, Treviño, Warrick, Viagran, Saldaña, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

**ABSENT:** 2 - Gonzales, and Lopez

Mrs. Vacek announced that Councilmembers Gonzales and Lopez were attending a Trade Mission in Puebla, Mexico.

1. A Briefing and update by CPS Energy on current projects, the changing energy landscape, and the future strategic framework for CPS Energy. [Ben Gorzell, Chief Financial Officer; Paula Gold-Williams, CEO, CPS Energy]

Sheryl Sculley stated that more than 300 City Staff assisted in the aftermath of the tornadoes on Sunday Night to remove more than 8,000 cubic yards of debris. She stated that City Staff had restored more than 160 Traffic Signals and removed 140 downed trees. She noted that the Bitters Road Brush Recycling Center had been opened for use by the affected areas free of charge. She stated that city crews would make several passes on

affected residential streets to pick up debris. She noted that the next steps included restoring street signs, the rest of the traffic signals which were seriously damaged, and pedestrian/school zone flashing beacons. She stated that over 4,000 homes were impacted with damage and noted that cost estimates of the damages would be submitted. She stated that if cost estimates exceeded \$35 Million Statewide and \$6 Million within the City Limits; the City of San Antonio would qualify for Federal Emergency Management Funds. She noted that Elderly and Disabled Persons requiring assistance should call 3-1-1.

Paula Gold-Williams, President and CEO of CPS Energy, stated that CPS was developing its strategy and gathering input for same. She presented slides of the damage caused by Sunday night's tornadoes and noted that winds were reported to range from 70-105 miles per hour causing severe damage to homes and businesses. She stated that over 84,000 Customers were affected by the outage and power was restored to some of them within the first 12 hours. She noted that since the outage peak at 10:00 pm on February 19, 2017; CPS Employees worked diligently, resulting in complete restoration of all customer outages as of 12:43 am on February 22, 2017. She stated that CPS had been in existence for 157 years and had been owned by the city for 75 years. She noted that in the past, CPS did not have diversification in their portfolio. She stated that CPS did not want to tie itself to one solution and had diversified its portfolio to include gas, coal, nuclear, and renewable energy.

Ms. Gold-Williams stated that in 2015, she invoked a focus on people and stated that the overall driver was ensuring that CPS Employees stay engaged with customers. She noted that CPS Leaders were accountable for empowering employees to give great service to customers and for supporting employees as they offer exceptional benefits to the community. She stated that CPS's ability to answer customer calls within 30 seconds was at 80%. She noted that CPS was converted by 68% to digital meters and spoke of the need for two-way energy flow. She stated that the system was not built for such flow so systems must be modified to achieve same. She noted that customers were changing how CPS thinks about how it should invest, maintain, and offer resources in the future. She stated that the City of San Antonio could be the impetus of how to improve connectivity and offer it across the state. She noted that with the new Smart Meters, CPS would be able to determine exact usage by customers. She stated that CPS was generating over 450 megawatts of Solar Energy and noted that there were other Solar Programs which were targeted to individual customers and businesses. She spoke of Solar and Wind Energy and stated that CPS had approximately 1,500 megawatts of renewable energy. She spoke of the Solar Rebate Program and explained the Community Solar Program whereby customers could buy panels which were not installed on their homes. She spoke of Demand Response which was included in the Energy Efficiency Program and stated that CPS would work with customers on a voluntary basis to adjust their thermostats to a higher/lower level depending

on the temperature.

Ms. Gold-Williams noted that CPS continued to focus on affordability discounts for customers in need of assistance and that over 50,000 Customers had received said discounts. She noted that CPS would partner with Southwest Research on introducing an Energy Storing Project. She reported that CPS had developed a microgrid which coupled battery storage and solar at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA). She stated that CPS wanted to ensure that Military Missions were not compromised by a power or interruption problem. She stated that the lessons learned from the Pilot Program would allow for future installations throughout the service territory and increase robustness of the utility grid. She spoke of the role of CPS in community engagement and invited everyone to tour the Mobile Unit in front of City Hall. She noted that CPS had created educational programs from the Elementary School Level up to the College Level. She stated that the future of energy was discussed amongst civic leaders, business leaders, educators, students, and CPS at St. Mary's University and an Energy Thought Summit would be held in Austin, Texas. She noted that one goal was to rebuild the Old Mission Road Plant to house an Incubator and Innovative Center. She stated that CPS would hold a Customer Center Competition where the Technology Community would be invited to provide solutions to customer issues. She noted that the next Energy Symposium would be held on February 27, 2018.

Mayor Taylor thanked Ms. Gold-Williams for the presentation and stated that the Smart City Initiative would provide benefits in the future.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the standards for Solar Energy. Ms. Gold-Williams stated that CPS had installed a high level of capacity for Solar Energy. She noted that Solar Energy was an intermittent resource with a low efficiency level.

Councilmember Gallagher asked if transmitters could be designed to evade the destruction caused by tornadoes. Ms. Gold-Williams replied that in the case of tornadoes; it would be impossible to design them in such a way to avoid damage. She stated that new technologies were being sought to place them underground in the future. Councilmember Gallagher asked when Smart Meters would be 100% in use. Ms. Gold-Williams replied that 100% of Smart Meters should be in place by 2018. Councilmember Gallagher asked if the use of coal would disappear completely. Ms. Gold-Williams replied that stated that coal use would begin to decline in 2018 or 2019 but would remain at some level.

Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the progress of the Epicenter. Ms. Gold-Williams stated that CPS was putting all of the policies in place and aligning committees and interest groups. She noted that a Request for Proposals (RFP) had been released for the overall general design. She stated that a Forum would be held in the summer to talk about energy

and what the Epicenter would be able to accomplish in the future. She noted that the Epicenter would be located at the old Mission Road Plant. She stated that it would take \$55 to \$60 million from CPS to refurbish the building. She noted that private donations would also be solicited and the total cost would be \$74 Million. She stated that the building would hold small businesses and incubators and that lectures and community events would be held there. Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the roll out of the Solar Energy Hosting Program. Ms. Gold-Williams played a video regarding the Solar Energy Hosting Program and noted that there had been a great response to the program in which applicants were selected to participate in same. Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the progress of the refurbishing of the headquarters building. Ms. Gold-Williams stated that an RFP had been released for a Construction Manager at Risk and one would be selected at the end of the month.

Councilmember Warrick asked if there were any policies at the local level that the City Council should review or pass to allow for better or faster service in the industry. Ms. Gold-Williams replied that suggestions to the City Council would be forthcoming.

Councilmember Treviño asked of the purchase or lease of Solar Panels at Solar Farms and the options for residents. Ms. Gold-Williams stated that CPS was going to look for opportunities and options for Community Solar. Councilmember Treviño spoke of the aging infrastructure and housing and the need for roofs to be in good shape in order to accept solar panels. He asked how CPS was evaluating the Under One Roof Program. Ms. Gold Williams stated that statistics have shown that a light colored roof could reduce energy consumption by 30%, 40%, or more. Councilmember Treviño spoke of the benefits of educating the public on said Program.

Councilmember Medina asked what could be done to maximize more opportunities for increased lighting. Ms. Gold-Williams replied that a particular area would be reviewed and offerings would be tailored to said area.

Councilmember Saldaña asked of access to city growth and population growth projections. Ms. Gold-Williams stated that CPS was attempting to partner with the Real Estate Community, Developers, and Contractors to match their predictions with those of CPS. She noted that CPS would be glad to review said projections with the City Councilmembers.

Mayor Taylor thanked Ms. Gold-Williams for the presentation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 3:45 pm to discuss the following:

- A. Deliberate competitive matters regarding CPS Energy and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.086 (competitive matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- B. 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).
- C. 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).
- D. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Discuss legal issues relating to grant requirements promulgated by the State of Texas pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Discuss legal issues related to public safety contracts pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

**RECONVENED**

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 6:00 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

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

Al Lindsay addressed the City Council and noted concerns with the City's Recycling Program.

Reverend Ronald Benson stated that he was dressed as "Alamo Joe," a Slave at The Alamo when it was under siege by General Sant Anna. He spoke of the need for recognition of Blacks who fought at The Alamo.

Mark Perez spoke of the issue of public safety and noted concerns with the businesses operating without the proper zoning and permits. He noted that various City Employees had not responded to his concerns or requests for information.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez highlighted the Taco Jesus Icon and noted that San Antonio Artists had created T-Shirts regarding same.

Dawn Neering stated that she had not seen her children in three years and noted concerns with various Non-Profits that had not assisted her.

**RECESSED**

Mayor Taylor announced that the Executive Session would resume the following day after the Business Portion of the City Council Meeting and recessed the meeting at 6:27 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC  
CITY CLERK