

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



**DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

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

PRESENT: 10 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

ABSENT: 1 - Shaw

Ms. Saenz announced that Councilmember Shaw was out of town on personal business.

1. Staff presentation and possible City Council action on potential City Council amendments to the FY 2018 Proposed Budget. [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management and Budget]

City Manager Sheryl Sculley stated that the proposed amendments were funded mostly due to increased CPS revenues from July and August and capital improvement amendments were funded from 2007 and 2012 Bond Program savings. She highlighted the proposed increase to the City Council Contract Staff budget totaling \$50,000 per district.

Jeff Coyle provided an overview of public engagement in the budget process and highlighted

the creation of the SA Speak Up Campaign in 2014. He stated that input for Fiscal Year 2018 was gathered online and at community events as well as during six open houses. Mayor Nirenberg asked of demographic representation in the responses. Mr. Coyle replied that demographics reflecting San Antonio's composition had improved compared to the previous year but that turnout was still heavily weighted toward Districts 8, 9, and 10. Mayor Nirenberg asked of online access to the budget. María Villagómez stated it would be available through the OpenGov platform on October 1, 2017. Mayor Nirenberg asked of revenue forecasts for FY 2019. Mr. Gorzell replied that projections had not yet been updated but that \$2.6 million from projected CPS revenue for FY 2017 was reflected in the amendments. Mrs. Sculley added that budget updates were provided quarterly and the City Council would adopt an amended budget at the six month mark of the Fiscal Year.

Councilmember Saldaña highlighted his amendments of \$450,000 for a deceleration lane at Joint Base San Antonio and a \$750,000 contribution to CentroMed's \$11 million Community Health Clinic. He expressed support for the Lift Fund.

Councilmember Viagran asked of comments received through the SA Speak Up Campaign pertaining to other organizations and if they could be tracked on a district basis. Mrs. Villagómez stated that those comments were not forwarded or tracked by location but could be in the future. Councilmember Viagran expressed support for the proposed constituent tracking software amendment and noted two of her drainage project amendment proposals.

Councilmember Courage asked that the \$750,000 requested by Councilmember Brockhouse for a future District 6 Community Center be redirected to fund glass sidewalk replacements downtown. Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for Project Quest and City Council Staff increases and highlighted her Child Abuse Initiative and drainage projects. Councilmember Treviño stated his support for Project Quest, Lift Fund, the constituent case software, and glass sidewalk replacement. Councilmember Pelaez highlighted his request for the pilot program for constituent software to improve communications tracking and citizen engagement. He expressed support for the Lift Fund.

Councilmember Brockhouse outlined plans for land in his proposed property acquisition amendment and noted the future establishment of the District 6 Field Office, Community Meeting Center, Learning Center, City Pool, Community Gardens, and Playscapes. He stated that the area had been historically neglected and should be considered as part of the equity lens. He provided a list of \$14 million in potential budget cuts to support property tax relief. Councilmember Viagran asked how the price for the District 6 property was determined. Mike Frisbie replied that TCI looked at the property and determined its fair market value. Councilmember Viagran expressed concern at cutting services and city departments because of the impact on constituents.

Councilmember Perry asked that the four new positions for the Office of Neighborhood and Housing Services be removed from the budget and highlighted his amendment to correct street misalignment at Randolph and Weidner. Councilmember Sandoval noted support for Project Quest, Under 1 Roof, and the Lift Fund and asked for support on her drainage amendment.

Mayor Nirenberg asked Councilmember Brockhouse of his proposed department reductions to allow for property tax reductions. Councilmember Brockhouse stated that the core services of the city should be Public Safety, Streets, Sidewalks, Police, Fire, Code Compliance, and Animal Care Services. He recommended reduction or elimination of the Offices of Neighborhood and Housing Services, Equity, Sustainability, Center City Development and Operations, EastPoint, Historic Preservation, and World Heritage. Discussion ensued regarding the drastic service cuts that would have to occur in exchange for tax breaks.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked everyone for their participation in the budget process and stated that he looked forward to adopting the budget the following day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 4:02 pm to discuss the following:

- A. Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).
- B. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).
- C. Discuss legal issues related to the scope of a 2012-2017 General Obligations Bond Project pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 6:05 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

PUBLIC HEARING

Deputy City Clerk Saenz read the caption for Item 2:

2. A Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2018 Storm Water Utility fee. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation & Capital Improvements]

Mayor Nirenberg opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2018 Storm Water Utility Fee and called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Dr. Meredith McGuire discussed the history of the current rate structure and stated that it unfairly favored corporations. She offered suggestions to improve the city's procedures for dealing with storm water and asked for increases in green infrastructure.

Mark Perez noted issues with companies that were not paying their storm water fees or adhering to regulations.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez expressed concern with fluoride in the local water supply.

Rhett Smith stated he was opposed to rate increases and fees and asked the City Council to develop a more comprehensive plan for addressing storm water.

Having heard all comments from those citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Nirenberg declared the Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2018 Storm Water Utility Fee closed.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

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

Mark Perez expressed concerns regarding the safety of buildings that did not operate with the proper permits. He noted his disappointment with communication from departments and city staff.

Dina Serrano thanked Councilmember Brockhouse and Councilmember Gonzales for their community engagement.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez asked for a raise for city employees to assist with cost of living.

Mayor Nirenberg exited the meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Pelaez presided.

Jose Sierra, Jr. read a letter on behalf of Two Countries One Lie asking that The Alamo be preserved as a memorial site for deceased Tejano Ancestors.

Fidel “Two Bears” Castillo noted concerns with violating Native American burial grounds. He asked that City Council work with indigenous populations before making changes to the Mission Sites.

Rhett Smith asked that law enforcement be more active in tracking white nationalist activities in San Antonio for the safety of citizens.

Juan Macias noted concerns with Development Services and the Police Department not addressing crime in his neighborhood or providing assistance where needed.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony highlighting the Bexar County Courthouse Security Fund. He referenced a new call center that would add 600 jobs to the San Antonio Economy. He submitted an article regarding Former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Pelaez adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA Y. SAENZ, TRMC
DEPUTY CITY CLERK