

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



**FINAL
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

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

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building at 2:00 pm with the following Councilmembers present: Bernal, Taylor, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, Soules, and Mayor Castro.

1. Interview of applicants and selection of up to 3 finalists for the District 10 City Councilmember vacancy. [Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk]

Mayor Castro welcomed the District 10 Applicants and thanked them for submitting their application to serve on the City Council. He asked the Applicants to make a statement on their background and qualifications, vision for the District, and what makes them able to represent the District effectively. He stated that the City Council would ask questions following the individual statements. He noted that in an effort to be fair, Applicants would be seated in a separate room until they were called.

Mayor Castro noted that Mr. Joe B. Martin submitted an application but was not present. The City Council interviewed the following applicants in the order that applications were received.

- 1) Michael R. Gallagher
- 2) Brian A. Birdy
- 3) Danielle Cunningham
- 4) M. Katherine Scheidel
- 5) Donald H. Flanary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following the interviews of the 5 Applicants, Mayor Castro recessed the meeting into executive session at 3:46 pm to discuss the following:

- C. 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).

RECONVENED

Mayor Castro reconvened the meeting at 4:04 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session. He again thanked everyone that applied for the District 10 Vacancy.

Councilmember Viagran moved to interview Michael R. Gallagher, Donald H. Flanary, and M. Katherine Scheidel at the City Council Meeting the following morning. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote: Bernal, Taylor, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, Soules, and Mayor Castro.

2. A briefing on the FY 2015 and FY 2016 Consolidated Funding Process for Human and Workforce Development Services. [Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Melody Woosley presented an overview of the Consolidated Funding Process for FY 2015 and FY 2016. She stated that they currently contract \$22 Million with 67 Agencies for Human and Workforce Services. She noted that they issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) on a Biennial Basis and use General and Grant Funds. She indicated that they coordinated with the Economic Development and Planning and Community Development Departments. She added that the Investment Priorities were determined by the City Council.

Ms. Woosley reported that the Proposed Investment Categories align with SA2020 Indicators: Family Well-Being; Community Safety; Education; and Economic Competitiveness. She outlined the Evaluation Process in which the Finance Department conducts an initial minimum requirements review of the RFP. She stated that Evaluation Teams reviewed and scored the

proposals and utilized past Fiscal and Program Performance. She highlighted the process utilized by other communities noting that most Major Cities consolidate Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CDBG, CDBG Public Service, HOME ESG, and HOPWA Entitlement Grant Funds and do not use General Funds.

Ms. Woosley provided an overview of the recommended changes that include strengthening the Proposal Development Process through a collaboration with the San Antonio Area Foundation to offer workshops to potential applicants. She noted that during the Evaluation Process, they would place greater emphasis on Leveraged Resources; Coordination with City Initiatives; and Past Performance. She stated that they would require measurement of a meaningful outcome tied to an SA2020 Indicator. She mentioned that they would implement a Program Match Requirement and beginning in FY 2015, limit the number of years a program may receive funding to five years. She indicated that they would set a minimum funding allocation and set aside \$250,000 for new agencies. She spoke of the need to strengthen communication blackout requirements noting that they could implement consequences for violations.

Ms. Woosley recommended that designated funding be provided for the Haven for Hope and Campus Related Services and that they be removed from the RFP Process. She added that they would like for designated funding to be allocated for After School Programs and that they also be removed from the RFP Process. She stated that they would like to allocate Senior Services Investment to support City Senior Center and Nutrition Site Activities and transfer a portion of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program Funds to the Department of Human Services (DHS). She further recommended that Early Childhood Funding that may duplicate Pre K 4 SA be redirected to other Education Strategies.

Mr. John Dugan stated that CDBG Allocations could be used to support City Services and recommended that \$503,000 be removed from the Consolidated Funding Process and allocated to the Code Compliance and Parks and Recreation Departments. He further recommended that CDBG Public Service Funds be redirected from the Consolidated Funding Process to support East Point or other City Identified Priorities. He stated that if implemented, it would reduce the available funding pool by \$1.2 Million.

Ms. Woosley stated that they would distribute a ballot to the City Council to gather input on the Funding Priorities by Investment Category. She noted that ballots would need to be returned to DHS by February 7, 2014 and that results would be presented at the February 12, 2014 B Session. She added that the RFP would be released on March 3, 2014 and that City Council would approve the contracts in September 2014.

Mayor Castro thanked staff for the presentation and asked of the agencies currently funded that provide Early Childhood Services. Ms. Woosley replied that the largest allocation for these services is provided to Family Services Association which performs workshops, training and professional development targeted toward the Childcare Community. Mayor Castro expressed concern with the reallocation of funding toward other priorities. He asked of the CDBG

Funding that would be redirected to Code Compliance and the Parks and Recreation Department. Ms. Woosley replied that they were already receiving the funding but staff was recommending that they be removed from the Funding Process.

Councilmember Taylor stated that there was a great amount of need for funding and that it was important for the city to be strategic in how it distributes the funds. She noted that she was pleased with the recommendation to collaborate with the San Antonio Area Foundation to offer workshops to potential applicants. She expressed support for limiting the number of years that a program could receive funding and to have designated funding for Haven for Hope. She stated that she would like to invest in After School Programs that enhance the Academic Experience.

Councilmember Bernal thanked staff for bringing forward recommendations that had been discussed at the Quality of Life Council Committee Meetings. He stated that it was important to consider geography as part of the analysis for funding programs.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the recommendation to expand the Scope of Contact prohibited. Ms. Woosley replied that it would clarify the time period and type of contact allowed by the agencies applying for funding. Councilmember Viagran asked that staff gather input from Seniors regarding the programs they would like offered at the Senior Centers and Nutrition Sites.

Councilmember Lopez asked of the funding received from Workforce Solutions Alamo for Childcare. Ms. Woosley replied that the Childcare Program was operated through a Voucher System in which parents could choose which Center to send their children. She stated that the city would reimburse the Center for the Childcare.

Councilmember Saldaña expressed support for streamlining the Consolidated Funding Process and asked of the funding for new agencies. Ms. Woosley replied that they recommended allocating \$250,000 for new agencies to receive small awards for operations or capacity building. Councilmember Saldaña stated that he would like to ensure that the Early Childhood Services are being provided through Pre K 4 SA before they are redirected. He added that he would like to invest in services to parents during their pregnancy and prior to their children attending Pre-K Programs.

Councilmember Nirenberg stated that this was a move in the right direction and would like to see an Anti-Lobbying Policy. He expressed support for using SA2020 Indicators as Investment Priorities and asked how agencies fit into each category. Ms. Woosley referenced a binder that was provided to the City Council that listed the Delegate Agencies and their assigned category. Councilmember Nirenberg spoke of the importance of funding for Domestic Violence and stated that he would like to have more discussion on funding critical services.

Mayor Castro asked of the current blackout period. Ms. Woosley replied that the blackout period applied to all City Contracts and did not allow applicants to contact the City Council until the item had been posted on the City Council Agenda. She indicated that staff was working on

revising that policy for the Consolidated Funding Process only. Mayor Castro asked that staff keep in mind that the applicants for the Consolidated Funding Process were Non-Profit Agencies and not Private Contractors. He thanked staff for the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session Items A, B, D, E, and F were not addressed. Mayor Castro announced that the Council would address said items after the Regular Meeting Business Items the following day.

- A. 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).
- 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).
- D. Discuss legal issues related to an audit of cable franchise and Public Education and Government Access fees pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Discuss legal issues related to the automobile auction procurement and contract pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECESSED

Mayor Castro recessed the meeting at 5:13 pm and announced that the meeting would resume at 5:30 pm for Ceremonials.

RECONVENED

Mayor Castro reconvened the meeting at 5:30 pm and addressed the Ceremonial Items.

CEREMONIALS

Mayor Castro held his 3rd Annual “Light Up Downtown” Holiday Lights Contest. During this new San Antonio Holiday Tradition, businesses in the Downtown Area competed for the best and brightest holiday light display. The goal of the contest was to create an illuminated view of the downtown skyline and showcase the heart of the city to our locals and visitors for a unique holiday experience. Mayor Castro presented awards in the following categories: People’s Choice-Building, Storefront, Pop Up Store, and Best Use of Space; Critic’s Choice-Best Lighting Display of a Storefront, and Best Lighting of a Building; Mayor Castro’s Award-Greenest Light Display.

Mayor Castro presented a Citation to Kent Page, a Science Teacher at Carnahan Elementary School for receiving the PAEMST (Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching) Award. It was noted that this is the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government specifically for K-12 Mathematics and Science (including Computer Science) Education.

Mayor Castro presented a Proclamation in recognition of the 20th Annual Basura Bash that will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014. It was noted that the Basura Bash is the largest community-wide effort to clean up the banks of the San Antonio River and its tributaries.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Castro called upon the individuals registered to speak.

Abraham Callahan, Rozina Kanchwala, and Sarah Mills representing the Sierra Club addressed the City Council. Ms. Kanchwala stated that they were in support of a ban on plastic bags as they believed it was important to keep San Antonio beautiful for Tourists to enjoy. She spoke of the issues related to plastic bags noting that oftentimes they ended up in trees and in the River. She mentioned other cities that have already implemented a Plastic Bag Ban and added that implementing same in San Antonio would help reach the Pathway to Zero Waste Goal. Mr. Callahan added that there were many plastic and paper bags that were not being recycled. He stated that degradable bags take a long time to degrade and paper bags did not recycle well. Ms. Mills thanked Councilmember Medina for his leadership on the issue and stated that plastic bags affected the entire city. She noted that if plastic bags were banned, they would help work on alternative options for low-income families.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez stated that plastic bags caused problems in the San Antonio River and the issue needed to be addressed. He expressed concern with the Police Contract and stated that costs should be leveled out.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony expressing concern that CPS Energy did not reconnect customers that made payments after 5:00 pm. He referenced the free Taxi Rides

provided during Fiesta. He also asked why people have lush lawns in the Summer. He noted that the B-Cycle Program was being expanded while highlighting the District 3 Fall 5K Run Walk. He wrote that it was time to pay the City Council a Living Wage and requested that the Alamodome be named after him.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Castro adjourned the meeting at 6:11 pm.

APPROVED

JULIÁN CASTRO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/MMC
CITY CLERK