

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



**FINAL
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

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, Treviño, Warrick, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

ABSENT: 1 - Medina

Mrs. Vacek announced that Councilmember Medina was on Military Duty.

1. Briefing and possible action on the FY 2016 Six Plus Six Financial Report (2nd Quarter Actuals with Annualized Projections), Mid Year Budget Adjustment Recommendations, and Five Year Financial Forecast. [María Villagómez, Assistant City Manager; John Woodruff, Director, Management and Budget]

Maria Villagomez presented the FY 2016 Six Plus Six Financial Report and FY 2017-2021 Five Year Financial Forecast. She reported that the Total City Budget was \$2.5 Billion which includes the General Fund, Restricted Funds, and Capital Programs. She stated that the Budget was balanced; however, revenues were down primarily from Sales Tax and CPS Energy. She noted that the FY 2016 Net Ending Balance totaled \$572,000 of which

\$375,000 was proposed as a Mid-Year Adjustment for SA Pets Alive (SAPA).

Ms. Villagomez outlined the FY 2016 General Fund Revenues and Expenditures. She stated that they were recommending the following General Fund Mid-Year Adjustments: 1) Animal Care Services (ACS)-Provide SAPA with \$375,000; 2) Police-Convert 30 Temporary Positions to Full-Time Civilian Call Takers for the 9-1-1 Call Center; and 3) Fire-Reclassify 3 Firefighters to Fire Engineers and convert two Temporary Civilians to Full-Time for Applicant Processing. Within the Restricted Funds, she reported that they were recommending to use \$102,000 from the Public Education Government (PEG) Fund to expand City Council Chambers Video Conferencing Capabilities and \$300,000 for the Alamodome Locker Room. She noted that they were recommending the addition of 2 positions for Permit Review and Inspection of Solar Permits in the Development Services Department. She mentioned that within the Capital Budget, they recommended reallocating \$400,000 for the Council District 2 Bark Park to Softball Field Improvements at Lincoln Park (\$200,000) and for a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King (\$200,000).

Ms. Villagomez presented the Financial Forecast noting that they look to maintain the General Fund Ending Balance at 15%. She stated that it reflects evergreen for Police and Fire Expired Collective Bargaining Contracts and fully funds Uniform Police and Fire Vacancies. She highlighted Revenue Assumptions with growth ranging from 3 to 4%. She stated that the City of San Antonio receives less than 25% of the Property Tax Bill and projected a 4% Annual Average Property Tax Value Growth through FY 2021. She added that \$50 Million in Street Maintenance and \$5 Million in Sidewalks were included in every year of the Forecast.

Ms. Villagomez provided an overview of the Development Services Fund noting that revenues were \$55,000 better than budgeted. She reported that the departments supported by the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Fund were within budget. She stated that the Solid Waste Fund had \$452,000 more revenue than projected and \$2.9 Million in less expense. She highlighted the Budget Initiatives noting that the \$64 Million was allocated for 832 Street Maintenance Projects and \$280,000 was allocated for the Police Gun Shot Detection Pilot Program. Lastly, she outlined next steps in the Budget Process noting that the FY 2017 Budget was scheduled for adoption on September 15, 2016.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation and asked of the decline in Sales Tax Revenues. Ms. Villagomez replied that one of the primary factors impacting Sales Tax was Fuel Prices. Mayor Taylor stated that she was pleased that SAPA had raised most of the matching funds but stated that they should look at the holistic picture of ACS in general. She asked of the Video Conferencing that would be expanded in the Council Chambers. Mr. Jeff Coyle stated that although they had upgraded technology in the Council Chambers

last year; Video Conferencing was not included. He noted that they would be adding this component to accommodate requests going forward. Mrs. Sculley added that they would utilize the PEG Fund to pay for the expansion.

Councilmember Warrick asked of the timeline for SAPA to meet their contractual requirements. Ms. Villagomez replied that they had raised \$125,000 of their \$150,000 match and must hire a CEO within 60 days. She stated that the City of San Antonio would now have a seat on the SAPA Board. Councilmember Warrick asked if the \$200,000 allocated for the Statue of Dr. Martin Luther King could be reallocated to a Summer Youth Program. Ms. Villagomez replied that the funds were in the Capital Budget and could look at reallocating General Funds for Summer Youth Programming if requested by the City Council. Councilmember Warrick requested that \$107,000 be allocated for the Midnight Basketball Program and that \$70,000 be allocated to the Ella Austin Community Center.

Councilmember Viagran highlighted the \$7.8 Million in General Fund Expenditure Reductions and expressed support for converting 30 Temporary Positions to Full-Time Civilian Call Takers for the 9-1-1 Call Center. She asked of the Alamodome Locker Room. Mike Sawaya replied that they still had the old locker rooms with the Spurs Logo and adding another would allow them to host High School Championship Events. Councilmember Viagran requested funding for Street Lighting and Vector Control due to the recent rains. She asked if the City would have liability for SAPA by having a seat on their Board. Mrs. Sculley replied that she would check that with the City Attorney and follow up with the City Council. Councilmember Viagran asked if fosters received money when taking care of an animal. Mr. Tommy McNish, Chief Operating Officer for SAPA, replied that they were volunteers and did not receive compensation.

Councilmember Saldaña asked of the history of Sales Tax Projections. Ms. Villagomez reported that there were challenges in 2010 where staff missed the projections due to the recession and economic challenges throughout the State. Councilmember Saldaña spoke in support of the funding for SAPA noting that the city had challenges with kennel space. He asked of the priority in saving dogs. Mr. McNish replied that they utilized the Euthanasia List and pulled the highly adoptable dogs first. Councilmember Saldaña asked of funding for Uniform Police and Fire Vacancies. Mrs. Sculley replied that vacancies were part of the Forecast based on assumptions. She added that they could not add any more Officers due to the costs associated with the Evergreen Contract. Councilmember Saldaña asked of the funding for sidewalks. Mrs. Sculley replied that they included \$15 Million in the last budget but did not have capacity. She added that they were looking at potentially funding Sidewalks through the 2017 Bond Program.

Councilmember Gonzales asked of the policy of SAPA with regard to aggressive dogs. Mr.

McNish replied that there was a process in which they could pull a dog if it was kennel reactive as opposed to aggressive and staff was trained to recognize this. He stated that they had great partners that took aggressive dogs and performed in-depth therapy. Councilmember Gonzales asked if Park Police Officers were added when they increased the Greenway Trails. Xavier Urrutia confirmed that they added one Park Police Officer for every five mile segment that was added.

Councilmember Gallagher spoke of the potential shortage of Firefighters and Police Officers and the importance of resolving the issue. He expressed concern with the legislation regarding Revenue Caps for Cities. He asked what would occur if funding was not provided to SAPA. Ms. Villagomez responded that if the funding was utilized by ACS to operate the facility that is run by SAPA; there would be a 5-10% decrease in the Live Release Rate.

Councilmember Viagran stated that she would like to have a broad policy discussion with regard to “No Kill” and “No Stray” for animals. She confirmed that the City Council would vote on the Mid-Year Budget Adjustment tomorrow and requested additional funding for Street Lighting.

Councilmember Nirenberg stated that he would prefer to maintain the \$190,000 ending balance for the Contingency Fund. He asked of the Bond Capacity for 2017. Mrs. Sculley stated that it would not be less than \$750 Million but would present further details at the Budget Goal Setting Session. Councilmember Nirenberg spoke to the issue of Non-Attainment and asked of the Public Health Component. Mrs. Sculley stated that they would discuss same at the Budget Goal Setting Session. Councilmember Nirenberg asked of the changes that would be made at SAPA. Mr. McNish stated that they hoped to hire an Executive Director with a strong fundraising background, as well as make operational and organizational changes in terms of how they handle their fosters.

Councilmember Lopez spoke of the need to address the issue of Air Quality and the potential recommendation to allocate Advanced Transportation District (ATD) Funds to VIA Metropolitan Transit. He noted that they should also discuss how they would get to the \$15 per hour Living Wage. Councilmember Treviño noted that he was also concerned with the potential legislation on Revenue Caps that would be disastrous to Cities. He spoke in support of allocating funding for Sidewalks in the 2017 Bond Program and the funding allocated for SAPA.

Mayor Taylor suggested that they move forward with the funding for SAPA and moving Capital Funds to General Funds for the Summer Youth Program. She recommended maintaining the \$190,000 ending balance and not spending it at this time.

Councilmember Gonzales asked why a Councilmember had to be on video in order to vote. Martha Sepeda replied that State Law required all members of the governing body to be present when they vote. Councilmember Gonzales expressed support for the technology that had a relatively small cost.

Mayor Taylor asked of the requirement regarding Video Conferencing. Ms. Sepeda replied that State Law did not require Video Conferencing but allowed it. Mayor Taylor stated that she would like to have a policy in place regarding Video Conferencing. With regard to the Texas Municipal League and Big City Mayors, they were strategizing on the issue of Revenue Caps. She noted that they should have a larger discussion on the goals related to animals and thanked everyone for the presentation.

2. Briefing on the Pre-K 4 SA Board of Directors adopted FY 2017 Budget. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Kathy Bruck, CEO, Pre-K 4 SA]

Mayor Taylor announced that Item 2 would be addressed at the City Council Meeting the next day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 4:44 pm to discuss the following:

- 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. 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).

- E. Discuss legal issues related to annexation pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 5:47 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session. She addressed the Ceremonial Items.

CEREMONIALS

Mayor Taylor presented a Proclamation to the Bexar Audubon Society in recognition of International Migratory Bird Day on May 14, 2016. It was noted that the observance was held to call attention to winged and endangered friends. It was also noted that celebratory events would be held at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, Government Canyon State Natural Area, and the San Antonio Zoo.

Mayor Taylor presented a Proclamation to The Karate Kids of San Antonio. The Karate Kids of San Antonio presented the 2016 Winners of their Just Say No! Program. It was noted that the local campaign follows the example of the national program created by Former First Lady Nancy Reagan in which students are invited to write a letter encouraging their friends to "Just Say No!" to drugs, alcohol and gangs.

The Scholarship Committee of the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission announced their 2016 Scholarship Recipients. It was noted that the awards are funded by local businesses and community groups, as well as contributions from the City Councilmembers. Each recipient was presented with an award, congratulatory certificate, and a commemorative medal by Mayor Taylor. Councilmember Warrick noted that he was proud that they had greatly increased the amount of scholarships noting that \$102,000 was awarded in cash scholarships and \$300,000 was awarded in-kind though full scholarships from various colleges and universities.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Taylor called the citizens registered to speak. Deputy City Clerk Leticia Saenz announced that Councilmember Gallagher was attending the Bel Meade Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting.

Mark Perez expressed concern that employees within various City Departments had not responded to his requests. He stated that he had contacted the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding ozone concerns and noted businesses that were operating

without the proper permits.

John Bachman expressed concern with the funding that was being recommended for SA Pets Alive (SAPA). He requested that the City Council delay the vote on the item to investigate SAPA and the Animal Care Services Department.

Christopher Baird highlighted the SA Clubhouse, an agency that works with individuals with mental illness. He stated that they had greatly helped him by providing a sense of purpose.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez presented a newspaper article titled, "Bigger Reach for Pre-K." He stated that he was supportive of Pre-K Education but noted concerns with the holidays and traditions being taught.

Kelly Walls addressed the City Council and expressed concern with the funding recommended for SA Pets Alive (SAPA). She asked the City Council to delay the vote on the item.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony regarding the 8 Area Educators selected as Finalists for the HEB Excellence in Education Award. He requested that the City of San Antonio replace City Buses and Vans that are not ADA Compliant. He highlighted the Basura Bash held on February 20, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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