

**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, August 15, 2018

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 noting the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Shaw, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

1. Staff presentation on the FY 2019 Proposed Budget focusing on, but not limited to, the following City Departments: [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]
 - A. Fire
 - B. Police

City Manager Sculley stated that public safety comprised nearly two thirds of the annual budget. She reported that California Governor Jerry Brown requested assistance to fight wildfires and that SAFD deployed seven uniform personnel to assist with the Mendocino Complex Wildfire on August 8, 2018. She noted that the Mendocino Complex Wildfire was the largest on record with 83,000 acres having burned. She wished the Firefighters a safe return.

FIRE

Fire Chief Charles Hood announced that the department received a Class 1 Fire Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating in 2017 which placed it among the top Fire Departments in the country. He stated that the department was pursuing accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International based on organizational involvement, information-based decision making, realistic self-assessment, and constant improvement.

Chief Hood stated that SAFD serves 1.5 million residents across 514.3 square miles and provided an overview of the department's personnel and equipment. He noted the following emergency response capabilities: Fire Suppression; Emergency Medical Services; Technical Rescue; Hazardous Materials Response; Emergency Operations Center; Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH); Aviation Fire and Rescue; Fusion Center; Medical Special Operations. He outlined the following Administrative and Support Divisions: Arson Bureau; Fire Prevention; Communications; Fleet and Logistics Services; Planning and Analytics; Human Services; Fiscal Management; Public Information Office; Health and Wellness. He highlighted MIH to serve high volume, recurring calls from citizens across all Council Districts. He reviewed response times, standards of cover, high profile events, uniform demographics, class schedules, uniform position count, and infrastructure projects. He stated that the proposed Budget totaled \$328.8 million with \$265.1 million for personnel services. He noted a proposed EMS Transport Fee increase to \$1,000 and requested the addition of a Medic Officer to support citywide coverage. He outlined the following recommended enhancements: Addition of an Incumbent Training Chief; Blue Card Training; Wellness Building; Capital Purchases; Zoll Vent and ResqCPR equipment; Barrier hoods and gloves; Squad trucks. He described cancer prevention initiatives and survivability initiatives.

Councilmember Viagran asked of grant funding. Justina Tate replied that there was \$1.9 million in grant funding for city emergency preparedness and MIH specific to Haven for Hope. Councilmember Viagran commended the department for their work to identify best practices for San Antonio.

Councilmember Courage asked of charges associated with EMS responses. Chief Hood replied that responses resulting in transport to a hospital cost a flat fee of \$1,000.

Councilmember Perry requested that response times specific to ambulances be tracked.

Councilmember Saldaña expressed support for MIH efforts and asked of the installation of exhaust ventilation systems and deployment of secondary bunker gear. Chief Hood replied that installation would be completed in October 2018 and gear would be distributed in August 2018.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked SAFD for their relief efforts in California and for honoring the memory of fallen Firefighter Scott Deem.

POLICE

Police Chief William McManus stated that the San Antonio Police Department was dedicated to improving quality of life by creating a safe environment in partnership with the people they served. He noted the department divisions of the Operations Bureau; Operations Support Bureau; and Administrative Service Bureau. He stated that the Proposed Budget totaled \$492.2 million with \$400.3 million for Personnel Services. He outlined six Substation Areas comprised of 18 Sections covering 115 Patrol Districts and serving 1.5 million residents. He noted decreases in violent crime and response times, and increases in calls for police service and communications grade of service. He stated that violent and property crimes decreased 19% from 2017 to 2018. He added that total arrests increased for DWIs, felonies, and misdemeanors since 2017. He described the activities of the Violent Crimes Task Force, Texas Anti-Gang Program, and Mental Health Programs. He noted proposed FY enhancements for recruitment; Applicant processing; Leadership development via the IACP Flagship Leadership Development Program; Customer service technology; Field Reporting and Records System replacement; Two Mobile Surveillance Units; and eight Park Police Officers.

Jose De La Cruz stated that the Office of Innovation examined SAPD to enhance recruitment and retention; determine resource use and equitable allocation; and plan for growth in the future. He described the history of SAPD application processing; recent recruitment efforts; and patrol staffing models and metrics. He recommended increased targeted application drives, media campaigns, referral bonuses and incentives, and the use of officer focus groups. He stated that SAPD should implement changes to balance workloads, conduct annual staffing reviews to update the staffing model, and utilize the model to determine future needs.

Chief McManus stated that 96.4% of authorized positions were filled and cadet hiring was increasing.

Mayor Nirenberg asked of the decrease in violent crime. Chief McManus replied that it was due to data-driven, targeted enforcement.

Councilmember Treviño expressed support for SAPD's Mental Health Programs and cross-organizational partnerships and asked of the cadet graduation rate. Chief McManus replied that attrition averaged 20%. Councilmember Treviño expressed support for the proposed customer service technology and asked if it would be offered in Spanish. Chief McManus replied that responses would be provided in Spanish if needed.

Councilmember Courage asked of the decision to hire and assign staff on a workload basis rather than based on population. Mrs. Sculley replied that the population, geography, performance measures, and national best practices were considered when selecting staffing methods.

Councilmember Pelaez suggested collaboration with the Office of Innovation to address panhandling.

Councilmember Viagran asked why an additional Substation on the South Side was not being recommended. Chief McManus replied that the demographics did not support the addition of a Substation in the area. Councilmember Viagran requested additional patrols and overlapping coverage as well as Captain's Meetings at the existing Substation.

Councilmember Saldaña requested additional patrols on the South Side and expressed support for the continuing expansion of the Explorer Program. He asked that additional Mental Health Professionals be hired at the Center for Health Care Services.

Councilmember Sandoval expressed support for the implementation of customer service technology and asked if constituent comments were used to develop it. Chief McManus replied that feedback would be incorporated in the evaluation phase.

Councilmember Shaw asked of youth engagement to support future recruitment. Chief McManus replied that the main SAPD youth program was Success through Respect. Councilmember Shaw expressed support for the activities of SAFFE Officers.

Councilmember Perry asked of accountability for customer service technology communications. Chief McManus replied that management performed case reviews monthly to ensure timely follow-up. Councilmember Perry asked of the anticipated timeline to fill all authorized positions. Chief McManus replied that it was unlikely that full staffing could be achieved without over-hiring. Mrs. Sculley added that patrolling needs were covered with overtime. Councilmember Perry suggested better retention methods to encourage officers to work more years and reduce vacancies due to retirement. Erik Walsh stated that staff recommended that Human Resources conduct conversations with tenured officers to encourage longer careers and determine effective retention incentives.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked staff for the presentations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 5:16 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. Settlement offer in a lawsuit styled Harris v. City of San Antonio pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Settlement offer in a lawsuit styled Rodriguez v. City of San Antonio pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Settlement offer in a lawsuit styled Carter v. City of San Antonio pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Legal issues relating to the lawsuit filed by Secure San Antonios Future, Political Action Committee against the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 624 and the City of San Antonio pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 6:04 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Paul Nutall spoke of creating the Second Chance Organization to assist people in need of better opportunities and asked the City Council to support its activities.

Mark Perez expressed concern with permitting and contracting processes.

Paul Gescheidle expressed concern with public engagement regarding the Alamo Master Plan and asked that the Cenotaph remain in place to honor History.

Lamar Henry spoke of removing Historical Monuments and asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez spoke of End Times and the Ten Commandments.

Allan Parker spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Danny Petri spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Raylon Schlueder expressed concern with the Alamo Master Plan and asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Austin Dolan, Alex Birnel, and Daniel Rubalcaba spoke in favor of the proposed Paid Sick Leave Ordinance.

Emily Stevens spoke in favor of the proposed Paid Sick Leave Ordinance.

Andrew Stevens spoke in favor of the proposed Paid Sick Leave Ordinance.

Krystal Ross asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Dustin Seiler asked that Alamo Plaza remain unchanged.

Allen Olson-Urtecho discussed recent efforts in local participatory budgeting and offered assistance to organize future efforts.

Paul Comeaux spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Antonio Diaz asked the City Council to commemorate Indigenous People's Day.

Pedro Ruiz spoke of Cuauhtémoc Day and Alamo History.

Lane Woods asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Jack M. Finger spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Karen Elliott spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Brandon Burkhardt asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Ramon Garza asked that the Cenotaph remain in place.

Michael Garza noted Councilmember Shaw's positive contributions to his Council District.

David Fry spoke in opposition to the appointment of Dr. Chichi Junda Woo as the Local Health Authority.

Rhett Smith asked that Citizens to be Heard be broadcast to the public and requested clarity from law enforcement regarding parking violations.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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