

## MINUTES

### REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to order.**  
Mayor Danner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Quorum check.**  
Mayor James W. Danner, Councilman John McAnelly, Councilman Eric Torres, Councilman John Villa, Councilman Bobby Vela, City Attorney Jessie Lopez, City Manager Kim Davis, City Secretary Miguel Cantu  
  
**Absent:** Mayor Pro Tem Ann-Michelle Long  
  
**Staff present:** Police Chief Brian Valenzuela, Economic Development Director Genevieve Flores, Director of Aviation Ryan Elder, Assistant Finance Director Dee Willman, Public Works Director David Vasquez, Assistant Public Works Director Michael Schmidt, Police Lieutenant Rick Garza, Officer Brandon Teer, Water Crew Leader Lance Ward, and Water Crew Leader Jeremiah Socarras
3. **Invocation by Reverend Lonnie Phillips, First United Methodist Church.**
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Mayor Danner.
5. **Citizens' Comments**  
No comments made.
6. **Discuss and consider approving the minutes November 26, 2018 Regular meeting minutes.**  
Councilman Vela moved to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Councilman McAnelly.  
Motion carried 4-0.
7. **City Manager Report(s)**
  - a. **City of Hondo Large Equipment Petting Zoo**  
Mrs. Kim Davis shared that the Large Equipment Petting Zoo was a phenomenal success for the first time to have held the project. The intent is to inspire people who don't necessarily think that college is a future career and to have the opportunity to look at heavy equipment and to recognize there are other options for careers. Mrs. Debbie Krueger, Community Project and Program Coordinator, recognized the project would best be served at the South Texas Regional Training Center (STRTC) which is holding courses in heavy equipment classes and commercial driver's license training. She hoped to inspire the community to look at the planned courses at the STRTC. The City is looking to make this an annual event with shown enthusiasm of vendors along with looking to sponsor some food and other activities at the event. Mrs. Davis continued by congratulating Mrs. Krueger and Mrs. Genevieve Flores for a job well done.
  - b. **Christmas in God's Country**  
Mrs. Davis stated that the City had a very successful event in partnership with the Hondo Area Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Davis wanted to also recognize staff groups and individuals. The City had the largest participation ever by city staff in the parade. Floats included the Police Department, Water Division, which had an operational water feature that was very impressive which won an award for Best Lighting. Also, the Executive Leadership Team entry were quite the hit being the dancing dinosaurs, the employee committee put together a float that had some families and children. The City of Hondo won first place in lighting and first place in business. Mayor Danner added that Christmas in God's Country is a fantastic event for the community and there is no way it could be a success without city staff involvement. He stated that there was a great amount of time contributed by the City employees before, during and after the event. Mayor Danner

joined the City Manager in thanking everyone and making the City Council members feel proud. Mrs. Davis concluded by adding that Mrs. Karissa Gonzalez won first place in the women's division in the Jingle Jog representing the City as well.

**c. Recognition:**

Mrs. Davis recognized Mr. John Henry Martinez, Parks & Recreation, for his 10 years of service to the city. Mr. Martinez was unable to attend the meeting; however, Officer Brandon Teer, Hondo Police Department, was asked to approach the dais to receive his recognition plaque. Officer Teer was recognized for his 10 years of service to the City of Hondo.

**d. Water Forecast as of November 30, 2018 (Jeremiah Socarras)**

Mrs. Jeremiah Socarras was asked to present the water forecast. The City of Hondo possesses an allotment of 2,645.919 acre-feet of unrestricted water. After going through the water restrictions from May to September the City decreased its usage by 18.62%. As of November 30<sup>th</sup> the City pumped 1,711.265 acre-feet for a decrease of 173.121 acre-feet from last year and a difference of 9.19%. In May the City went into Stage 1 and shortly after the city went to Stage 2 but got out of water restrictions by September. The City pumped approximately the same amount of water as the previous year contrary to the expectation of increasing usage every January- June the city pumped the same amount of water from the previous year. During the months of July to November the city pumped less than the previous year. The City pumped more than 56,000,000 gallons which is less than the previous year.

**8. Discuss and consider Resolution 324-18; abolishing the Medina County Attorney's office and create a new Judicial District State Court. (Mayor Danner)**

Mayor Danner read the Resolution 324-18 for record:

**WHEREAS**, the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial District State Court is currently comprised of Medina, Real and Uvalde Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Medina County Commissioner's Court voted unanimously on March 1, 2018 to ask the State of Texas through its State Legislators to allow Medina County to be removed from the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial District State Court and form a new judicial district state court; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner's Courts of Uvalde and Real County have also unanimously adopted resolutions to allow Medina County to be removed from the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial District State Court; and

**WHEREAS**, Medina County currently has a County Attorney's office that prosecutes for the County Court at Law, the four Justice of the Peace courts and the Juvenile court; and

**WHEREAS**, with the passing of legislation to create a new District Court in Medina County, Medina County will have its own District Attorney's office for Medina County along with the County Attorney's office; and

**WHEREAS**, Medina County has researched the feasibility of creating a Criminal District Attorney's office and abolishing the County Attorney's office; and;

**WHEREAS**, it is common in the State of Texas for larger counties to create a Criminal District Attorney's office to handle all prosecutorial and civil matters for the county; and;

**WHEREAS**, Medina County believes it will save as much as \$178,000 by creating the Criminal District Attorney's office with the creation of the new district court and in addition, gain many more efficiencies and increased revenues to the courts by

having all prosecutorial duties as well as county civil matters under the same office; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hondo through its City Council, is in agreement that the creation of a new Judicial District which will include the creation of a Criminal District Attorney's office in Medina County will greatly improve the speed and quality of justice to the citizens of Hondo, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2018, the Commissioner's Court of Medina County unanimously approved a resolution asking the State Legislators to pass legislation that will create a new judicial district encompassing only Medina County: and

**WHEREAS**, on November 21, 2018, the Commissioner's Court of Medina County, unanimously approved a resolution asking the State Legislators to pass legislation that will create a Criminal District Attorney's office in conjunction with the creation of the new district court and, to abolish the Medina County Attorney's Office.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Hondo supports the Resolution adopted on November 21, 2018 by the Medina County Commissioner's Court asking the State of Texas through its State Legislators to pass legislation that will create a Criminal District Attorney's office in conjunction with the creation of the new district court and to abolish the county attorney's office once the Criminal District Attorney's office is created.

Mayor Danner emphasized the paragraph *the City of Hondo through its City Council, is in agreement that the creation of a new Judicial District which will include the creation of a Criminal District Attorney's office in Medina County will greatly improve the speed and quality of justice to the citizens of Hondo, Texas*; adding that Chief Valenzuela supports the Resolution. Councilman McAnelly wanted it be clear that passing of the Resolution was for efficiency. Councilman Vela moved to approve Resolution 324-18. Motion was seconded by Councilman McAnelly. Motion carried 4-0.

**9. Discuss and consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Vemeer for the purchase of a McLaughlin 50 HP Vac-tron in the amount of \$67,075. (Lance Ward)**

Mr. Lance Ward stated his division was given the task of obtaining three bids for any equipment purchased for \$50,000 or more. He stated they had received three quotes and felt the recommendation of Vemeer was the best product for City funds. Mr. Ward stated that the approved 2018-2019 budget shows the purchase for a new Vac-tron (Hydro excavation) machine as a capital outlay for the Water Division. The new Vac-tron will allow a 2<sup>nd</sup> crew to operate more efficiently. Staff requested quotes and demonstrations from various vendors. After comparing performance and price the Water Division recommended the purchase of the McLaughlin 50HP from Vermeer. Mr. Ward reflected on Mr. Socarras presentation regarding the decrease in water pumpage and how the City had saved quite a bit of water. Mr. Ward felt this was partially due to a contribution of the Water Department by fixing leaks throughout the city. A new Vactron could potentially decrease more in the future. Mr. Ward asked for Council to approve and authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Vemeer for the purchase of the McLaughlin 50 HP Vac-tron in the amount of \$67,075. Mayor Danner asked if the bid was consistent with what the Department was looking for. Mr. Ward confirmed it was. Councilman Villa asked why there was a large difference between the approval bid in comparison to the other companies and did the requested machine have everything the Department needed. Mr. Ward stated the machine was top of the line and even better than the equipment in other bids. Mr. Ward added that it was an amazing machine. Councilman Villa informed Mr. Ward that the reason he was asking is because it was an \$11,000 difference. Mr. Ward added that when they tried to work with the other companies they started to remove some operational functions on the machine. Councilman Villa asked if the machine was the same brand and same model and Mr. Ward stated it was equivalent to what the City currently owned. Councilman McAnelly asked if the service from Vermeer was comparable to the other

companies. Mr. Ward stated that the service was comparable. Mayor Danner asked and Mr. Ward confirmed Vermeer would properly train staff on the machine. Councilman McAnelly moved to approve an agreement with Vermeer. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela. Motion carried 4-0.

**10. Discuss and consider awarding an engineering service(s) contract, with M&S Engineering, a state registered engineer, for services in regard to the City's proposed Texas Development Block Grant (2019-20 TxCDBG) for a water and/or sewer improvement project. (David Vasquez)**

Mr. Vasquez informed the Council that the City of Hondo regularly utilizes funding available from the Texas Department of Agriculture via the Texas Community Development Block Grant Funds for the purpose of repairing and improving infrastructure. The City is eligible to apply for a grant through this program in February 7, 2019 for the 2019-20 TxCDBG.

The City has ongoing projects for the repair, rehabilitation and improvement of the local water and waste water systems. In pursuit of the funds the City has allowed to solicit proposals for engineering services and administrative services (Langford Community Management Services) on a pre and post award basis. This means the City could contract with support service companies in anticipation of the grant and continue the contract without another solicitation for the same services after the grant is approved. To secure such services the City staff has advertised and solicited requests for qualifications in anticipation of the Grant award. Eight (8) proposals for Engineering Services were received and evaluated by a group of four (4) individuals – one elected official and three employees.

The financial impact to the City of Hondo will be minimal since the cost of Engineering Services would be covered with CDBG grant proceeds other than some matching funds. The structure of the grant process now allows for contracting on a Pre and Post award basis. This means the City could contract in anticipation of a grant award and continue with the same contractor without another solicitation for proposals. It is staff's understanding that the City will not be responsible for any costs in the event of a non-award.

City staff recommended contracting for engineering services with M&S Engineering. Mayor Danner asked if the project would take place in 2019. Mrs. Davis stated the project would be awarded in 2019 but construction would not take place until 2020. The engineering firm would help to specify the area where the project would take place with consideration to the household income guidelines from the Texas Department of Agriculture. The city would look to focus on 11<sup>th</sup> Street to 13<sup>th</sup> Street between N Street and P Street. The city would camera the sewer lines in the area since both previous projects have been on water projects. Councilman Villa questioned the financial impact the city would incur. Mrs. Davis informed Council that the City is looking to hire the engineer who would help with the proposal and design process. There is no cost to the city unless the grant is awarded. Then the city would receive \$330,000 grant and the city's portion is 10% match. Mayor Danner stated the city has been fortunate to be awarded these grants for the past few years.

Councilman Villa moved to approve engineering services with M&S Engineering. Motion was seconded Councilman Vela. Motion carried 4-0.

**11. Discuss and consider the proposed appointment recommendations to the City of Hondo Golf Advisory Board. (Mayor Danner).**

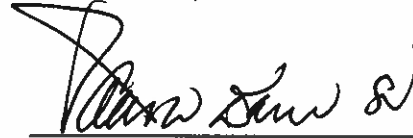
Mayor Danner stated that all six of the members of the Golf Course Advisory board had appointment terms which expired in November. The current members are Kristen Muennink, Steven Tapia, Danny Sandoval, Dallas Taylor, Chris Rosa, and Jess Hagen. All have agreed to be reappointed to additional two year terms except for Danny Sandoval who had indicated time restraints. Mayor Danner recommended the reappointment of the remaining five current members which would bring the appointees in line with the Ordinance covering the board which only allows for five members.

Also, Councilman Torres, since the board since the board was initiated, has been the Council liaison to the board and Mayor Danner recommended his reappointment. Councilman Torres agreed to be the liaison and stated that the five recommended appointees were very committed to the board.

Councilman McAnelly moved to approve the appointment of Kristin Muennink, Steven Tapia, Dallas Taylor, Chris Sosa, and Jess Hagen to the Golf Course Advisory Board, and reappointment of Councilman Torres as the liaison. Motion seconded by Councilman Vela. Motion carried 4-0.

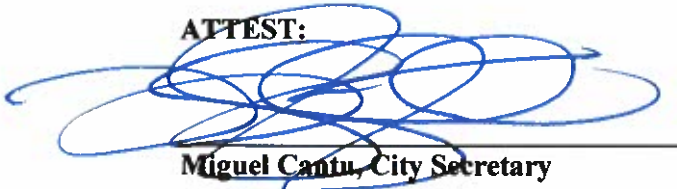
12. Executive Session: The City Council of the City of Hondo convened into Executive Session at 6:27 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 6:40 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, *Section 551.071* (Consultations with Attorney) on matters in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly requires discussion in closed session); Pending or contemplated litigation; *Section 551.072* (Deliberations about Real Property); *Section 551.087* (Deliberations Regarding Economic Development Negotiations)
- a. Discussion regarding potential lease, purchase or value of real property.
  - b. Discussion regarding potential lease/sale of property located at the South Texas Regional Airport.
13. **Discuss and consider appropriate action resulting from Executive Session.**  
No action taken.
14. **Adjourn.**  
Councilman Vela moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman McAnelly. Motion carried 4-0.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.**



**JAMES W. DANNER, SR., MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**



**Miguel Cantu, City Secretary**

