

City of Alpine
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 20, 2024 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER.**

A. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

C. Determination of a Quorum and Proof of Notice of the Meeting.

Board Members Present:

Mayor Catherine Eaves

Councilor Reagan Stone, *present virtually*

Councilor Eva Olivas

Councilor Darin Nance

Councilor Lucy Escovedo

Councilor Rick Stephens

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:

Megan Antrim, City Manager

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary

Christopher Gad, City Attorney

Darrel Losoya, Chief of Police

Abel Hinojos, Airport Supervisor

Robert Ruckes, Building Official

Chris Ruggia, Director of Tourism

Not Present: None.

Others Present: Approximately 6 others.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Each person in attendance who desires to speak to the City Council on an item on the agenda shall speak during this section, or at one singular agenda item. A Public Comment Card must be filled out and turned in to the City Secretary at least 5 minutes prior to the start time of the meeting. The Public Comment Card may be filled out at www.cityofalpine.com/councilcomments. Public comments may be made regarding agenda items only. Attendees must be physically present in order to address the City Council. Comments by proxy are not allowed. Public Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person. Unused time may not be yielded to other attendees. Please note that the City Council may only take action on items posted on the agenda. The Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Council from deliberating or taking action on an item not listed on the agenda. City Staff may ask commenters clarifying questions, respond with facts, and explain policy.

Public Comments: None.

3. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

At this time, the Mayor will invite members of the public to address each item listed in this section. Comments made during this section are limited to the topic of each public hearing. Attendees must be physically present in order to address the City Council. Comments by proxy are not allowed. Public Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person. Unused time may not be yielded to other attendees. If more than one public hearing is being held, each person will be allowed to speak during each topic.

Open (5:32 P.M.)

- A. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-08-01, an ordinance amending Appendix C – Zoning to the Alpine Code of Ordinances; Amending Appendix C – Zoning to remove the provision that provides the ability for the City Council or the Planning & Zoning Commission to initiate a spot zoning, or non-contiguous, zoning designation, with exceptions; amending the application fee from \$250 to \$350.

Public Comments: None.

- B. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-08-02, an ordinance memorializing the city ward designations for properties annexed into the city limits of Alpine; Providing Findings of Fact, Repealer, Severability, Effective Date, Proper Notice, and Hearing clauses.

Public Comments: None.

Close (5:33 P.M.)

4. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS.**

- A. Presentations & Recognitions
- B. Proclamations
- C. Community Interest Items
 - i) Mayor Announcements
 - ii) City Manager Announcements
 - iii) Council Member Announcements

5. **CHANGES TO POSTED AGENDA.**

NOTICE: *The City Council reserves the right to change the order of business at any time during the meeting. To change the order of business a motion, a second, and a majority vote is required.*

- A. **Items to be continued or withdrawn.** Items may be continued to the next City Council meeting or withdrawn from consideration during this agenda. Items to be continued or withdrawn require a motion, a second, and a majority vote.
- B. **Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion.** Items may be withdrawn from the consent agenda by a simple request by the Mayor or any City Council member. *Items removed from the consent agenda* will be considered in the Items withdrawn from the consent agenda section directly after approval of the items not requiring separate discussion.

Councilor Darin Nance requested that Item D be removed from the consent agenda for separate discussion.

- C. **Action items to be added to the consent agenda.** Adding action items to the consent agenda must be requested by the Mayor or any City Council member and requires a motion, a second, and a majority vote.
- D. **Time-Sensitive Items.** The Mayor, any City Council Member, or a member of City Staff may request that time-sensitive items be considered during that section.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

- A. Approval of August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)
- B. Approval of the appointment of Judy Stokes to the Place 1 position on the Animal Advisory Board. (R. Stone, City Council)
- C. Approve payment of the July 2024 monthly billing summary for Bojorquez Law Firm services. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
- D. Approve Order 2024-08-01 - Amended, an order amending a typographical error in the 2024 November Special Election order. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-23: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

7. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

RESOLUTION 2024-08-24: On a motion by Councilor Darin Nance and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve the order with the amendments discussed the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

8. **REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS.**

Presentations are limited to 6 minutes each. A bell will ring when the 6-minute timeframe has been reached. If further time is needed the presentation may be extended an additional 4 minutes at the discretion of the presiding officer. After the initial period and extension have passed, the presentation may be extended further by a motion, a second, and a majority vote of the City Council.

- A. July 2024 Office of the City Secretary (OCS) Report including Legislative Services, City Council Activities, Board & Commissions Activities, Public Information, and Departmental Statistics and Updates. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)

9. **INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

The Presiding Officer, Mayor Catherine Eaves, advised the City Council that a rule was being implemented to limit discussion to 3-minutes per City Council Member. Additionally, each member would receive an additional two minutes of discussion after each member was able to use their 3-minute discussion.

- A. Discussion regarding the formation of a Chamber of Commerce. (C. Eaves, Mayor)

Phillip Carey and Conley Rasor presented the benefits of forming a Chamber of Commerce.

RESOLUTION 2024-08-25: On a motion by Councilor Reagan Stone and seconded by Councilor Darin Nance to remove the three-minute time limit rule imposed by the presiding officer, the City Council voted to adopt the motion with the Council voting in the following manner:

Councilor Eva Martinez: Against
Councilor Darin Nance: For
Councilor Lucy Escovedo: Against
Councilor Reagan Stone: For
Councilor Rick Stephens: For

- B. Discuss the Property Tax Rate & Appraised Values/Tax Roll. (M. Antrim, City Manager)
- C. Discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

*Mayor Eaves called a short recess. (7:00 P.M.)
The meeting resumed. (7:10 P.M.)*

- D. Discuss the vacation, abandonment, and sale of City property procedures and requirements, including utility easements. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

10. **ACTION ITEMS.**

Action items are to be accompanied by a brief statement of facts, including where funds are coming from, if applicable. (Action items limited to 10 per meeting).

- A. Approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-08-01, an ordinance amending Appendix C – Zoning to the Alpine Code of Ordinances; Amending Appendix C – Zoning to remove the provision that provides the ability for the City Council or the Planning & Zoning Commission to initiate a spot zoning, or non-contiguous, zoning designation, with exceptions; amending the application fee from \$250 to \$350. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-26: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- B. Approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-08-02, an ordinance memorializing the city ward designations for properties annexed into the city limits of Alpine; Providing Findings of Fact, Repealer, Severability, Effective Date, Proper Notice, and Hearing clauses. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-27: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- C. Approve Resolution 2024-08-23, a resolution of the City Council amending approving Appendix A: Utilities Fees; Setting the rates and fees for City Utility Services for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-28: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- D. Approve Resolution 2024-08-24, a resolution approving the recommended Hotel Occupancy Tax Grant Awards from the Hotel Occupancy Tax Committee for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-29: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve as presented, the City Council adopted the motion with all members voting in favor, excluding Councilor Darin Nance who abstained due to a conflict of interest.

- E. Approve Resolution 2024-08-25, a resolution authorizing the renewal of the City of Alpine employee health insurance, dental insurance, and vision insurance benefits for the fiscal year 2024-2025. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-30: On a motion by Councilor Darin Nance and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- F. Approve payment of \$47,840.00 from Texas Class Capital Improvements Reserve Fund for the City's required matching amount for TxDOT project TA23 City of Alpine Mobility Plan Grant. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-31: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to approve as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

RESOLUTION 2024-08-32: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to take the meeting past 9:00 P.M., the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

The Mayor called a 5-minute recess (8:20 P.M.)

The meeting resumed. (8:26 P.M.)

11. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS.**

Executive reports are limited to 10 minutes each.

City Mayor Report

City Manager Report

- i) Update on Water Infrastructure

- ii) Update on Wastewater Infrastructure
- iii) Update on Street Infrastructure
- iv) Update on Employee Compensation Plan and Actions
- v) Update on Comprehensive Plan
- vi) Update on Utility Billing

12. **CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS.**

***NOTICE:** The City Council reserves the right to reconvene, recess, realign, change the order of business, or adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of the meeting prior to adjournment, to discuss any item listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.087 (development).*

RESOLUTION 2024-08-33: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to recess into executive session to discuss the posted items, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion. **(8:34 P.M.)**

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

- A. Consultation with Attorney § 551.071, Texas Government Code
 - i) Discuss Customs and Border Protection Hangar Lease Renewal.
 - ii) Discuss the possible sale and/or acquisition of property for long-term overall city goals and planning, including city owned structures. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

14. **ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

RESOLUTION 2024-08-33: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Darin Nance to move into regular session, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion. **(8:47 P.M.)**

- A. Action, if any, concerning any of the items listed in executive session. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2024-08-34: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to take no action, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

15. **ADJOURN.**

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Catherine Eaves, *Mayor*

Geoffrey R. Calderon, TRMC
City Secretary & Chief Governance Officer

CERTIFICATION

I, Geoffrey R. Calderon, do hereby certify that this notice was posted at City Hall, in a convenient and readily accessible place to the general public, and on the City website at www.cityofalpine.com/agenda pursuant to Section 551.043, Texas Government Code. The said notice was posted by 2:00 P.M. on August 16, 2024, and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the said meeting.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL
this 16th day of August, 2024



Geoffrey R. Calderon, TRMC
City Secretary & Chief Governance Officer

