City of Alpine
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Catherine Eaves called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The meeting took place in City Council Chambers located at 803 W. Holland Avenue and by Zoom video conference. Mayor Eaves led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flags.

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.

City Council Members Present:
Councilor Reagan Stone
Councilor Darin Nance
Councilor Lucy Escovedo
Councilor Rick Stephens
Mayor Catherine Eaves

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:
Megan Antrim, City Manager
Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary
Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney
Darrell Losoya, Chief of Police
Victoria Sanchez, Director of Finance
Carmen Rodriguez, Cust. Serv. Supervisor
Abel Hinojos, Airport Supervisor

Not Present:
Councilor Eva Martinez

Others Present: 3 other attendees.

Mayor Eaves announced that a quorum of the City Council was present at the City Council Chambers and City Secretary, Geoffrey Calderon, reported that the meeting agenda was posted by 2:00 P.M. on February 14, 2025.

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. 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.

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.

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.

      RESOLUTION 2025-02-19: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens seconded by Councilor Darin Nance to combine items 10A and 10B, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

   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 Removed from the Consent Agenda* portion of the meeting directly after approval of the items not requiring separate discussion.

      No items were 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.

      No items were added to the consent agenda.

   D. **Time-Sensitive Items.** The Mayor, any City Council Member, or a member of City Staff may, by simple request, ask that time-sensitive items be considered during that section.

      No items were added to the time-sensitive items section of the agenda.

6. **TIME SENSITIVE ITEMS.**

7. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

A. Approval of the February 4, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. (G. Calderon, City Secretary)

B. January 2025 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)

C. Approve payment of January 2025 monthly billing summary for Bojorquez Law Firm services. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

D. Approval of a Letter of Support for the 2025 Keep Texas Beautiful Affiliate Annual Recognition - Gold Star Level. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-02-20: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Reagan Stone to approve the consent agenda as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

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

9. **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. Alpine Volunteer Fire Department Update from Chief James Etcheson. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

Alpine Volunteer Fire Department Chief & Brewster County Emergency Management Coordinator, James Etchison, provided an update to the City Council.

B. Utility Software Presentation by Carmen Rodriguez, Customer Clerk Supervisor. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-02-21: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to extend the utility billing presentation past 10 minutes, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

Carmen Rodriguez, Customer Service Clerk Supervisor, presented to the City Council regarding utility software.

Mayor Eaves called a short recess. **(6:34 P.M.)**
The meeting resumed. **(6:39 P.M.)**

10. **INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

A. Discuss attendance at City of Alpine Boards and Commissions meetings, the impact of lack of quorum for the meetings, and strategies for ensuring City Council has the advice and input representing the Alpine residents on key items for Council consideration. (R Stephens, City Council)

B. Discuss changing the ordinances for City of Alpine boards and commissions to remove the requirement from having formal meetings and quorum requirements so that the boards and commissions can meet in a workshop environment in order to provide timely advice and recommendations to Council. They would continue to have the requirement of following an agenda. This would apply to all boards and commissions with the exception of the Building and Standards commission because it is a judicial body. (R. Stephens, City Council)

C. Discuss the nomination of board members to the Brewster County Appraisal Board. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

11. **<u>ACTION ITEMS.</u>**
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 Resolution, 2025-02-17, authorizing the City Animal Control Department to participate in the Kong grant program. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-02-22: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to approve Resolution 2025-02-17 authorizing the City Animal Control Department to participate in the Kong grant program, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

B. Approve Resolution 2025-02-18, a resolution to support an application for funding from Brewster County for grant funding, and with selection, the development and completion of a Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) through the united states forest service (USFS) under the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Wildfire Defense Program (CWDG). (R. Stephens, City Council)

RESOLUTION 2025-02-23: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Darin Nance to approve the resolution as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

C. Approve the nomination of members to the Brewster County Appraisal District Board. (M. Antrim, City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-02-24: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Lucy Escovedo to nominate Betty Jo Rooney to be a member of the Brewster County Appraisal District Board, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion with all members present voting in favor.

12. **<u>EXECUTIVE REPORTS.</u>**
Executive reports are limited to 10 minutes each. The City Council may hold a discussion during this

section regarding any item listed on the agenda. No action may take place regarding report items, unless specified on the agenda.

City Mayor Report

City Manager Report

13. **CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS.**

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
__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).

15. **ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

16. **ADJOURN.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. **(7:13 P.M.)**

APPROVED:

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Catherine Eaves, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

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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 pursuant to Section 551.043, Texas Government Code. The said notice was posted by 2:00 P.M. on February 14, 2025, and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the said meeting.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL
this 14th day of February, 2025.

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

CITY OF ALPINE BREWSTER COUNTY TEXAS