

City Of Alpine
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 19, 2025 – 5:30 PM
Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Catherine Eaves called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The meeting was held at City Council Chambers located at 803 West Holland Avenue and via Zoom Videoconference in the City of Alpine, Texas. 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 Lucy Escovedo
Councilor Rick Stephens
Mayor Catherine Eaves
Councilor Eva Martinez
Councilor Richard Portillo
Councilor Robert Rückes

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary &
Interim City Manager
Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney
Darrell Losoya, Chief of Police
Abel Hinojos, Airport Supervisor
Jessica Isley, Building Official
Michael Maciaz, Director of Utilities

Not Present: None.

Others Present: 7 others

Mayor Eaves announced that a quorum of the City Council was present at the City Council Chambers and Interim City Manager, Geoffrey Calderon, reported that the meeting agenda was posted by 3:00 P.M. on August 13, 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.

Open (5:31 P.M.)

- A. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the second and final reading of Ordinance 2025-08-01, an ordinance approving Rezone Application 2025-08-01; Amending the official zoning map of the city by rezoning the property located at 601 S. Walker and legally described as Lots No. Three (3), Four (4), and Five (5), Block Forty-Nine (49), Hancock Addition (South of the Railroad) to the City of Alpine, Brewster County, Texas, as the same appears in the Plat Records of Brewster County, Texas; Rezoning the subject property from R-4 Mixed Residential District to C-0 Office Services District; Providing Findings of Fact, Repealer, Severability, Effective Date, Proper Notice, and Hearing Clauses.

Public Comments: None.

- B. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding Resolution 2025-08-20, a resolution approving the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan.

Public Comments: None.

Close (5:32 P.M.)

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS.

- A. Presentations & Recognitions
- B. Proclamations
 - i) Proclamation National Aviation Day for Tue, Aug 19, 2025. (C. Eaves, Mayor)
- 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.

No items were continued or withdrawn.

- 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 action 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 time-sensitive items were added.

6. **TIME SENSITIVE ITEMS.**

7. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

- A. Approval of the August 5, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)
- B. Approval of the July 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, Interim City Manager)
- C. Approval of the July 2025 invoice for Bojorquez Law Firm Services. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-21: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rücker to approve the consent agenda, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

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 Etchison. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

10. **INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. Discussion regarding the upkeep of fire hydrants and possibly utilizing the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department for providing required upgrades to fire hydrants within the City. (R. Ruckes, City Council)
- B. Discussion regarding relocation or possible donation of a city-owned shipping container to the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department. (R. Ruckes, City Council)
- C. Discuss implications of the current flood plain on Alpine property and consider alternative actions. (R. Stephens, City Council)
- D. Discuss the frequency of the Alpine City Judge report and key elements for that report. (R. Stephens, City Council)
- E. Discuss the concept of City/County cooperation to create a “regional fire fighting training center” at the old fire fighting training center. (R. Stephens, City Council)

11. **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 2025-08-01, an ordinance approving Rezone Application 2025-08-01; Amending the official zoning map of the city by rezoning the property located at 601 S. Walker and legally described as Lots No. Three (3), Four (4), and Five (5), Block Forty-Nine (49), Hancock Addition (South of the Railroad) to the City of Alpine, Brewster County, Texas, as the same appears in the Plat Records of Brewster County, Texas; Rezoning the subject property from R-4 Mixed Residential District to C-0 Office Services District; Providing Findings of Fact, Repealer, Severability, Effective Date, Proper Notice, and Hearing Clauses. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-22: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

- B. Approve Resolution 2025-08-18, a resolution approving and adopting updates to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Alpine, Texas; Making certain findings; Finding compliance with the Open Meetings Law; and Providing an Effective Date thereof. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-23: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to approve, discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 2025-08-24: Councilor Rick Stephens moved to amend the original motion to exclude 504 N. Bird. Councilor Robert Rückes seconded the motion. The City Council unanimously adopted the motion. The City Council subsequently adopted the original motion as amended.

- C. Approve Resolution 2025-08-19, a resolution approving the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-25: On a motion by Councilor Robert Rückes and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve, the City Council adopted the motion with all members voting in favor, excluding Councilor Rick Stephens and Councilor Lucy Escovedo who voted to oppose adoption of the motion.

- D. Approve Resolution 2025-08-20, a resolution authorizing participation as a Texas Political Subdivision in the Opioid Settlement Agreements pursuant to the Texas Term Sheet; Authorizing the City Manager to execute settlement participation and release forms for current and future settlements; and providing an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-26: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

- E. Approval of the Building Services and Environmental Services Job Descriptions:

- Building Official
- Code Enforcement Officer
- Permit Technician
- Environmental Services Administrator
- Recycling Technician

(G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-27: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion.

- F. Approve award of bid responsive to RFP 2025-08-01, a request for proposals for Partial Self-Insured Funded & Fully Funded Medical Plans. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-28: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve, discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 2025-08-29: Councilor Rick Stephens moved to amend the original motion to include approval of the award of the partial self-funded and fully funded medical plan to go to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas. Richard Portillo seconded the motion. The City Council unanimously adopted the motion. The City Council subsequently approved the original motion as amended.

12. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS.**

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

- B. **City Manager Report:** Employee Compensation; Streets; Water; Wastewater, Budget; Grants; Information Technology & Cybersecurity; Utility Billing Software Transition; Requests for Proposals; Smart Meters; Pending Projects.

13. **CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS.**

RESOLUTION 2025-08-30: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to recess into executive session, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt the motion. **(6:50 P.M.)**

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).*

A. Consultation with Attorney § 551.071, Texas Government Code:

- a. Letter of Demand - Living Trust of James Distel. (R. Stephens, City Council)
- b. Review and discuss the Texas Disposal Systems contract terms. (R. Stephens, City Council)

Personnel Matters § 551.074, Texas Government Code

- a. Review and discuss applicants for City Manager and narrow the list of candidates for consideration. (R. Stephens, City Council)
- b. Operational, Finance, and Personnel Discussions and Considerations to ensure that the City Council and the City Manager are aligned. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

15. **ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

RESOLUTION 2025-08-31: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to move into regular session, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion. **(8:20 P.M.)**

- A. Action, if any, concerning any of the items listed in executive session. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-08-32: Councilor Rick Stephens moved that no action should be taken after executive session. Councilor Robert Rückes seconded the motion. The City Council voted to adopt the motion with all members voting in favor.

16. **ADJOURN.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Eaves. (8:20 P.M.)

APPROVED:

Catherine Eaves, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

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 3:00 P.M. on August 13, 2025, and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the said meeting.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL

this 13th day of August, 2025.

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

