

City Of Alpine
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, November 4, 2025 – 4:00 PM
Minutes

1. **WORKSHOP MEETING - 4:00 P.M.**

- A. Workshop to review the 2025-2026 Budget and determine necessary amendments. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

Mayor Catherine Eaves called the workshop meeting to order at 4:00 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.

City Council Members Present:

Mayor Catherine Eaves
Councilor Eva Martinez
Councilor Rick Stephens
Councilor Richard Portillo
Councilor Robert Rückes

City Staff and Stakeholders Present:

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary
& Interim City Manager
Victoria Sanchez, Director of Finance
Mike Maciaz, Director of Utilities
Randy Guzman, Director of Gas Utilities

Not Present:

Councilor Lucy Escovedo

Others Present: None.

2. **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:

Mayor Catherine Eaves
Councilor Lucy Escovedo
Councilor Rick Stephens
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
Victoria Sanchez, Director of Finance
Jessica Isley, Building Official

Not Present: None.

Others Present: 8 others.

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 October 29, 2025.

3. **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.

Public Comments: Dale Jenkins, ward 5, addressing the City Council on the Streets Item in the City Manager Report.

4. **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 (5:34 P.M.)

- A. Public Hearing to obtain citizen views and comments regarding the first and final reading of Ordinance 2025-10-01, an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to appropriate funds for water infrastructure improvements; providing for the following clauses: Findings of Fact, Cumulative, Proper Notice and Meeting, and Effective Date.

Public Comments: None.

Close (5:35 P.M.)

5. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS.**

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

6. **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.

Councilor Richard Portillo requested that Consent Agenda Item B be withdrawn.

RESOLUTION 2025-11-07: On a motion by Councilor Richard Portillo and seconded by Councilor Eva Martinez to withdraw Consent Agenda Item B and to nominate Dr. Jessica Velasco for the Parks and Recreation Board, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

Interim City Manager, Geoffrey R. Calderon, announced that official consideration of Jessica Velasco would be scheduled for the November 18, 2025 City Council meeting.

- 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 time sensitive items were added.

7. **TIME SENSITIVE ITEMS.**

8. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

- A. Approval of the October 21, 2025 Workshop & Regular Meeting Minutes (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)
- B. Approval of the appointment of Kim Keith to the Place 1 position Parks and Recreation Board. (R. Portillo, City Council)
- C. Approval of the appointment of Ariana Valenzuela to the Place 3 position on the Parks and Recreation Board. (R. Rückes, City Council)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-08: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve the consent agenda as presented for items A & C, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

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

10. **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. Update regarding the status of the Old Schoolhouse by Kirsten Moody of Alpine Community Projects. (R. Stephens, City Council)

11. **INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. Discussion with Sul Ross Professor Jeanne Qvarnstrom regarding City funding for the Read aloud Celebration program at Sul Ross State University. (C. Eaves, Mayor)
- B. Discussion regarding collaborative efforts between the City and the Alpine Independent School District for improvements and joint use of the Manuel Payne field at Kokernot Park. (C. Eaves, Mayor)
- C. Discuss implementing a vacant building ordinance and/or program to address long-term vacant structures in Alpine, using the City of San Antonio's model as a reference. (C. Eaves, Mayor)
- D. Discuss potential updates to Appendix A: Utilities fee schedule as previously adopted and amended by Ordinance 2021-01-02, Ordinance 2021-04-04, and subsequent resolutions. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

Mayor Eaves called for a short break (7:10 P.M.)

The meeting resumed (7:16 P.M.)

12. **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 first and final reading of Ordinance 2025-10-01, an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to appropriate funds for water infrastructure improvements; providing for the following clauses: Findings of Fact, Cumulative, Proper Notice and Meeting, and Effective Date. (R. Stephens, City Council)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-09: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve the first and final reading of ordinance 2025-10-01, an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to appropriate funds for water infrastructure improvements; providing for the following clauses: Findings of Fact, Cumulative, Proper Notice and Meeting and Effective date as amended by eliminating item 2 of the

amendment which is lead and copper rules compliance at \$100,000, removing item 4, Upper Hill/ Lower Hill Pump Station which is \$50,000.00 and amending item 3, Clay valve system repairs to be \$100,000.00 for total budget amendment of \$1 million dollars, the City Council adopted the amendment unanimously and then subsequently adopted the original motion as amended.

- B. Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-11-01, an Ordinance amending Chapter 23 – City Council of the Alpine Code of Ordinances; Amending Article II – Rules of Procedure by Amending Agenda Deadlines for City Council Meetings and by Adding Section 23-8(d) to Authorize the Mayor to Sign Certain Letters of Support That Do Not Obligate City Funds or Commit City Resources, Relate to Projects or Initiatives That Benefit the Community or Promote Intergovernmental or Community Partnerships, and Are Subsequently Placed on the Consent Agenda for City Council Approval; Providing Cumulative and Severability Clauses; Providing for the Following Clauses: Findings of Fact, Inclusion in the Code of Ordinances, Cumulative, Severability, Proper Notice and Meeting, Public Hearing, and Effective Date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-10: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-11-01 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- C. Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-11-02, an Ordinance amending Chapter 16 – Boards, Commissions, and Committees of the Alpine Code of Ordinances; Amending Article IV through Article IX to Provide Updates to Board Member Terms and Board Member Appointment Processes for Each City Board, Commission, and Committee; Amending Article II – Rules of Procedure by Amending Agenda Deadlines for Board Meetings; Providing Cumulative and Severability Clauses; Providing for the Following Clauses: Findings of Fact, Inclusion in the Code of Ordinances, Cumulative, Severability, Proper Notice and Meeting, Public Hearing, and Effective Date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-11: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-11-02 as presented, discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 2025-11-11A: Councilor Rick Stephens moved that all of the boards that are only named boards be renamed advisory boards. Councilor Robert Rückes seconded. The City Council unanimously adopted the amendment. The City Council subsequently adopted the original motion as amended.

- D. Approve Resolution 2025-11-01, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Alpine, Texas, Declaring Certain Accumulated Materials Located Near the Wastewater Treatment Plant as Junk/Rubbish/Debris; Authorizing Disposition of Materials as Surplus or Salvageable Property; Determining That the Condition Constitutes a Public Nuisance; Directing Abatement and Authorizing the Orderly Disposition of Such Materials. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-12: On a motion by Councilor Robert Rückes and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve resolution 2025-11-01 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- E. Approve Resolution 2025-11-02, a resolution appointing a representative to the Board of Directors of the Brewster County Appraisal District for a full two-year term; Providing background and context, and providing an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-13: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve someone to the Brewster County Appraisal District Board of Directors, discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 2025-11-13A: Councilor Rick Stephens made a motion to make an amendment and appoint Councilor Eva Martinez, it was seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes. The City Council adopted the amendment unanimously and then subsequently adopted the original motion as amended.

- F. Approve resolution 2025-11-03, a resolution amending Appendix D: Administrative Fee schedule to the Alpine Code of Ordinances; Establishing administrative and Civic Center rental fees; And providing for an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-14: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve resolution 2025-11-03 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- G. Approve Resolution 2025-11-04, a resolution establishing Appendix E: Environmental Services Fees; Directing implementation; And providing an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-15: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve resolution 2025-11-04 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- H. Approve Resolution 2025-11-05, a resolution amending Appendix C: Animal Services Fees; Referencing prior resolutions; Directing implementation; And providing an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-16: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to approve resolution 2025-11-05 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

- I. Approve Resolution 2025-11-06, resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts for electric service on behalf of the City of Alpine; Providing for limitations, ratification requirements, and an effective date. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

RESOLUTION 2025-11-17: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Richard Portillo to approve resolution 2025-11-06 as presented, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

13. **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.

A. **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, City Manager Search.

14. **CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS.**

RESOLUTION 2025-11-18: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to move into executive session, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion. (7:57 P.M.)

15. **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:

- i. Review and discuss the Texas Disposal Systems contract terms. (R. Stephens, City Council)
- ii. Discuss Skyway Gardens II Development, the approved Development Agreement, and plan to make improvements to the Water infrastructure for the development moving forward. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

B. Personnel Matters § 551.074, Texas Government Code

- i. Discuss the City Manager vacancy and next steps to filling the position. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)
- ii. Operational, Finance, and Personnel Discussions and Considerations to ensure that the City Council and the City Manager are aligned. (G. Calderon, Interim City Manager)

16. **ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

RESOLUTION 2025-11-19: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to move into regular session, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion. (8:57 P.M.)

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

RESOLUTION 2025-11-20: On a motion by Councilor Rick Stephens and seconded by Councilor Robert Rückes to take no action, the City Council unanimously adopted the motion.

17. **ADJOURN.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Eaves. (8:57 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 2:00 P.M. on October 29, 2025, and remained so posted for at least 3 business days preceding the scheduled time of the said meeting.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL
this 29th day of October, 2025.

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

