

The City of Balcones Heights
Special City Council Meeting
3300 Hillcrest Drive
Balcones Heights, Texas 78201

MINUTES

DATE: March 13, 2006

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jim Craven Bennie Cass Suzanne de Leon
Steve Walker Lamar Gillian Bill Johnson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lanny S. Lambert Delia Flores Frank Garza
Benjamin A. Hoeffner

Others Present: Harry Lansberg Otto Moellering George Moellering
John Tarsikes John Dorsey Clemente Rocha
Rudy & Natalie Torres Josephine Gomez Renee Storrie
Todd Hemineson Raul Ibarra Lucille Wohlfarth
Ambrose J. Vince Charles Matthies Charlie J. Marin
Felipe P. Flores E. Wells Anita Herrera
Damian Herrera Anita Campbell Russell Campbell
Roland Mena Freddy Jones Battersby
Frank Mercado Cathy Craven David & E.

CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF QUORUM

Quorum present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U. S. A. AND TEXAS FLAGS

Mayor Craven gave the invocation and led pledges.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Richard Price – Judge of the 408th District Court in Bexar County came to the city council meeting to introduce himself and say hello.

George Moellering – Gave his comments on the proposed ordinance to limit cars in private driveway.

Charlie Marin – Also came up to speak on the proposed ordinance to limit cars in private driveway.

Charlie Matthies – Commented on proposed ordinance to limit cars and questioned why he had received a letter stating that he was in violation of one of the city's code regarding a trailer when he does not own or have one on his property.

Anita Herrera – Questions on publications and Code Compliance Officer.

Damian Herrera – Questions on Ozark creek flood improvements and flood maps.

Frank Mercado – Comments on parking cars in driveway.

1. PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS:

- a. Convention & Visitors Bureau Report, including Norris Conference Centers updates. (Nastasi)

Director of Tourism, Lorenzo Nastasi, gave a detailed monthly report and gave a handout to Council Members.

- b. Presentation by VIA Metropolitan Transit regarding the Bus Rapid Transit.

A representative from VIA gave City Council an update on a project that they believe will transform public transportation in this region (Bus Rapid Transit).

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 13, 2006.
- b. Approval of the February 2006 Check Register.
- c. Approval of Financial Report for month of February 2006.

MOTION: I make a motion we approve.

Motion by: Bill Johnson Second: Lamar Gillian 5/0/0 PASSED

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ACTION ITEMS:

- 3. Consideration and **ACTION** regarding payment of year 3 sales tax rebate for Target. (Miller)

City Administrator gave council an explanation of the payment for Target sales tax rebate.

MOTION: I make a motion for the resolution.

Motion by: Bill Johnson Second: Suzanne de Leon 4/0/0 PASSED

Councilman Walker was out of the room when motion was made and passed.

- 4. City Council will review, discuss and may take **ACTION** on City Treasurer's recommendations pertaining to internal control issues identified in the City's 2005 Annual Audit Report. (Miller)

City Treasurer, Roy Miller, came up to speak on the proposed recommendations on policy and procedure for internal controls and fraud protection.

No action was taken.

5. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve an ordinance to control overnight parking for storage of vehicles on public right of way. (Mayor)

MOTION: I'd like to make a motion that this ordinance be approved.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Motion failed for lack of second

6. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve an ordinance to limit the number of vehicles parked on private property. (Mayor)

MOTION: I make a motion we kill that one (to deny it).

Motion by: Steve Walker Second: Suzanne de Leon 5/0/0 PASSED

Mr. Lansberg came up to speak against the ordinance and with concerns that it will be brought back at a later date.

David Sellars had comments on opposing limiting cars and beautifying the city.

Charles Matthies came up to speak against copying other cities ordinances because they do not meet the needs of this city. He informed City Council of the need for more interaction between citizens, police, and code compliance.

7. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve a resolution regarding the Homeland Security Grant extension. (Hoeffner)

Mayor explained this resolution was needed for ratification.

MOTION: I make a motion that we accept the resolution as written.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Bill Johnson 5/0/0 PASSED

8. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve an ordinance to keep animals in a fenced area. (Gillian)

Councilman Gillian informed citizens he sponsored this ordinance for fear of attacks by animals getting loose from a rope or leash even with a chain on it. Comments were made by residents and council on this issue.

MOTION: I'd like to make a motion that we approve this ordinance with the stipulation that section 2 be stricken and sections 3, 4, and 5 be renumbered, sections 2, 3, and 4.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Bill Johnson 0/5/0 FAILED

There was some confusion on the understanding of the ordinance and City Attorney suggested the ordinance be taken back and having himself and Code Compliance Officer look at it again and bring it back at another time.

9. Consideration and **ACTION** to proclaim April 30 – May 6, 2006 “Municipal Clerks Week”.
(Mayor)

MOTION: I make a motion we approve the Mayor’s proclamation.

Motion by: Steve Walker Second: Lamar Gillian 5/0/0 PASSED

PURCHASES/BIDS/CONTRACTS:

10. Consideration and **ACTION** regarding eliminating 2 holidays from the Balcones Heights Police Officers Association contract. (Garza)

City Attorney, Frank Garza, updated City Council on the decision to eliminate 2 holidays to maintain the health benefits for all employees and the need for the Balcones Heights Police Officers Association agreement to be amended.

MOTION: I make a motion to amend the Police Officer’s Association contract.

Motion by: Suzanne de Leon Second: Bennie Cass 4/1/0 PASSED

Councilman Steve Walker – Nay vote

11. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve the Performance Work Statement for the bid process to provide Emergency Medical Services by contract to the city. (Gillian)

Councilman Lamar Gillian explained the Performance Work Statement to Council.

MOTION: I’d like to make a motion that we accept the PWS that defines the requirements of the city when we go out to contract.

Motion by: Lamar Gillian Second: Bill Johnson 5/0/0 PASSED

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

12. Discussion regarding Balcones Heights – Woodlawn Creek Project Summary. (Mayor)

John Espinosa from Halff Associates gave Council an update of the project. He also answered any questions Council had.

13. Discussion regarding VIA Lap Funds. (Lambert)

City Administrator, Lanny S. Lambert informed Council of the response letter from VIA rejecting traffic signal at Denny’s Lane and Balcones Heights Road and VIA’s recommendation of using the funds for shelters.

Suggestions were made to use funds for approaches on driveways.

14. Discussion regarding the traffic signals and speeding-traffic signal cameras for tickets on major problem areas. (Gillian/Menn)

Police Chief, Kenneth Menn, came up to speak on this issue and gave information on the traffic signal cameras. He also answered questions asked. City Administrator also explained his understanding on the traffic signal cameras.

Suggestions were made to monitor people running red lights as well as speeding.

15. Discussion regarding ideas and/or suggestions from police and fire chiefs and personnel on new and creative ways to bring more revenue to purchase items and fund new positions in their departments. (de Leon)

Councilwoman de Leon suggested Chiefs ask their personnel to make suggestions as to how revenue can be brought in to the city.

Staff was directed to create some kind of formal suggestion program and policy for all employees to be able to participate in bringing their suggestions on ways the city can save money.

Recessed into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

16. Discussion pursuant to Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) regarding City Administrators evaluation.

17. Discussion pursuant to Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) regarding Roseland Ballroom located at 100 Crossroads Blvd.

18. Consideration and **ACTION** on items discussed in Executive Session.

Reconvened in open session at 8:54 p.m.

Item 16: No action

Item 17: No action

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

City of Balcones Heights, Texas

By: _____
Delia Flores
City Secretary

Minutes were approved at the Regular City Council Meeting on April 10, 2006.