

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

MINUTES

DATE: August 9, 2010

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon (Mayor) Charles Matthies (Mayor Pro Tem)
Miguel Valverde Linda Pohl
Lamar Gillian Bennie Cass

Members Absent: none

SIGN IN SHEET: Roger Lawhead Patrick Mayo

CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF QUORUM

Mayor Pro Tem Charles Matthies called the meeting to order and quorum was present. Mayor de Leon arrived at 6:18 p.m.

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

Councilman Gillian gave the invocation and led pledges.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

1. PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS:

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

Mr. Nastasi was not able to give report due to incomplete data.

- b. Redevelopment Task Force Committee up-date. (Nastasi)

A written report was not submitted; however, Mr. Nastasi gave a brief update on a meeting attended by RTF members on July 27, 2010 and RTF discussions on improving communications between the city and business owners.

- c. Police Department Productivity Report. (Dominguez)

Police Chief Dominguez went over the written activity reports for the month of July.

- d. Development Services Coordinator Progress Report. (Cardenas)

Mrs. Cardenas updated the council with permit and code compliance activity.

- e. Update by Planning and Zoning Chairman. (Slay)

Council was given an update and a written quarterly report on Planning and Zoning activity by Chairman Slay.

- f. Oath of Office/Municipal Judge. (Mayor)

Item 2: was addressed before 1 f. to allow the Mayor to be present. Mayor arrived at 6:18 p.m. and gave the oath of office to the new Municipal Court Judge Kyle D. Bradley.

- g. Presentation of plaque to a retiring Firefighter. (Mayor)

Plaque will be presented at the regular council meeting in September 2010.

2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting of July 12, 2010.
- b. Approval of the July 2010 Check Register.
- c. Approval of Financial Report for month of July 2010.
- d. Quarterly Investment Report, 2nd Qtr. 2010.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem I would like to approve all of the items in its entirety.

Motion by: Councilman Gillian Second: Councilwoman Pohl 5/0/0 PASSED

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

- 3. Consideration and **ACTION** to appoint a new member to the Redevelopment Task Force (RTF). (Nastasi)

Application was not received in time to be included in this meeting and will be addressed at next month's meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ACTION ITEMS:

- 4. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve an Employment Testing Cooperative participation agreement. (Prince)

Fire Chief Prince came up to explain the agreement and the importance to participate with the other entities.

MOTION: I make a motion to approve.

Motion by: Councilman Matthies Second: Councilwoman Pohl 5/0/0 PASSED

5. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve funds for the 7th Annual RoQ & Ride Community Fest to be held in October. (Mayor)

Mayor recommended to table until next month if better information is provided or to not bring it back if city is not satisfied with information provided.

Councilman Gillian wants a better understanding of the propriety of the use of public funds for this type of event.

NO ACTION.

6. Consideration and **ACTION** to amend Ordinance 2002-02 regarding outdoor billboard signs. (Cardenas)

Development Services Coordinator stated the amendment to ordinance regarding billboard signs along IH 10 is to increase fees to be consistent with San Antonio.

MOTION: I make a motion to pass it.

Motion: Councilman Gillian Second: Councilman Cass 5/0/0 PASSED

7. City Council will conduct workshop on the **proposed** 2010-2011 Annual Operating Budget and the required 2010 ad valorem tax rate.

City Administrator went over the budget highlights and unfunded list. Councilman Gillian also shared some comments regarding the budget committee review.

8. City Council will review the "Truth-in-Taxation" requirements and to decide how much ad valorem tax must be levied. **{Truth -in-Taxation Step 2}**

Discussions on ad valorem tax for 2010.

9. City Council will take record vote to raise or not to raise ad valorem taxes above the lower of the calculated effective tax rate or roll-back rate. **{Truth-In-Taxation Step 3}**

Mayor called for a record vote to raise or not to raise taxes above the lower of the effective tax rate or roll back rate.

Motion was made by Councilman Gillian to not raise taxes and Seconded by Councilman Matthies followed by a record vote:

Councilman Cass – Not to raise
Councilman Gillian – Not to raise
Councilman Matthies – Not to raise

Councilwoman Pohl – Not to raise
Councilman Valverde – Not to raise

Vote was unanimous to not raise taxes above the lower of the effective or roll back rate.

10. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt a resolution in reference to red light cameras for consideration at the 2010 TML Annual Conference.

Mayor and City Attorney stated the importance of approving this resolution.

MOTION: Motion to approve.

Motion by: Councilman Matthies Second: Councilman Valverde 5/0/0 PASSED

11. Consideration and **ACTION** to approve hiring for the vacant full-time maintenance position according to our current personnel policy Section 2.05.

City Administrator stated City Council's approval was needed to hire individual presently occupying maintenance position on a temporary basis. Mr. Pate's recommendation was to hire Mr. Hill for maintenance position.

Motion: I make a motion. (to approve)

Motion by: Councilman Valverde Second: Councilman Matthies 5/0/0 PASSED

12. Consideration and ACTION to approve CDBG Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between Bexar County and the City of Balcones Heights for the reconstruction of Concord.

NO ACTION will be addressed at next meeting.

WORKSHOP:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

13. Discussion regarding the TML Region 7 quarterly business meeting/dinner.

Mayor de Leon went over the plans for the October 8, 2010 TML Region 7 quarterly meeting to be hosted by the City of Balcones Heights.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:07 p.m.

14. Discussion pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code (Attorney-Client Consultation) to discuss status of BRT project negotiations with VIA.

RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: 7:33 p.m.

15. Council may take **ACTION** regarding discussions during executive session.

NO ACTION

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by:

DELIA FLORES
City Secretary, TRMC

Minutes approved by City Council on September 13, 2010