

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

**MINUTES**

**DATE: July 27, 2015**

**TIME: 6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon (Mayor)  
Lamar Gillian  
Linda Pohl

Jack Burton (Mayor Pro Tem)  
Charles White

Members Absent: Madeline Slay

Sign in Sheet: Bill Johnson

**CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF QUORUM**

Meeting was called to order and quorum was present.

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

Councilmember White gave the invocation and led pledges.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None

**1. PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS:**

- a. National Payroll Week Proclamation (Mayor)

Mayor de Leon presented the proclamation to Karen Brown a member of the Alamo Chapter Payroll association.

- b. Update from Consultant Walter Serna. (Serna)

Item 1c was addressed before Item 1b.

Mr. Serna informed council on a meeting to be held including Sid Wiess to determine what the Mall Partners are looking for and a future meeting to include VIA.

Item 1d was addressed after 1b.

- c. Community Initiatives Department Report – June 2015 (Nastasi)

Mr. Nastasi came up and gave highlights of his report. A brochure for Balcones Lofts was also distributed.

- d. Police Department Report – June 2015 (Volz)

Police Chief Volz gave highlights of report provided and informed council that Reserve Officer John Mere was hurt on duty and will be out six months.

- e. Fire Department Report – June 2015 (Ward)

Fire Chief Ward gave highlights of the report.

- f. Community Development Report and Code Compliance Update – June 2015 (Hoyl)

Ms. Hoyl came up and gave highlights of her report.

- g. Finance Department Update (Messick)

Mr. Messick came up and gave highlights of the budget report.

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting of June 22, 2015
- b. Approval of Financial Report for month of June 2015
- c. Quarterly Investment Report – April - June 2015
- d. Approval of Lonestar Investment Pool Authorized Representatives
- e. Approval of Membership with the State of Texas CO-OP Program
- f. Approval of Commerce Bank Authorized Representatives

MOTION: I make a motion we approve in its entirety.

Motion by: Councilmember Pohl      Second: Councilmember Gillian      4/0/0      PASSED

## **BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

### **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- 3. Consideration and **ACTION** to adopt an ordinance amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 30:6 City Council Relations Policy and Code of Ethics. (White/Harris)

#### **Recommended changes/clarifications:**

- Page 5 #9 In the event that the CA is on an unexpected absence or the position is vacant, the Mayor will temporarily fill the position until council appoints an Interim.
- Clarification of three Councilmembers mentioned on page 10 and page 22
- Motion to change Section XV. City-issued Equipment (A) to the following: *Any equipment issued to the Mayor or Councilmember shall be returned immediately to the City Secretary upon vacating that position.*

- Corrections to document stated by Councilmember Gillian

Motion: I make a motion to approve. (with recommended changes)

Motion by: Councilmember Gillian Second: Councilmember Pohl 4/0/0 PASSED  
(as amended)

Motion: Motion to amend to add striking sentences “*Councilmembers being informed in all matters involving the City is one of the principle responsibilities of the Mayor’s position. Councilmembers are to be kept informed of all city business or activities which come to the Mayor’s attention, resulting in better-informed Councilmembers who will be able to contribute ideas, voice opinions, or make timely and proper decisions.*” on page 4, IIA.

Motion by: Councilmember Gillian Motion to amend failed for a lack of second

*Motion to amend striking the word “all” on page 4, IIA as follows: Councilmembers are to be kept informed of all city business or activities which come to the Mayor’s attention, resulting in better-informed Councilmembers who will be able to contribute ideas, voice opinions, or make timely and proper decisions.”*

Motion by: Councilmember White Second: Councilmember Gillian 4/0/0 PASSED

Original motion approved with recommended changes and amendment.

4. Discussion regarding holding an election to propose a reduction of local sales tax in Crime Control and propose increase of the general sales tax. (Mayor)

City Administrator recommended holding an election to eliminate Crime Control tax to increase sales tax from 1% to 1.5%. Mayor directed City Administrator to bring back at a future meeting with Pros and Cons to eliminating Crime Control.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS:**

5. Announcements by City Administrator
  - a. Citizen Kudos
    - Kudos to Chrissie Kolb for Pot Luck lunch.
  - b. Recognition of City employee actions
  - c. New Departmental Initiatives
    - TML Region 7 meeting
    - TML Annual Conference
    - Redlight Camera Coalition
6. Requests by Mayor and Council Members for items to be placed on a future City Council agenda.

- Discussion on Travis and Siesta hotels (Burton)
- Open meeting dates for Budget (White)

7. Announcements by Mayor and Council Members

- a. City and community events attended and to be attended
  - August 14<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Reine Scheer's life at Rogiers Park (Pohl)
  - Biblio Tech opening on the West Side (Mayor)
- b. City Council Committee and Liaison Assignments
- c. Continuing education events attended and to be attended
- d. Recognition of actions by City employees
- e. Recognition of actions by community volunteers

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**RE-CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

**Submitted by:**

**DELIA FLORES, TRMC**  
**City Secretary**

**Minutes were approved by City Council on August 24, 2015.**