

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
HELOTES CITY COUNCIL

The City of Helotes City Council met for a regular meeting Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 12951 Bandera Road, Helotes, Texas. This was an open meeting, subject to the open meeting laws of the State of Texas.

Present: Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor  
Cynthia Massey, Mayor Pro Tem  
Jim Meadows  
Alex Blue  
Bert Buys  
Paul Friedrichs

Staff Present: Celina Perez, City Secretary  
Susan Darst, Assistant to City Administrator

**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Schoolcraft called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Member Meadows led the invocation. Mayor Schoolcraft led the pledge to the U.S. flag and the Texas flag.

Mayor Schoolcraft welcomed one scout from Troop 701.

RECOGNITION:

**2. Certificate of Achievement and Badge presented to Rowdy Johnson, Keaton Mattick, and A.J. Fribourg in recognition of a promotion in rank to Helotes Fire Department Firefighter / Engineer. (Mayor Schoolcraft)**

Mayor Schoolcraft and Fire Chief Scott Moreland presented a Certificate of Achievement and Badge to Rowdy Johnson, Keaton Mattick, and A.J. Fribourg for their promotion in rank to Helotes Fire Department Firefighter / Engineer.

OPEN SESSION:

**3. Citizens to be Heard.**

No one signed up to speak on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEM NOS. 4 - 5): All items marked with an asterisk (\*\*) on the consent agenda were voted on by one motion. Motion was made by Council Member Meadows, second by Council Member Friedrichs, to approve items 4 and 5 on the consent agenda. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

- 4.\*\* **Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated December 13, 2018. (Staff)**
- 5.\*\* **Approval of the Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2019 City of Helotes Revenue and Expense, Balance Sheet, and Encumbrance Reports dated January 4, 2019. (Staff)**

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

6. **Discussion of and action on a request by Jorge Coronado for approval of a variance to Municipal Code of Ordinances Chapter 66 *Signs*, Sections 66-51 *Commercial Signs: Projecting, Wall, Hanging, or In or on Windows* and 66-71 *Permits, Certificates and Approval Required; Master Sign Plan* for wall signage for Del Norte Taqueria and Panaderia located at 11590 Galm Road, Suite 108, Helotes, Texas 78023, more particularly described as BCAD Prop. ID No. 1210352. (Applicant)**

(Note: On November 6, 2018 the P&Z Commission reviewed the aforementioned request. The applicant incorrectly requested and was granted a sign permit through the City of San Antonio. The installed sign is 40 sq. ft., which is 20 sq. ft., or 100%, over the size allowed. The master sign plan for Galm Village Center provides the option of asking for a variance that may allow a change of up to 25% of the sign area. The majority of the Commission agreed the master sign plan clearly states the sign regulations and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance. The Commission recommended disapproval of the variance request.)

Motion was made by Council Member Buys, second by Council Member Friedrichs, to discuss and act on this item as written.

Discussion included the incorrect permit issued by the City of San Antonio. Although the master sign plan provides the option of asking for a variance, the Council consensus was that it is the responsibility of the applicant to ask for such prior to the sign being installed and to verify the permitting jurisdiction. Council Member Blue also pointed out the sign agreement was dated August 20, 2017, giving the sign company ample time to follow procedure.

Motion to approve failed unanimously.

7. **Discussion of and action on the adoption of Bylaws for the Helotes Area Community Band. (Mayor Schoolcraft)**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Massey, second by Council Member Meadows, to discuss and act on this item as written.

Mayor Pro Tem Massey began by saying the band is exceptional and her next comments do not contradict that sentiment. Massey provided a copy of Local Govt. Code, Ch. 308 *Municipal Bands* and stated she would like to officially support the band thru an ordinance or resolution, but did not want to have the band as an entity of the City. The band currently has more than 60 members, and they are viable, and big enough, to where they can stand alone. Massey went on to say she has no objections in providing partial funding to the band and suggested they become a 501(c)(3) organization so they can sustain themselves. Furthermore, she believes the City should not have oversight of the band and should not approve the proposed bylaws.

Discussion included the wording contained in the proposed bylaws and what prompted this item to begin with.

Mayor Schoolcraft stated the band currently has a very simple set of bylaws. The proposed bylaws were just an idea to have something a little more formal. The band did not ask for the proposed bylaws. The Mayor added he did not invite, or even mention to the band directors, that the bylaws would be on this evening's agenda because he did not think it would be a contentious item. The City does fund the band, and has for the last 10 years. The proposed bylaws are coming before Council because this would tie the band more or less to the City and give the band confidence that one person on this Council, or on a future Council, can not disband them. Mayor Prom Tem Massey added the Council can not disband the band, but can, at a future time, stop funding the band.

The Council consensus was that they all support and enjoy the band; however, there was reservation from some on having to endorse support thru the adoption of bylaws, while some felt there was a lot of overthinking being done on this item.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Schoolcraft called for a vote.


Motion to amend was made by Council Member Meadows, second by Council Member Buys, to postpone this item indefinitely.

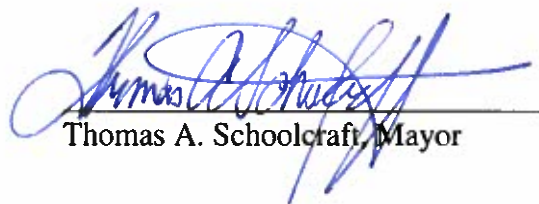
Motion to amend carried: 4 Ayes - Council Member Meadows, Council Member Blue, Council Member Buys, and Council Member Friedrichs; 1 Nay – Mayor Pro Tem Massey.

### Adjourn

With no more business to come before Council, Mayor Schoolcraft adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

ATTEST:

  
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Celina Perez, City Secretary

  
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Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor

