

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
HELOTES CITY COUNCIL

The City of Helotes City Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, August 28, 2014 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.

Council

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

Absent: Edward Villanueva

Staff Present: Rick Schroder, City Administrator  
Steve Peña, City Attorney  
Grace Tamez, City Secretary

**1. Call to Order.**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 2. Public hearing to give all interested persons the right to appear and be heard on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Helotes, Texas approving appropriations for the City of Helotes Economic Development Corporation's (EDC) Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2015 Operating and Capital Budgets beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015 to support the EDC's programs, "Projects," as defined by Article 5190.6 of the Development Corporation Act of 1979, Secs. 2 and 4(B) of Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes, and cooperatives; authorizing the City Administrator and EDC Executive Director to take all necessary steps to implement the provisions of this Resolution; incorporating recitals; providing for severability; and adopting an effective date. (Staff)**

Mayor Schoolcraft opened the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. No one signed up to speak on this item. Mayor Schoolcraft closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

- 3. Public hearing to give all interested persons the right to appear and be heard on proposed City of Helotes, Texas FYE 2015 Budget(s), including, but not limited to, the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, Capital Replacement Fund, Dispatch Proprietary Fund, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Proprietary Fund, Municipal**

**Court Security and Technology Funds; PEG (Public Access Channel) Fund, Police Training and Education Fund, and School Safety Fund budgets. (Staff)**

Mayor Schoolcraft opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. No one signed up to speak on this item. Mayor Schoolcraft closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

**4. Public hearing to give all interested persons the right to appear and be heard on the adoption of the proposed Tax Year 2014 ad valorem (property) tax rate. (Staff)**

Mayor Schoolcraft opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m. No one signed up to speak on this item. Mayor Schoolcraft closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

OPEN SESSION:

**3. Citizens to be Heard.**

No one signed up to speak on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items marked with an asterisk (\*\*) on the consent agenda were voted on at the beginning of the meeting. Motion was made by Council Member Friedrichs, second by Council Member Buys, to approve items 6, 7, 8, and 9 on the consent agenda. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

- 6.\*\* Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 14, 2014. (Staff)**
- 7.\*\* Approval of the City of Helotes Revenue and Expense Report dated August 25, 2014. (Staff)**
- 8.\*\* Ratification of an interdepartmental budget adjustment in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) from General Fund No. 01-535-5101 *Human Resources Salaries* to General Fund No. 01-530-5101 *Municipal Court Salaries*. (Staff)**
- 9.\*\* Approval of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Helotes, Texas expressing official intent to reimburse costs of a project from obligations to be issued by the City of Helotes and other matters related thereto; authorizing the City Administrator to take all necessary steps to implement the provisions of this Resolution; providing for severability; incorporating recitals; and setting an effective date. (Staff)**

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

- 10. Discussion of and action on the casting of votes by the City of Helotes City Council for nominees in Place 1, Place 2, Place 3, and Place 4 for the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees for a six-year term and authorizing the Mayor to execute the Official Ballot. (Staff)**

Motion was made by Council Member Buys, second by Council Member Blue, to discuss this item.

The candidates in Place 1, 2, and 3 are unopposed, Place 4 is contested. After discussion, Council consensus was to vote for Peter Vargas, the incumbent in the Place 4 position.

Motion to amend was made by Council Member Buys, second by Council Member Blue, to approve this item as written and cast the vote in the contested Place 4 position for Mr. Vargas.

Motion to approve carried unanimously.

**11. Discussion on proposed City of Helotes FYE 2015 Budget(s), including, but not limited to, the following (Mayor Schoolcraft and Staff):**

- a) **General Fund;**
- b) **Debt Service Fund;**
- c) **Capital Replacement Fund;**
- d) **Dispatch Proprietary Fund;**
- e) **Emergency Medical Service Proprietary Fund;**
- f) **Municipal Court Security and Technology Funds;**
- g) **PEG (Public Access Channel) Fund;**
- h) **Police Training and Education Fund;**
- i) **School Safety Fund;**
- j) **Proposed ad valorem tax rate;**
- k) **Proposed personnel position, salary, benefit, and holiday schedule amendments; and**
- l) **Proposed Municipal FYE 2015 Fee Schedule amendments.**

Barbara Patterson, with insurance broker Crandall and Associates, presented information regarding employee health insurance. Humana Healthcare, the City's current carrier, declined to bid for health coverage in 2015 due to a high claim / loss ratio. That ratio and mandated new health laws resulted in a 53% cost increase for City employees' health insurance. Employee health insurance will now be handled by United Healthcare while dental and vision insurance will remain with Humana. Employees will be given the opportunity to select medical insurance from four option plans.

Rick Schroder, City Administrator, presented updated information on fund expenditures and revenues. In response to questions, Mr. Schroder explained that a proposed \$1.50 quarterly solid waste fee for residents and a \$0.50 monthly fee for businesses will fund a biannual household hazardous waste collection event. Previous collection events have been funded by grants from AACOG.

Mayor Schoolcraft adjourned the meeting into closed session at 8:05 p.m. after reading the caption below.

CLOSED SESSION:

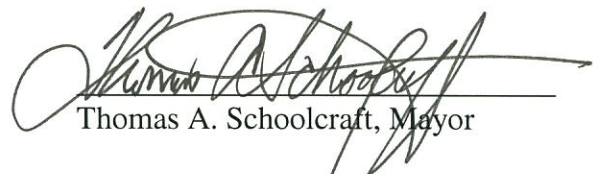
12. **Closed Session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.071 *Consultations with Attorney*. In addition to the matters listed below, any matter scheduled for Open Session may be discussed in Closed Session, as appropriate and authorized by law:**

- **§551.071 *Consultations with Attorney* regarding *Continental Homes of Texas L.P. vs. the City of Helotes Et. Al.* and *the Texas Association of Builders Et. Al. vs. the City of Helotes Et. Al.***

Mayor Schoolcraft reconvened the meeting into open session at 8:48 p.m. and announced that no action had been taken in closed session.

*Adjourn.*

With no more business to come before Council, Mayor Schoolcraft adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

  
Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Grace Tamez, City Secretary

