

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
HELOTES CITY COUNCIL

The City of Helotes City Council met for a regular meeting Thursday, May 14, 2020 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
Alex Blue, Mayor Pro Tem
Alan Holmes
Bert Buys
Cynthia Massey
Paul Friedrichs (Via Teleconference)

Staff Present: Marian Mendoza, City Administrator
Celina Perez, City Secretary
Frank Garza, City Attorney (Via Teleconference)

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Schoolcraft called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19: the 10 people maximum is being adhered to, physical distancing is being maintained, and Council Member Friedrichs is joining the meeting via teleconference.

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 on a proposal for the City of Helotes Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) to fund a Small Business Assistance Program that will offer zero (0%) interest loans to businesses in the City of Helotes that have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19). The program qualifies as an economic development "Project," as defined by Texas Local Govt. Code Chapter 505 Type B Corporations.

Mayor Schoolcraft opened the public hearing at 7:02 pm. No residents signed up to speak. Mayor Schoolcraft closed the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

RECOGNITION:

3. Proclamation by Mayor Thomas A. Schoolcraft recognizing the City of Helotes Public Works Department in observance of National Public Works Week occurring May 17 - May 23, 2020.

Mayor Schoolcraft read the Proclamation and recognized the Helotes Public Works Department.

4. Proclamation by Mayor Thomas A. Schoolcraft recognizing the City of Helotes Fire / EMS Department in observance of National EMS Week occurring May 17 - May 23, 2020.

Mayor Schoolcraft read the Proclamation and recognized the Helotes Fire/EMS Department.

OPEN SESSION:

5. Citizens to be Heard.

No one signed up to speak on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEM NOS. 6 - 8): All items marked with an asterisk (**) on the consent agenda were voted on by one motion. Motion was made by Council Member Holmes, second by Mayor Pro Tem Blue, to approve items 6 through 8 on the consent agenda. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

6. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated April 23, 2020. (Staff)**

7. Approval of the Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2020 City of Helotes Revenue and Expense, Balance Sheet, and Encumbrance Reports dated May 7, 2020. (Staff)**

8. Approval of a preliminary and final subdivision plat, pursuant to Municipal Code of Ordinances Chapter 78 *Subdivisions*, establishing Goat Hill Subdivision, being a 11.249 acre tract of land out of the J.M. Ross Survey No. 224, Abstract 645, County Block 4524, and being a portion of land conveyed to the Polk Family Trust recorded in Volume 12696, Page 347 of the Official Public Records of Bexar County, Texas. (Applicant)**

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

9. Discussion of and action on resuming the Spring 2020 brush pick up by C-6 Disposal Systems, Inc. to a rescheduled date, or, omitting the Spring 2020 brush pick-up and providing compensation to Helotes residents for the cancelled service. (Council Member Massey and Council Member Holmes)

Motion was made by Council Member Massey to discuss and act on the first part of this item, resuming the Spring 2020 brush pick-up by C-6 Disposal Systems, Inc. to a rescheduled date. The motion was seconded by Council Member Holmes.

Discussion included the cancellation of the Spring 2020 brush pick-up scheduled for May 4, 2020 thru June 19, 2020. Council Member Massey stated she spoke with Jorge Cantu, owner of C-6 Disposal Systems, Inc., and there were no compelling reasons to cancel the Spring 2020 brush pick-up.

Mayor Schoolcraft advised the decision to cancel the Spring 2020 brush pick up was made when the numbers were going up on positive COVID-19 cases. The cancellation went out in the April billing cycle, giving residents five week's notice before the first pick up date scheduled for May 4. It is typical that residents place brush piles out six to eight weeks before their pick-up date, even though they are requested not to. Brush should be placed out no more than two weeks before their pick-up date.

Frank Garza, City Attorney, added that under Chapter 14 of the Local Government Code, the Mayor has the ultimate authority under the City's declaration order to cancel the brush pick up. The Mayor's authority as emergency management director is active, as long as the City's declaration order is in place. The declaration order does not have to state every decision that the Mayor will be making. Moreover, in order for a municipality to be eligible to receive disaster funding, the City's declaration order must be in place. Lastly, if Council wishes to reschedule the Spring 2020 brush pick up, it would have to be agreed to by C-6.

Motion to amend was made by Council Member Massey to postpone this item to the City Council Meeting on May 28th. The amended motion was seconded by Council Member Holmes.

Motion to postpone carried unanimously.

- 10. First reading on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Helotes, Texas, approving a project of the Helotes Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to establish a Small Business Assistance Program that will offer zero (0%) interest loans to businesses within the corporate limits of Helotes that have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19); and authorizing the HEDC Executive Director to take all necessary steps to implement the provisions of this Resolution. (Staff)**

Mayor Schoolcraft announced the first reading of this Resolution, as required by Section 505.158 of the Local Government Code.

- 11. Second and final reading, discussion and action on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Helotes, Texas, approving a project of the Helotes Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) to establish a Small Business Assistance Program that will offer zero (0%) interest loans to businesses within the corporate limits of Helotes that have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19); and authorizing the HEDC Executive Director to take all necessary steps to implement the provisions of this Resolution. (Staff)**

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

Motion to approve the second and final reading of this Resolution carried unanimously.

- 12. Discussion of and action on a Declaration of the City of Helotes, Texas extending a declaration order of local disaster and public health emergency for the City of Helotes as a result of the COVID-19 virus. (Staff)**

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

Discussion included extending the declaration order to allow the City to continue to be eligible for disaster funding. The extension would commence on May 28, 2020 and continue for an additional sixty (60) days. Council Member Massey stated the declaration order was necessary in March, but not anymore. Council Member Holmes suggested shortening the extension period to thirty (30) days, instead of the original proposed sixty (60) days. If the order needs to be extended past the thirty (30) days, then it can come back to Council.

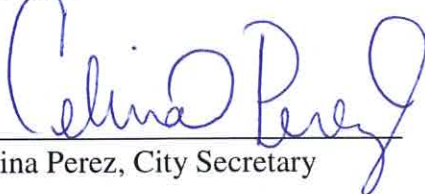
Motion to amend was made by Council Member Massey to change the extension period to thirty (30) days, instead of the original proposed sixty (60) days. The amended motion was seconded by Council Member Buys.

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

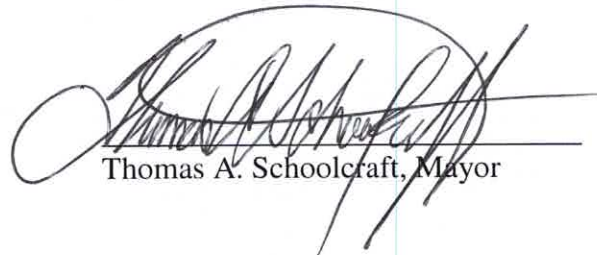
Adjourn

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

ATTEST:



Celina Perez, City Secretary



Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor

