

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
HELOTES CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

The City of Helotes City Council met for a regular meeting Thursday, September 10, 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. Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted via teleconference.

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

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. Council Member Massey led the invocation. Mayor Schoolcraft led the pledge to the U.S. flag and the Texas flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (ITEM NOS. 2 – 3):

- 2. Public hearing to give all interested persons the right to appear and be heard on the proposed FYE 2021 City of Helotes Municipal Budget, including, but not limited to, the General (Maintenance & Operations) Fund, Debt Service (Interest & Sinking) Fund, Capital Replacement Fund, Municipal Court Security and Technology Funds, Police Dept. Training and Education Fund, School Safety Fund, PEG (Public Access Channel) Fund, Police Department State Forfeiture Fund, Street Maintenance Fund, and Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Fund.**

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 the proposed FYE 2021 City of Helotes Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Budget, including, but not limited to, Maintenance & Operating Fund, Interest & Sinking Fund, and Capital Fund, to support the EDC's programs as defined by Texas Local Government Code Chapter 505 Type B Corporations.**

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.

OPEN SESSION:

4. Citizens to be Heard. (Via Teleconference)

No one signed up to speak on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEM NOS. 5 - 6): 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 Council Member Buys, to approve items 5 and 6 on the consent agenda. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

5. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated August 27, 2020. (Staff)**

6. Approval of the Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2020 City of Helotes Revenue and Expense, Balance Sheet, and Encumbrance Reports dated September 3, 2020. (Staff)**

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

7. Discussion of and action on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Helotes, Texas casting votes on the official ballot for the election of Place Nos. 1 – 4 of the Board of Trustees for the Texas Municipal League (TML) Intergovernmental Risk Pool. (Staff)

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

Majority vote was casted as follows: Place 1 - Robert Herrera (unopposed), Place 2 – John Fullen, Place 3 – Jeffrey Snyder, and Place 4 – Kimberly Meisner.

Mayor Schoolcraft advised the official ballot would be marked accordingly and sent to TML.

8. Discussion of and action on modifications to the C-6 Disposal Systems, Inc. Schedule of Rates, pursuant to Ordinance No. 468 *Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract, Section XIII Payments and Fees.* (Jorge Cantu, C-6 Disposal Systems, Inc.)

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

Speaking on this item was Jorge Cantu, C6 Disposal Systems, Inc. In accordance with Subparagraph 13.4(b) of the current contract, C-6 may adjust the Schedule of Rates after giving 30 days written notice to the City on the basis of unusual changes in the cost of operations. On August 31, the City received written notification of residential rate changes, based on growing volumes of brush and garbage. The letter explained an increase in brush volume was noticed in mid-2018. This is largely attributed to homeowners hiring tree contractors, and those contractors wrongfully leaving tree trimmings behind for C-6 to collect. Most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic is playing a role. Many households are staying home, thus generating more trash. If Council elects to continue with the same, existing level of residential services (garbage pickup twice a week, recycling pickup once a week, brush pickup twice a year, and bulk item pickup twice a year) the rate will increase to \$24.21 per month plus franchise fee and sales tax. This rate would go into effect on October 1, 2020. Alternatively, Council can consider downgrading to a lesser

service level for a lower monthly rate, or provide 30 days written notice of cancellation to C-6 and solicit proposals for a new solid waste contractor with new services to begin January 2021.

Council held a lengthy discussion on this item. Ultimately, Council believed C-6 provided ample reason and were amenable to the rate increase. Additionally, there was discussion on how to rectify the issue of tree contractors leaving tree trimmings behind. Marian Mendoza, City Administrator, advised ordinance amendments to address tree contractor responsibilities and regulations would be placed on a future meeting agenda.

Motion to amend was made by Council Member Friedrichs to adjust the Schedule of Rates as prescribed by Subparagraph 13.4(b) of the current contract and to continue with the same, existing level of residential services. The amended motion was seconded by Council Member Buys.

Motion to approve carried unanimously.

9. Discussion on the proposed FYE 2021 Municipal Budget. (Mayor Schoolcraft and Staff)

Marian Mendoza, City Administrator, reported no changes to the proposed FYE 2021 Municipal Budget.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Schoolcraft read the caption below and adjourned the meeting into closed session at 8:37 pm

10. Closed Session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.071 *Consultations with City 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 City Attorney* regarding development near Beverly Hills Subdivision.**

Mayor Schoolcraft convened the meeting into open session at 9:41 pm and announced no action had been taken in closed session.

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

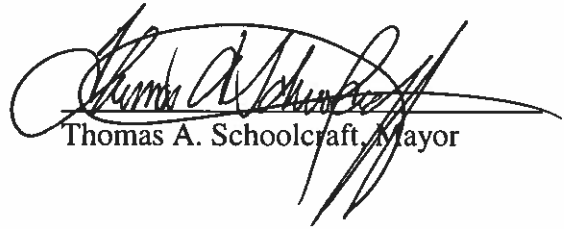
11. Discussion of and action on matters discussed in Closed Session regarding development near Beverly Hills Subdivision.

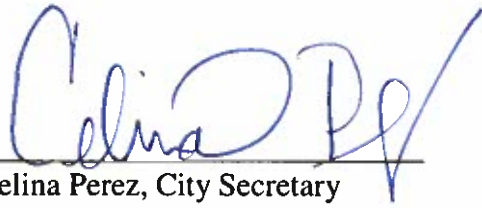
Councilmember Massey provided a brief statement, indicating Council directed Staff and the City Attorney to look at all options for the control of traffic through Halpenny and Beverly Hills streets, including the possible annexation of Sunset Ranch and Sunset Hills roads, and to write a formal letter to the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Commissioner Rodriguez's office, and Bexar County Public Works expressing concern about the McCrary tract development and its negative impact on the City and City roads.

Adjourn

With no more business to come before Council, Mayor Schoolcraft adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

ATTEST:


Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor


Celina Perez, City Secretary

