

MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 11, 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Call to Order and Recording of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm and a quorum was established.

City Council Members Present

Mayor John Low
Emmy Ballantyne
Bill Mitchell
Kate Lanfear
Peter Mako

City Staff Present

City Manager William Foley
Assistant City Manager Michelle Pack
Fire Chief William Knupp
Asst. Fire Chief Justin Seibert
Police Chief Roger Mangum
Director Rick Baldarrama
Bruce Bealor
Richard Lindner

Others Present

Andrea Crowell
Phil Vaughn
Paul Bauml
Sylvia Cardona
Shirlie Kaats
Dan Thoma

2. Council Photo

Mayor John Low: [00:00:37] We have a number of things on the agenda today and I'm going to move them around as there are people here to present or take pictures that we can get them in and out of not have to sit around and listen to all we do today. So the first order we have is Council photo. So if you would step forward young lady.

Council Photos were taken.

3. Review/action of minutes from the March 14th regular meeting

The minutes were reviewed, Mitchell motioned to approve, Ballantyne seconded and the March 14th minutes were approved as submitted.

4. Citizen Comments

No comments were made.

5. Discussion/provide staff direction on presenting the Alamo Heights City Council with a preliminary plan for a proposed drainage project on Geneseo, New Braunfels and Katherine court.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:25] Okay, we have one other guests here and we have Dan there. So I am going to go back to item number five at this point. And that is a discussion and to provide staff direction on a, it on presenting the Alamo Height's city council with a preliminary plan for proposed drainage project on Geneseo, North New Braunfels and Katherine Court. Bill, you want to introduce this briefly, please?

William Foley: [00:14:55] So after some discussion between the mayor and I, we have, I think everyone here has known about the drainage issue on Geneseo. I've been here since 2004 and it's been here since then, and before then. So we went on a little fact finding mission and meeting with our engineer and Rick. We met on site, looked into what we could do to try and figure out. How to get rid of this drainage problems. Had a couple of meetings and we had Dan come up with a preliminary, very preliminary, set of solutions, from those solutions. We identified one that would be a very good solution to pushing all of this drainage water underground. The, that solution involved our neighbors next door because we would have to go underneath New Braunfels and down Katherine Court. We had a couple of preliminary meetings with the management of Alamo Heights and they were open to discussion. And our last meeting ended up with them saying, hey, if this is something you're interested in, we need to involve our council. Well, we're here today to make sure that your interest is there and to seek direction from you to present, this preliminary plan to Alamo Heights. At their May 9th meeting that will allow us to gauge their temperature and if they are in agreement with interest then we can't task Pape Dawson with a more in-depth engineering report, which we will have to get a proposal from them and bring back to you and get, okay by council. So trying to take those steps would be to see if you have interest here today in the plan and also to see if you, if you do have interest that, we bring it to Alamo Heights. Once we find your interest and their interest, then we would bring it back with a proposal from Dan to move forward. That got a little confusing, but hopefully everyone understood.

Mayor John Low: [00:17:32] Thank you Bill. And I'm just going to add and during this process. I didn't know this. And maybe you guys don't know either, but from Eldon West to New Braunfels. We have no storm sewer structure. Everything is surface drainage, whereas, Eldon to the East to Harry Wurzbach, we do have a storm sewer system. So and Geneseo it comes from East. I'm sorry from East to West and also North the South and I think everybody drives up and done Geneseo knows it's an issue and the closest storm sewer intake is at Broadway and Katherine Court. And obviously, Katherine Court is in Alamo Heights. And so we have reached out preliminary and they seem to be interested. They may get a new street out of it and add a way to handle some of their drainage but it gives us the opportunity to not only get it off Geneseo, but also get the water from crossing over on New Braunfels right there about halfway between the block where the Harry driveway is. Dan Thoma from Pate Dawson is here. If you guys have any questions to one of, about what the proposed plan is, this is general because there are a lot of agencies involved. I have to get involved with TexDot because North you Braunfels, so it's just whether or not we want to move forward. We have the money for, this ARPA of money that Dan mentioned is available for this. That's what this kind of money is for was for infrastructure. And this is a classic example and we've gotten opinions from Richard's firm that we can use the funds for that project if we are inclined, so I'm going to, because Dan came here, specifically to ask questions. If any of you guys have questions of Dan about the project. Would you please present them.

Bill Mitchell: [00:19:25] Dan have you put together any type of cost estimate? Guesstimate?

Dan Thoma: [00:19:30] Very, very high level.

Bill Mitchell: [00:19:32] What is that?

Dan Thoma: [00:19:33] It was a little over a million dollars for that portion. Again. There's a lot of variables. We haven't gotten into the utilities and all kind of stuff like...

Bill Mitchell: [00:19:40] Yeah, I get it. But it's somewhere around the Millions on.

Dan Thoma: [00:19:42] Yeah.

Bill Mitchell: [00:19:46] And the ARPA money is, refresh my memory about what we have available.

William Foley: [00:19:51] Total is 1.3.

Bill Mitchell: [00:19:55] So it would be close, it would use almost all of it.

William Foley: [00:19:58] Well, it would be close, but we have other money available in our Capital funds. There is a cushion there. We wanted to try to keep a cushion, but there is money available.

Bill Mitchell: [00:20:11] Do we have? We've talked a little bit about our, but do we have other parts of that fund earmarked for anything else at this point?

William Foley: [00:20:19] Yes. 200,000 for a generator.

Bill Mitchell: [00:20:25] Generator, right then we have 1.1 then. Okay. And is there anything else ear marked at that point besides generator?

William Foley: [00:20:31] Nope.

Bill Mitchell: [00:20:32] Okay. I love the idea. I think personally and I hear more comments about that almost any other than that garbage collection, didn't anything else. So I definitely think about exploring it further, especially given the fact that we have the funds to pay for the majority of it potentially without dipping into our...

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:20:58] I agree

Mayor John Low: [00:21:02] Thank you, Bill. Okay, Peter any question?

Peter Mako: [00:21:12] I'm just agreeing with Bill.

Mayor John Low: [00:21:12] Okay. Kate?.

Kate Lanfear: [00:21:12] Well, how long would it take to complete a project like that?

Dan Thoma: [00:21:17] We haven't looked into that. But if I remember the distances correctly, it, down Katherine Court would be pretty tight moving, um, just because there's a, there's a significant amount of lateral utility crossings. It's probably a few months. It's probably three or four months off the top of my head. Again. We've done a very high level preliminary look. But yeah, approximately. It all depends on other projects

going on, and Katherine Courts got some things and if the timing works out that, you know, we got to pause or we got conflicts with other projects that could extend things out. But yeah, top of my head is three or four months.

Mayor John Low: [00:22:02] Okay. It seems council, everybody is in favor of moving forward. Any opposed? Okay, Bill you have got that direction to continue courting Alamo Heights for Catherine Court. Uh, on the project.

William Foley: [00:22:16] And so going forward, we would bring this before the May 9th meeting in Alamo Heights and then would probably return to council in June, to let you know, depending on what their, their reaction is, we could have a proposal before you in June.

Bill Mitchell: [00:22:35] Mayor, One more question. Did, had, has any discussion, been had with the residents of Katherine Court, because they seem to be pretty excitable.

William Foley: [00:22:44] So, so one of the one of the complaints, no, but one of the complaints that they had was added drainage and this would solve that, possibly.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:22:57] Do we know where Alamo Heights stands on the Katherine Court? Have they voted yet on whether or not to be ...

Mayor John Low: [00:23:22] They have, they are approved and very interested in that and we're happy to try to accommodate. So I think we've got some good energy with them. They get a solution. And we get a solution not only for our Geneseo, people, but every going up down New Braunfels. So. Okay, Bill, I think you got what you need there.

William Foley: [00:23:40] Yes, sir.

6. Public Hearing on the recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission for the following change:

Ordinance #1499 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 14: ZONING, SECTION VI: DIMENSIONAL STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL ZONE DISTRICTS A & A-1; ADDITIONAL DESIGN STANDARDS; (8) FENCES AND WALLS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE ALLOWABLE HEIGHT OF FENCES FROM SIX FEET (6') TO EIGHT FEET (8').

Mayor John Low: [00:23:41] Great. Okay, that takes care of that item. Ma'am. I'm just curious. Do you have something you'd like to say?

Sylvia Cardona: [00:23:51] No, no I'm actually just hear to listen in on the new proposed ordinance 1499. I spoke with Fire Chief Knupp this morning. I appreciate him giving me some information. I'm actually a proponent for the ordinance.

Mayor John Low: [00:24:05] Okay.

Sylvia Cardona: [00:24:05] I want a fence that gives me more privacy after a huge new construction next door. So I'm interested in hearing y'all's comments and if I have anything else to add I certainly will.

Mayor John Low: [00:24:12] Okay, very good. Okay. So our next item, we're going to open a public hearing on the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission for the following change which is ordinance, 1499 an ordinance amending the code of ordinances chapter 14, the zoning section. 6 dimensional, standards for residential zoning districts A and A-1 additional design standards 8. I'm guessing this Section 8 fences and walls for the purpose of increasing the allowable height of fences from six to eight feet.

The public hearing is open at 4:24. Would you like to speak, ma'am?

Sylvia Cardona: [00:24:58] Sure. I will speak. My name is Sylvia Cardona, I live on the corner of Vandiver and Ivy. And as you know, there are a lot of new homes being built along Vandiver right next to our home. There was a, a bigger home being built and so I certainly would like to have additional privacy and proponent for increasing the height to 8 feet. I think it helps with some of the issues with some of the new constructions versus the older homes in the neighborhood. And I think that you all will agree with me that having a little bit more privacy to enjoy our home, and it's certainly a good thing. I'm not sure if there are any opposition's to that, I certainly would like to hear what those are and we would be happy to address them if it requires further comment, but I read the ordinance to be that it's just changing the height. And that if you were to approve that today, it would go into effect immediately. And for someone like myself, who is ready to add, a new fence, would have the opportunity to do that. Is that correct?

Mayor John Low: [00:25:59] Once the ordinance is effective, which if it's approved would be today. I think once it gets registered, which is probably fairly quickly thereafter. Then the ordinance would be an 8-foot fence, would not need a variance.

Sylvia Cardona: [00:26:12] Right? And we would just go through the permitting process.

Mayor John Low: [00:26:15] Yes, ma'am.

Sylvia Cardona: [00:26:17] Great, wonderful thank you.

Mayor John Low: [00:26:18] Great. Thank you so much. Anybody else here to speak on, ordinance 14, 1499? Hearing, none.

I'm going to close the public hearing at 4:26.

7. Discussion/Action: Approval of Ordinance #1499

Mayor John Low: [00:26:18] And we'll open the discussion and action on this ordinance. I can add, present what it is. If anybody wants to have a presentation or, a, I know we've talked about this for a while, and it's been before most of us once before. Does any, would anybody have anything to discuss before I ask for a vote?

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:26:52] I all I want to say if I came from Board of Adjustments, where 99% of what we talked about, were 8 foot fences so, you can tell that there is a want and desire for it.

Mayor John Low: [00:27:02] Yeah, Peter and I've done our time on B of A as well, okay hearing, no further discussion. I'm going to ask for a vote on ordinance 1499. I need to read I guess I do.

Richard Lindner: [00:27:22] So open up the next agenda item that's for a motion to approve ordinance 1499 as read, presented.

Mayor John Low: [00:27:30] All right. Well then I'm going to ask for a motion to approve ordinance, 1499 as representative. Okay, good. Perfect.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:27:39] I will move to approve ordinance 1499 as written.

Mayor John Low: [00:27:43] Thank you, Mrs Ballantyne. Do I have a second?

Peter Mako: [00:27:47] Second.

Mayor John Low: [00:27:47] Thank you, Mr. Mako. All in favor? (all say aye)Any opposed? Ordinance 1499 is adopted. Thank you. Thank you for coming. We appreciate you today.

Sylvia Cardona: [00:27:55] Thank you for your time and service we appreciate it.

8. Public Hearing on the recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission for the following change:

Ordinance #1500 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 14 ZONING, SECTION VI: DIMENSIONAL STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL ZONE DISTRICTS A & A-1; FOOTNOTE "A" OF FIGURE A: SUMMARY OF DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS, TO REVISE AND CLARIFY FRONT SETBACK REQUIREMENTS.

Mayor John Low: [00:27:58] Okay, we're going to go on to the next item, which is a public hearing on ordinance 1500. This is a public hearing on the recommendation from Planning and Zoning commission for the following change. Ordinance, 1500 ordinance. Amending, the code of ordinances chapter 14, the zoning section, 6 dimensional, standards residential Zone, districts, A, and A 1 foot up a, a figure, a summary of dimensional requirements to revise and clarify front setback requirements. Is there anyone here to speak at the public hearing on ordinance, 1500. I'm sorry.

We're opening the hearing and 4:28. Is there anyone here to speak on ordinance 1500?

Hearing none, I'm going to close the public hearing at 4:28.

9. Discussion/Action: Approval of Ordinance #1500

Mayor John Low: [00:27:58]. Next item is a discussion of ordinance 1500 similar drill any questions for Rick or Bill as to the effect of Ordinance 1500 and what we're trying to achieve by adopting it? Nope. Okay, then. I'm going to ask for a motion to adopt ordinance 1500 as presented.

Peter Mako: [00:29:23] I'll make a motion to approve ordinance 1500 as written.

Mayor John Low: [00:29:31] Thank you, Mr. Mako, Mrs. Lanfear, all in favor. (all in favor) Any opposed? Hearing none, Ordinance 1500 is adopted. Thank you all very much Rick and Bill. Thank you all for presentation, running this through Planning and Zoning. I think they both were going to do a good job and help with the administration of our ordinance.

William Foley: [00:29:52] Mr. Mayor if I could just say that I would also like to give thanks to BJ Bealor. He's here, he is our new plans examiner, and he has given a lot to the discussion as has Richard. So thanks to both of them.

Mayor John Low: [00:30:07] Great. Well, appreciate both you guys. And what you've done to help us clean up our ordinance and make it more workable. So, thank you.

10. Presentation: Annual Financial Report as presented by Phil Vaughn

Mayor John Low: [00:06:38] Next item, I think I'll move around, is the audit. Phil Vaughn is here as he usually is this time of the year to discuss the audit, you have a copy of it and your material, you saw that we got very good report. Phil, do you want to present just the highlights for us?

Phil Vaughn: [00:06:58] Sure that'd be great.

Mayor John Low: [00:06:59] Thank you.

Phil Vaughn: [00:06:59] Thank you. My name is Phil Vaughn, I'm the independent CPA you hired to do your annual report. So I know you know this, but just so we're clear. So we're taking your numbers or making sure that they're in this report accurately and we're issuing our opinion on them. So, when you give this to your citizens or your bond holders, they can notice somebody else's independent of the city looked at it as a group agreed with us. So we did our due diligence and we agree these are good numbers at giving you a clean opinion scores what you want. And while we're doing that. We're also looking for anything that you might have done inappropriately things, that we think you should be doing better, but we don't have anything like that. There's a letter that accompanies, this that's kind of loosely stuck in there. It has required Communications about if we had the difficulties doing the audit and disagreements mismanagement or something like that. In that letter is pretty boilerplate. Just letting you know that we didn't have anything like that. On the actual financial statements. I will say that. After a brief COVID, hiatus. I mean, you did get the award for excellence in financial reporting. So, this is submitted to the government Finance Officers Association, and they graded it, and they tell you that you did a good job. So you have that in here. This will be submit again. Assuming not another COVID hiatus. Had just a couple pages on touch on. So please, if you have questions interrupt me, I'd be happy to answer them and just the first page to turn to is 53. It has your compared to the general fund for this year compared to last year. So you'll see here when it compares to two years revenue was up in 2021 to 6.6 million and that was better than what you had budgeted. Most of the increase was in your property taxes. It's an increase of about two hundred and fifteen thousand over the year before on the actual spending side. You're spending side, you're spending went up as well about 275 Scott, five percent over the year before most of that was in police and fire salaries and a couple vacancies that you had sold just last year. So you're below that and that other financing sources and uses you'll see a transfers out of 1 million dollars on 59. That's the what you normally contribute to your could be replaced with fund and the project's done for streets, and then you also give you additional 550,000 this last year. And so that was anticipated to decrease your fund balance for 2021 by 550,000, your 2021 budget, but you'll see that third line from the bottom, you actually added 253,000 to fund balance. So much better than what your budget anticipated and you're ending it, just under five point, five million fund balance. And so the general way that you try to determine whether that's a good number or a bad number is to convert. Into a months of operating costs to know what you have in reserve generally. Six months is considered very healthy. But again, because you guys are on a different year end, you kind of have 10 months before your taxes really start coming in again. So you kind of want a little bit more cushion and in your budget, usually you try to plan for eight months. And so right now you're at just a little over 12. If you use last year's, if you use 2022 budget, you have a little over 11 months in fund balance. So if you take how much do you have, that's over the eight months

markets about 1.9 million. So if you needed more for streets, you have a little bit more. You could dip into and still have the eight-month reserve that you want to have.

Mayor John Low: [00:10:35] Wonderful.

Phil Vaughn: [00:10:37] That also has no consideration for your ARPA money, which is on top of that. So, it's not in here, it's another 1.3 million that you have available to you. I know that they've they're talking about how to spend that money and they're going to give you some recommendations about it. If you don't already have grand plans. And then the second of two pages is 19 and 20 and it has the residence buttons on it. And so, the first column is the one we already talked about next column is your capital projects fund. You'll see if the bottom you ended up 1.7. So you spent a little over a million on your street and you're at the end of last year. You were just starting the engineering on the next phase. So if you would pretty much completed that. So that 1.7 is pretty good. Figure for what you have for what you're planning on going forward. That's debt service next to that has six hundred eighty seven thousand the way you've been doing your tax rate to your chipping away at that a little bit. So you should this summer when people pay the rest of their taxes, have enough to complete the rest of your debt service, but when you set your budget for next year, you might want to get a little bit more precise on the text split between I&S and M&O, or just know that eventually down the road, when you get towards the end of these bonds, you might have to take a little bit in from the general fund to help out to pay off the final balance. If you keep chipping away at it is just a little bit. Next. Let's put the replacement file. You'll see you're up to one point four million. It's about the ARPA fund next to that shows a zero, but that's because the money just refundable, if you don't spend it, I'm sure you're going to find a way to spend it, right. Right we are going to spend it and not give it back to the government. So once you start spending that's where the 1.3 million will come into... and the police forfeitures of the 537,000 keep in mind that I told your staff about this too, if that's considered Federal money. So when you spend it, so, I go to the federal rules and when you mix that with the ARPA that can get you into where you would need to have Federal audit that year so you might spend it all. Also something to keep in mind. We're probably going to have that one way or the other between that and ARPA. But just that's just something to think about. And that is really all I'd like to touch on unless you have any questions I can clarify.

Mayor John Low: [00:12:55] Thank you so much. Really appreciate what you do for us. Thank you, Michelle, without you Phil can't... garbage in garbage out. So thank you so much for all you've done for the budget again. Any other questions for Phil? Thank you. I'll see you this time next year.

Phil Vaughn: [00:13:17] Yeah. Thank you.

11. Discussion/Action: Approval of Annual Financial Report

Mayor John Low: [00:13:18] All right. Great. Thanks. Phil. Okay. Let me skip down to okay there is your presentation. Okay. So then I am going to ask for a motion to approve, the annual financial report prepared by, where's your company name Phil and by Phil Vaughn and Company, Associates as just presented. Do I have a motion?

Kate Lanfear: [00:14:00] Motion to approve the annual financial report as presented.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:00] Thank you Mrs. Lanfear. Second?

Peter Mako: [00:14:01] Second.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:01] Thank you Mr. Mako. All in favor? (all say aye) Opposed? All right, the comprehensive financial audit is approved. Thank you very much for your help Phil.

Phil Vaughn: [00:14:13] Thank you. If you have any questions, please feel free to wake up the middle of the night. Bye.

12. Discussion/Action: Holding a Special Council Meeting on June 6th 2022 and cancelling the June 13th, July 11th Regular Council Meetings.

Mayor John Low: [00:30:07] Great. Well, appreciate both you guys. And what you've done to help us clean up our ordinance and make it more workable. So, thank you. Okay, next item I have is item 12, which is discussion on moving the June 13th and, regularly scheduled June 13th meeting to June 6 and then canceling, ah let see, and then also discussing the June 11th council meeting. Let's take those one at a time. Any issue with counsel if we move the June meeting up a week to the first Monday in June,

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:30:50] I'm actually out of town.

Peter Mako: [00:30:50] I'm out of town.

Mayor John Low: [00:30:50] You are. Okay,

Peter Mako: [00:30:52] Pretty sure it's that week.

Mayor John Low: [00:30:55] Okay.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:30:59] Can we zoom in like we used to?

Mayor John Low: [00:31:02] Well, we have to have a physical quorum present,

Richard Lindner: [00:31:04] Correct.

Mayor John Low: [00:31:07] So, okay. What about the 13th? Are we, the 13th still okay?

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:31:19] I'm in town on the 13th.

Peter Mako: [00:31:19] I'm in town.

Mayor John Low: [00:31:19] Are you sure?

Peter Mako: [00:31:19] I'm 98% sure.

Mayor John Low: [00:31:19] Okay. Okay. Well, then let's just go and leave the meeting on the 13th. And we'll just we'll operate according. So next item is traditionally July meeting and in the summertime, we have tried to give counsel a month off. Unless there is extraordinary business and which case we would hold a council meeting. Is anybody opposed to tentatively canceling that meeting unless it's necessary?

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:31:49] Nope.

Peter Mako: [00:31:53] No opposition here.

Mayor John Low: [00:31:54] Okay, so we've got direction on both those Bill?

William Foley: [00:31:57] Yes sir.

13. Discussion/Action: To accept the submitted proposal and allow the City Manager to negotiate a contract and purchase 1 Sutphen Fire Pumper for the Fire Department.

Mayor John Low: [00:31:57] Thank you. Okay. Now, the next one is a discussion item, about a new fire truck Bill and or Billy and you want to make a....

William Foley: [00:32:10] So I'll just start off and say that myself, Michelle, Billy and Justin have met on several different occasions. Billy and Justin have of course, dug the deepest on this. And I think what you're presented with here is a very fair and understanding selection of a fire truck that will enhance our firefighting capabilities for the next 20 years. As I said in my email. I think Chief Knupp and Justin, did a very good job of steering away from the seat warmers and making sure that they're getting items inside this fire truck that promote fire safety and the firefighting capability of the vehicle. So Billy, of course, has all the technical answers, that, if you need them. I will say that we are in a very strange time for buying fire trucks and having praised Billy for making the selection that they did. I just want you to know that your friends and neighbors next door are looking at one in the 820 range now. So kudos to Billy for bringing this in where it's at.

Bill Mitchell: [00:33:35] What's the reason for the two hundred thousand dollar increase? Is it bigger?

William Foley: [00:33:39] Billy has been discuss...

William Knupp: [00:33:41] The difference in that one and in ours, is they're essentially the same trucks, but there is probably not one area on that fire truck that they're not customizing one form or fashion or another. They're just they have their hands on a little bit, all of it. Ours where we were able to save a lot of money, we took this section and yep we like exactly how it is and we have this section and here's our, our wish list. So, to speak was a lot lower of touching every single compartment, every single area that truck and really, the most important part was the ladder chutes so that we could get all the ladders we wanted on there. And so, it just worked out very well for us. And we found this out in 2014 that this particular company, they generally seem to be lower than anybody else as well. But the quality is still way up there. So that's the big difference right off the bat.

Bill Mitchell: [00:34:34] Yeah. Thank you.

Mayor John Low: [00:34:35] We got our last truck from this company in 2013?

William Knupp: [00:34:37] Yes, sir. In 2014. We got this truck from the, it's called the Sutphen Company. They've been in business for a roughly 130 years, family-owned business, the entire time. They still, that, we as matter fact, Justin was up there in 14 talking to one of the people who have the last name was Sutphen. They are really pretty good to work with, they've taken good care of us. And this is replacing our 2002, Engine 2 right now. So our small pumper that we've had, done us a great job as well. But it's just time for it to get swapped out.

Mayor John Low: [00:35:13] What's, Billy, what's been our experience with our 2014 truck as far as use reliability?

William Knupp: [00:35:20] We have been what we were afforded when we got the 2014 truck is we were able to get the entire fire crew on one apparatus. That was the biggest push that we had back then. And there were some safety enhancements back then it had a larger pump than Engine 2 does today. It had a, like I said, bigger seating capacity. Everybody could, it's newer more modern better enhancements for the safety of the firefighters and for firefighting capabilities. What this new truck is, it's a step above that again. We have again a larger pump capacity and a larger tank this time. So the minute we pull up to the house. We have 1,000 gallons of water to work with which in most cases is quickly as we get called for you guys. 1,000 gallons is going to really take us over the top where we may not even have to hook to a hydrant and saves even more time fighting the fire. Also the safety is increased even more on the cab design. We got a larger cab that has more ability to keep the firefighters safe. And then the biggest thing, like I said, just a moment ago, is a very large complement of ladders. We were able to put our 35-foot ladder, 24 foot ladder and are 10 and 14 and a half which that allows us the ability to do any elevated operation in Terrell Hills without the need of another fire department here. Because of our ordinance, we don't have anything over 35 feet. So that ladder can get us there and it's very... where we are the last city with the small truck that has the big ladder. Now if you get the big ladder trucks here in a lot better shape, that's really the big enhancement that we were really working for Sutphen was the one that really worked with us and got us exactly what we're looking for. We're just tickled to death when they said. Yeah, as a matter of fact, they were pretty tickled too when they said, oh my gosh. I think we can build that. And so we kept playing around with the design and they gave us exactly what we were looking for. So which was great.

Mayor John Low: [00:37:21] And operationally, though, our 2014 truck has performed to our, to our needs and standards. We have no issues?

William Knupp: [00:37:28] They all have issues here and there are little things here and there. But to date, honestly, we've probably spent more money on the 2002 that we have on the 14. So, and again, that's we're doing well with it. And we have a little, we have fuel issues, the fuel gauge, and they came and took care of that all three or four times just to make sure they had it exactly, right. So they've been very responsible to us and honestly, we're all really happy with the performance of the Engine 1.

Mayor John Low: [00:37:57] Great,

Bill Mitchell: [00:37:58] So our money is coming out of the ERF? It's really scheduled here a million six and they are up right now.

William Foley: [00:38:04] Yes, and that's what it's, it's there because council thought this up and we built it. And, and we knew this was coming and we're here, so yeah, it's there.

William Knupp: [00:38:17] So, the proposal that you guys have, is that I think you see it on that next page there. And that has all the information on there. If there's anything you put..

Bill Mitchell: [00:38:24] Will our old pumper truck last another two years till we get the.

William Knupp: [00:38:28] Oh, yes. Yes. Yes, as a matter of fact, guys are doing PM's on it today and it's still purring like a kitten as well.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:38:39] Is there a possibility to sell that 2002 down the road?

William Knupp: [00:38:40] Yes. We're going to do a couple of options. That's how what we did with the old engine one is we sold that later. Just to another fire department that was looking forward. We tried with that fire, fire truck broker, and we had a couple bites, but nothing really took off after that and then out of the blue, this small volunteer department got it and they bought it for ten thousand dollars and which you've spent hundreds of thousands and you got 10,000 out of it, but they were ecstatic with it and we were able to put that money into the ERF to help recoup tiny little bit of this. But we're going to attempt the same thing as well as ask Sutphen if they do any type of trade in value or anything like that, because that is one thing that is starting to change. That some manufacturers have a trade-in allowance.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:39:26] Or maybe buy back some of it for parts and things like that.

William Knupp: [00:39:29] Things like that. Yes, we're going to explore those options as they move forward.

Mayor John Low: [00:39:35] Okay, now that we had a discussion about our new little fire truck. Bill, we had talked about putting a number there.

William Foley: [00:39:44] So the number. The number that what we're seeking is permission from you, to allow the city manager, to negotiate a contract and purchase the 1 Sutphen fire pumper. For the fire department with a price, not to exceed \$667,815.11 The actual price the fire truck is twenty thousand dollars cheaper because we are making a one-time bonded payment were asking for that not to exceed the money as a contingency to... any problems that we have in this build. If we run into a problem and we need to utilize that extra twenty thousand dollars to go forward without having to wait a month to talk to council.

Mayor John Low: [00:40:32] We think that's enough wiggle room?

William Foley: [00:40:34] We believe, We believe that's enough wiggle room. Yes, sir.

Mayor John Low: [00:40:37] Okay.

Bill Mitchell: [00:40:40] So that project total cost, the 667 is what you are talking about not to exceed.

William Foley: [00:40:45] Yes, not to exceed.

Mayor John Low: [00:40:47] Okay, so I don't know if that requires a motion that's just direction. So..

Richard Lindner: [00:40:54] If you want him to be able to negotiate and sign on the dotted line or have the mayor sign on the dotted line...

Mayor John Low: [00:41:01] It's a pretty big ticket item. I think I'll ask for a motion. Okay? Okay, so I'm going to ask for a motion to grant authority to the city manager, to negotiate a contract and purchase of a Sutphen fire pumper for the fire department, pursuant to the proposal dated March 24th, 2022 with a cost, not to exceed \$667,815.11 Do I have a motion?

Bill Mitchell: [00:41:31] Yeah, I move that we authorize the city manager to do what you just said.

Mayor John Low: [00:41:39] Do I have a second?

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:41:41] Second.

Mayor John Low: [00:41:42] Thank you. Emmy, I have a motion and a second, all in favor? (all say aye) Opposed? Hearing none. You've got your direction Mr. Foley. Thank you. Thank you all very much. Appreciate it Billy and Justin for all the work you did to bring us those numbers.

William Foley: [00:42:01] I can tell you, and Billy and I have had a couple of meetings on this, never ever in our history have you had a better firefighting capability, then when this truck hits this house, this big. It will be the most advanced firefighting apparatus that they've ever had here. And I think the council should be very proud of that. .

Mayor John Low: [00:42:31] Wonderful.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:42:31] We just need to tell all of our residents not to start a fire for another two years.

14. Discussion/Action: Painting the railings and pedestrian bridge on Edsel Parkway

Mayor John Low: [00:03:27] I'm going to move item. Number 14, discussion action for painting the railings of pedestrian bridge on the Edsel Parkway. If you are here and have not signed in, please do if you could do so. Michelle, we all good.

Michelle Pack: [00:03:38] We're good.

Mayor John Low: [00:03:39] Okay, so um we, with input from some of our neighbors. We have been test-driving, a few colors for the railings down there, on the bridge that we were repairing or the one right across from it. We had some selections, some options. I've gotten several emails over the weekend from folks about preferences. I would love for you guys to tell us who you are and what you would like to say.

Paul Bauml: [00:04:08] I'm Paul, Paul Bauml I live on Seford Drive. Thanks for having me here, and I much prefer the green. I think it'll look really good. It look as nice as that black fencing, on the playground. And the green won't show up the rust. And so it will be a lot easier to maintain and the only the only opposition I heard from anybody in talking about it was the safety considerations and over the weekend. I went driving up and down the intersection and I realized that that's silver paint is not reflectorized. So it doesn't show up any more than that. Somebody's shiny, I'm serious, the, the driveway on a smooth surface of the driveway. It kind of reflects the light and that's about how much that paint railing reflects also. And I drove down Crestwood. There's a yield sign that has a metal pole and you can see the yield sign very clearly. I mean it's like a light, but then you can't see that silver metal pole either because it's not reflectorized either. So, so I don't think there's any danger for my painting, it green. I don't think there's any advantage that painting it silver. And that silver is really, really loud in the day. And I think the green is kind of, kind of hide it and so that I really advocate for the green.

Mayor John Low: [00:05:25] Okay. Thank you Mr. Bauml, anyone else here to speak on this particular item? Hearing, none. Council, we've kind of had some discussions as these test-drive, any thoughts as to colors.

Bill Mitchell: [00:05:41] I think the green is great. I think maybe we could have some reflective, just little buttons or whatever on the corners to catch the eye at night and leave it. It's a great idea.

Mayor John Low: [00:05:52] Okay.

Kate Lanfear: [00:05:57] I kind of like the green. I did not like the red.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:05:57] I like the green also. I think it kind of goes away, which is nice.

Mayor John Low: [00:06:02] Okay, and I agree. I think the green looks great will be complementary to the light poles. And it'll soften the railing because they are a bit of an eyesore as they are currently painted. Um really don't need a motions, this is just direction. Do we need a motion?

Richard Lindner: [00:06:16] Unless you really want one but...

Mayor John Low: [00:06:18] I don't think we do. Rick, will you get with Bill and let's get those painted green and I had some other discussions with Bill if you'll get with him about that.

Rick Baldarrama: [00:06:28] Yes, sir.

Mayor John Low: [00:06:28] Great. Thank you. Mr. Bauml. Thanks for coming. You're welcome to stay, you do not have to.

Paul Bauml: [00:06:36] Okay. I think I'll leave.

15. Discussion from monthly reports as submitted in the council packets.

Mayor John Low: [00:42:37] Okay. So, unless I've missed anything, I think we're done to item 15, which is a discussion or questions about the monthly reports from the heads of our department, and we had a chance to review them. Any, any questions specific to an area regarding these reports. Roger anything interesting going on in anything that you referred to is noteworthy?

Roger Mangum: [00:43:06] No, sir. We're doing fine.

Mayor John Low: [00:43:09] Great. Great Rick?

Rick Baldarrama: [00:43:10] No, sir. Just the guys have been running an extra truck out for lunch and stuff for leaf bags. I mean, there's tons. They've been working on that.

Mayor John Low: [00:43:21] Remind me of when are we going to be coming to us for a new garbage truck?

Rick Baldarrama: [00:43:27] The last one you approved we should be getting it next month.

Mayor John Low: [00:43:32] Oh, good. Good. Okay, Billy anything in your area?

William Knupp: [00:43:38] Really about the only other thing is that I gave you the covid update as of April 5th. And the latest update, we're down to 58 cases that are hospitalized right now and 17 new hospitalizations. So we're continuing to find the kind of drop offs. Don't know where it's going to lead. But that's where we sit.

Mayor John Low: [00:43:57] What about you, Michelle, Assistant City Manager?

Michelle Pack: [00:44:01] I just wanted to point out that on the balance sheet, the general fund balance appears negative as of March, 31st, that's only if all of the checks were cleared and everything, you know, all the money that was out there was cashed in as of March 31st, but I'm trying to play the interest rate. I waited until April 1st. I had Outlook ready to go with an automatic email that was going out to the bank at 8, a.m. On April 1st to transfer the money. Because interest rates are so low right now. I want to just try to cash in on

that, March, 31st balance being larger and wait until the next day. So it doesn't look pretty, but the money was there.

Mayor John Low: [00:44:44] Okay, great. Mr. Foley?

William Foley: [00:44:48] Just two things for my emails. My city manager report, we will have. We're on track to have you a bid before you in the May meeting for your generator. Thanks to Richard. He's been helping us with that and teaching me about CIVICAST and all kinds of good stuff. Also, the repairs on the Seford bridge work are done. You know, that cause you went and looked at the color and in my email I said I was waiting on Pape Dawson. Got the invoice from Pape Dawson. Everything has been in submitted to HEB, and I have had positive contact with them. We're just waiting for a check.

Mayor John Low: [00:45:26] Great. Okay, and then any feedback on the party last week?

William Foley: [00:45:33] Everything I've heard is positive.

Mayor John Low: [00:45:36] I get the same feedback as well. I'm sorry for the folks who couldn't make it. I just never dreamed that it was Fiesta week, but it was so. But it was nice to get a group back together again and then kind of thank them. And a lot of these commissions and barely met. So I think that I met each other.

Bill Mitchell: [00:45:54] Well you could set that date for next year because it won't be fiesta.

Mayor John Low: [00:45:59] Okay. Good. Well, thank you everybody for your reports.

16. Executive Session

a. Council will convene into executive session under Texas Government Code § 551.074 (Personnel Matters) discussion on City Manager's Contract

The executive discussion began at 4:46pm and the meeting reconvened at 5:56pm.

17. Discussion/Action: matters discussed in executive session.

Mayor John Low: [00:45:59] Okay. Good. Well, thank you everybody for your reports last item we have well, let's see. We've got an executive session coming up to discuss, which is Council convenient, executive session, Texas government code, 550 1.07 for personnel matters for discussion on the city managers contract. So we will go into executive session for 4:46, okay.

Mayor John Low: [00:56:47] Okay, it is 456 and we are going to reconvene our regular April 11th meeting. Executive session, we discussed items as important as announced. And I'm going to ask for a motion to extend the city manager, a three-year contract pursuant to terms discuss during executive session.

Peter Mako: [00:57:13] I would like to make a motion that we approve the terms and condition discussed for the three-year contract for city manager as discussed in the executive session.

Mayor John Low: [00:57:25] So thank you. Mr. Mako perfect.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:57:29] I'll second.

Mayor John Low: [00:57:30] Thank you. Miss. Ballantyne. I have a motion and second. All in favor. (all say aye) Chair is in favors as well. So the City attorney has our directions and will prepare a contract or the mayor's signature, but thank you and thank you for going to stay on.

William Foley: [00:57:46] Thank you.

18. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:57pm

MAYOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY-MANAGER