



MINUTES
CITY OF CONVERSE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Pursuant to the Texas Government Code, and in conjunction with the guidance and provisions provided by the Governor of Texas and subsequent executive orders altering the Open Meetings Act requirements, notice is hereby given that the Regular City Council Meeting for the Converse City Council to be held on **Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 PM via telephone conference** (from City Council Chambers/402 S. Seguin) in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face to face meetings to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). There was no in-person public access to the meeting, however, citizens were able to call Toll-free # 1-800-717-4201, Conference # 869-8434 for access or view the live broadcast at www.conversetx.net.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 pm.
2. **INVOCATION:** Mayor Suarez
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** To the U.S. & Texas Flag led by Mayor Suarez

4. **ROLL CALL & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

City Council Present:

Mayor Al Suarez
Councilwoman Shawn Russell, Place 1 (Mayor Pro-Tem)
Councilwoman Nancy Droneburg, Place 3
Councilwoman Kate Silvas, Place 4

City Council Absent:

Councilwoman Deborah James, Place 2
Councilman Richard Wendt, Place 5
Councilman Marc Gilbert, Place 6

Staff Present:

Ms. Le Ann Piatt, City Manager
Mr. Joshua Jones, Assistant City Manager
Ms. Lisa Hernandez, City Secretary
Mr. Felix Arambula, City Attorney
Mr. Luis Valdez, Fire Chief
Ms. Stella Calvillo, Grant Administrator

5. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Approve Minutes of March 2, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting.

B. Accept Minutes of January 11, 2021 Special Planning & Zoning Meeting.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion to approve the consent agenda items; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

6. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS:**

A. Presentation of the TMLDA Library of Excellence Award to Converse Public Library.

B. Recognition of Cornelio Castanon's Promotion to Public Works Foreman of Streets.

C. Recognition of Elvin Hernandez's Promotion to Public Works Foreman of Grounds & Parks.

D. Recognition of Firefighter Joshua Oefinger's Promotion to Fire Captain.

E. Recognition of Firefighter Matthew Bryan's Promotion to Fire Captain.

F. Presentation of a Proclamation by the Mayor Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the City of Converse.

7. **CITY STAFF REPORTS:**

- A. Report by Converse Economic Development Corporation Director, Jimsi Kuborn
- B. Report by Public Works Director, Mark Velasquez
- C. Report by Utilities Director, Jonathan Smith
- D. Report by Community Development Director, John Quintanilla
- E. Report by Fire Chief, Luis Valdez
- F. Report by Library Director, Sandy Underwood
- G. Report by Police Department, City Manager Le Ann Piatt
- H. Report by Animal Care Manager, Chad Ensign
- I. Report by Finance Director, Ashley Grimes
- J. Report by Human Resources, John Rudd
- K. Report by Assistant City Manager, Joshua Jones
- L. Report by Grant Administrator, Stella Calvillo

8. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

This time is provided for Citizens to address City Council on any issues and concerns. No City Council discussion or action can be taken if the item is not on the Agenda. Please limit your remarks to three (3) minutes and state your name and address for the record. No personal attacks shall be allowed.

None.

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Briefing and Updates by Emergency Management Director on COVID-19 and Texas Winter Storm.

No action.

- B. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider Resolution No. 831-2021; Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application with the Bexar County Economic and Community Development, funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Senior Center Phase II, and Authorizing the City Manager to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the Application.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion of approval; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

- C. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider Resolution No. 834-2021; Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application with the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), funded through the Federal Government under Transportation Alternatives (TA) for the Greenway Trail Phase II, and authorizing the City Manager to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the Application.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion of approval; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

- D. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider CenterPoint Energy 2021 Annual Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Rate Adjustment for the South Texas Division.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion to suspend the rate adjustment for the forty-five (45) day period permitted; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

- E. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider Ordinance No.621-2021; Amending the City's Municipal Solid Waste Rates. (*First Reading*)

Councilwoman Silvas made a motion to table the item; Motion failed by a lack of a second.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion approving the ordinance; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 3 For, 1 Against (Councilwoman Silvas), 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

F. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider the Re-Appointment of Sam Perez as a Full Member to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Councilwoman Silvas made a motion reappointing Sam Perez; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

G. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider the Appointment of Members to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion appointing the first three of the four accepted applications being Walter Sewell, Brad Kessler, and Jessica Williams; Councilwoman Droneburg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 3 Absent.

10. CITY COUNCIL & MANAGER REPORTS:

- A. City Commission Liaison Reports.
- B. City Manager's Report & Discussion of Future Agenda Items/Items of Interest.
- C. Councilmember's Reports/Items of Interest.
- D. Mayor's Report/Items of Interest.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Suarez adjourned the meeting at 9:34pm.

PASSED and APPROVED this 6 day of April, 2021.

Al Suarez
Al Suarez, Mayor

ATTEST: Lisa Hernandez
Lisa Hernandez, City Secretary

