



MINUTES
CITY OF CONVERSE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Be It Known that the City Council of the City of Converse will meet for a Regular Meeting at the Council Chambers at 402 S. Seguin Street on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM**. A quorum of the following commissions may be present: Building & Standards, Parks & Recreation, Ethics Review Board, Economic Development Corporation, Planning & Zoning, and Historic Preservation Commission. Meeting is streamed live at www.conversetx.net. (Please silence all Cell Phones)

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **INVOCATION:** Led by Police Chief Lane.
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 Deborah James, Place 2
Councilwoman Nancy Droneburg, Place 3
Councilwoman Kate Silvas, Place 4
Councilman Marc Gilbert, Place 6

City Council Absent:

Councilman Richard Wendt, Place 5

Staff Present:

Ms. Le Ann Piatt, City Manager
Mr. Joshua Jones, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Felix Arambula, City Attorney
Ms. Lisa Hernandez, City Secretary
Mr. Luis Valdez, Fire Chief
Mr. Bobby Lane, Police Chief
Ms. Jimsi Kuborn, EDC Director
Mr. Mark Velasquez, Public Works Director
Mr. Jonathan Smith, Utilities Director
Ms. Sandy Underwood, Librarian
Mr. Chad Ensign, Animal Care Manager
Ms. Christine Green, Finance Director
Mr. John Rudd, Human Resource Director
Ms. Stella Calvillo, Grant Administrator

5. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approve Minutes of August 3, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting.
Councilwoman Russell made a motion approving the consent agenda; Councilman Gilbert second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

6. **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 Fire Chief, Luis Valdez
- E. Report by Library Director, Sandy Underwood
- F. Report by Police Chief, Bobby Lane
- G. Report by Animal Care Manager, Chad Ensign
- H. Report by Finance Director, Christine Green
- I. Report by Human Resources Director, John Rudd
- J. Report by Assistant City Manager, Joshua Jones

7. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

This time is provided for Citizens to address City Council on any issues and concerns. Members of the Public wishing to address the City Council must Sign-up to speak prior to the start of the meeting. 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.

- 1) Celeste Morris, 9014 Arabian King
- 2) Michael B. Meyer, 8919 Nature Trail
- 3) Jim Sherman, 10218 Plumas Drive

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Final Acceptance of the Public Infrastructure for Bridgehaven Unit 1.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion Accepting the Public Infrastructure for Bridgehaven Unit 1; Councilwoman Droneburg second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 5 For, 1 Against (Councilwoman James), 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Briefing by Emergency Management Director on COVID-19 Emergency Declaration & Emergency Management Operations. **No action.**

B. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Consider Resolution No. 842-2021; Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application with Economic Development Administration (EDA), US Department of Commerce (DOC) for Grant Funding under the FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act for a City-Wide Comprehensive Plan; and Authorizing the City Manager to Act on Behalf of the City in all Matters Related to the Application.

Councilman Gilbert made a motion Accepting the Final Public Infrastructure for Bridgehaven Unit 1; Councilwoman Droneburg second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 4 For, 2 Against (Councilwoman James, Councilwoman Silvas), 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

C. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Setting the Date, Time and Location for a Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2021/2022 Budget.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion Setting the Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2021/2022 Budget for September 7, 2021 at 7:00pm; Councilwoman Droneburg second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

D. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Tax Rate and Setting the Date, Time and Location for a Public Hearing on the Tax Rate.

Councilwoman James made a motion Proposing the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate of \$0.470135/\$100, and Setting the Meeting to Vote on the Tax Rate for September 7, 2021 at 7:00pm; Councilman Gilbert second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

E. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Designation of the Herald Newspaper as the Official Newspaper of Record for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Councilwoman Russell made a motion Designating the Herald Newspaper; Councilman Gilbert second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

F. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Appoint an Alternate Member to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilwoman James made a motion Appointing Leslie Conyers as an Alternate Member to the Planning & Zoning Commission; Councilwoman Droneburg second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

- G. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Appoint a Full Member to the Parks & Recreation Commission.
Councilwoman Russell made a motion Appointing Christopher Clark as a Full Member to the Parks & Recreation Commission; Councilman Gilbert second the motion. Motion passed by a vote of: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent (Councilman Wendt).

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 9:04pm.

PASSED and APPROVED this 7 day of September, 2021.

Al Suarez
Al Suarez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Hernandez
Lisa Hernandez, City Secretary

