State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio

FINAL

Meeting Minutes

City Council B Session

City Hall Complex
114 W. Commerce
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, September 2, 2015	2:00 PM	Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the "B" Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call with the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 11 - Mayor Taylor, Treviño, Warrick, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Medina, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Taylor welcomed everyone to the Budget Work Session and recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 2:05 pm to discuss the following:

A. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.087 (economic development) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

B. Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.072 (real property) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

C. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

D. Discuss legal issues relating to contract employees pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney)

RECONVENED

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 3:02 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session. She stated that the Executive Session would continue on Thursday after the business portion of the Council Meeting.

1. Staff presentation on the FY 2016 Proposed Budget focusing on, but not limited to, the following City Departments: [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Maria Villagomez, Director, Management & Budget]

A. Police

B. Fire

A. POLICE

Interim Police Chief Anthony Treviño presented a Power Point regarding the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) FY 2016 Proposed Budget. He provided an overview of the SAPD noting that there were three divisions: 1) Police Operations Bureau; 2) Operations Support Bureau; and 3) Administrative Services Bureau. He provided a history of SAPD Uniform Positions and reported that 313 New Sworn Positions had been added since 2006. He stated that San Antonio had the third lowest number of Violent Crimes among the 10 Largest Cities. He reported that Property Crime had decreased by 8% and highlighted Quality of Life Issues to include Open Air Drug Markets and Prostitution. He stated that Drug Arrests had increased by 3% and spoke of the first Anti-Prostitution Public Service Announcement.

Chief Treviño provided an overview of the Hands Free Ordinance Enforcement. He stated that 1,006 Warning Tickets were issued during the grace period while 6,420 Citations had been issued since January 1st. He reported that they had received over 1.2 Million Calls For Service in FY 2015 and that response time for Emergency Calls was 6 minutes 56

seconds. He stated that the FY 2016 Proposed Budget totaled $448 Million of which 94% was funded by the General Fund.

Chief Treviño outlined FY 2016 Mandates to include six new Uniformed Positions for City South Annexation; 6 new Park Police Officers, and 1 New Sergeant for the Park Police. He reported that the Body-Worn Camera Program would be expanded at a cost of $3 Million and 1,534 cameras. He noted that support staff would include 8 Civilian Positions at a cost of $395,000. He explained that the Off-Duty Employment Officers would be Civilianized and the six Police Officer Positions would be redirected to City South Annexation. He highlighted the Gunshot Detection Pilot Program that would be implemented in the Westside Hope and Eastside Promise Zone Areas. He stated that Senior Citizen Alarm Permit Fees would be reduced from $35 to $30 and projected revenue loss was $59,000. He noted that In Car Video Camera Replacements would cost $2.4 Million to replace 294 devices and Police Taser Replacement would cost $1.4 Million to replace 1,264 devices.

Chief Treviño spoke of the 168 Vacancies and reported that there were 46 Cadets in the current Cadet Class. He outlined recruitment efforts that include Recruiting Events, Advertising, Social Media, and Cadet Pay Increase from $28,428 to $40,700. He noted the SAPD Diversity by Race/Ethnicity but noted that females only accounted for 9% of the SAPD. He provided the Cadet Class Schedule for FY 2016 and spoke of the 6 Pillars of 21st Century Policing: 1) Building Trust and Legitimacy; 2) Policy and Oversight; 3) Technology and Social Media; 4) Community Policing and Crime Prevention; 5) Training and Education; and 6) Officer Wellness and Safety. He indicated that FY 2016 Major Strategies would focus on Community Engagement such as the San Antonio Fear Free Environment (SAFFE) Citywide Initiative and Proactive Recruitment Campaigns. He added that they would continue to improve Community Satisfaction with the Police Department as a People-Oriented Department.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for their work and stated that she was pleased to see the decrease in Property Crimes. She asked of the Street Crimes Unit. Chief Treviño stated that they were considered a Mobile Field Force and could move from one area of the city to another. He noted that their emphasis was on patrol calls for service in a more flexible manner. Mayor Taylor asked of the Open Air Drug Markets. Chief Treviño replied that they hoped to address same through feedback from the community. He spoke of the Anonymous Tip Line that people could call to provide information and mentioned the importance of community trust and engagement. Mayor Taylor stated that in many instances, the Open Air Drug Markets were well-known and did not want the activity to be ignored. She acknowledged that it was the responsibility of others to help; not just the Police Department. She asked of shortening the length of time at the Academy and how additional training would be provided on Body Cameras. Chief Treviño stated that the

individuals that would be considered for the shortened Academy would be those who were Peace Officers and had the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Certification. He added that Body Cameras functioned fairly simply and a lot of training was not necessary.

Councilmember Saldaña stated that he was pleased with Community Engagement Efforts and asked of the deployment of Body Cameras. Chief Treviño replied that they had piloted the program successfully and were now being used as a model for the State of Texas. He spoke of the challenges with manually turning on and off the cameras, as well as the data retention, storage, and privacy rights issues. Councilmember Saldaña spoke of the importance of having Body Cameras for all Police Officers in the future and stated that he was pleased that San Antonio was taking the lead on the issue.

Councilmember Warrick thanked SAPD for their work and asked of the number of Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs). Chief Treviño replied that they were authorized for 2,375 positions but were not exceeding 2,300 due to the 75 vacancies they were required to maintain. Councilmember Warrick asked of Violent Crimes. Chief Treviño reported that the number of Violent Crimes had slightly increased but overall; Uniform Crime Rates were down by 6%. Councilmember Warrick asked of the Park Stewards along the creekway. Chief Treviño replied that they were volunteers that worked closely with the Park Police. Councilmember Warrick asked who would be next to receive Body Cameras. Chief Treviño replied that the Park Police and Bike Patrol Officers would receive the 251 Body Cameras and Phase II would include all of the Patrol Operations. Councilmember Warrick asked of the potential to expand the Shotspotter Pilot Program. Chief Treviño replied that there would be a cost associated to expand the program that would require City Council approval.

Councilmember Warrick asked how they were determining a victim of domestic abuse with regard to the Alarm Permit Fee. Chief Treviño explained the process in which they could have a Victim's Advocate or Detective Investigator receive such certification. He stated that by bringing that document to the Alarm Unit; the fees would be waived. He added that they had modeled it after the State Policy for Victims of Domestic Violence. Councilmember Warrick asked of the Attrition Rate. Chief Treviño replied that 94 individuals were retiring this year and that there were 46 cadets in the Academy. Councilmember Warrick asked of the River Patrol Officers. Chief Treviño responded that they were handled by the Park Police and would be adding positions to address Park Expansion. Councilmember Warrick asked of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or Mental Health Screening available to Police Officers. Chief Treviño outlined the programs and services available to Police Officers. The Officer Concern Program and Return to Duty Program is available for Officers returning from Military Service.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the number of Psychologists and if they only worked

with SAPD. Chief Treviño replied that they had three Psychologists that only worked with SAPD. He stated that they worked with the Officers during the Academy to discuss issues of stress and also conducted In-Service Training every other year. Councilmember Viagran asked of the decrease in Graffiti Reports. Chief Treviño spoke of their efforts to address graffiti in coordination with the Development Services Department and indicated that reports of graffiti had decreased by 30%.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the funding allocated toward Prostitution and the Diversion Program. Chief Treviño replied that they did not have specific funding allocated to same but noted that they were utilizing resources and expanding community partnerships. Councilmember Viagran spoke of the potential to partner with Faith Based Organizations and asked of the status of Human Trafficking Efforts. Chief Treviño noted that they had a great relationship with the Battered Women and Children's Shelter, as well as the Rape Crisis Center. He stated that they would be implementing a Campaign in coordination with the Rape Crisis Center to encourage victims of domestic violence or sexual assault to come forward. Councilmember Viagran spoke of the links among Prostitution, Human Trafficking, and Domestic Violence and asked that they continue to have conversations with the community regarding Open Air Drug Markets. She asked of the females in the SAPD. Chief Treviño spoke of efforts to promote females and place them in strategic positions for growth and development.

Councilmember Nirenberg thanked the SAPD for their work and asked if they would still purchase all of the Body Cameras if they did not receive the Department of Justice Grant. Mrs. Sculley replied that the funding was allocated within the budget and all would be purchased. Councilmember Nirenberg asked if SAPD was reviewing its Use of Force Policies. Chief Treviño stated that he had implemented a review of Use of Force Procedures over the last two weeks and that Lieutenants and Captains would also review Use of Force Incidents for Policy and Training Issues. Councilmember Nirenberg spoke of deterring street racing and asked of efforts to address drunk driving. Chief Treviño replied that arrests for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) had decreased but that DWI-Related Accidents had also greatly decreased which was very positive.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if Domestic Violence was considered a Violent Crime. Chief Treviño confirmed that it was. Councilmember Gonzales asked of the Crisis Response Team. Chief Treviño replied that there was no change to the Crisis Response Team and that they were part of their Patrol Division assigned to the six Police Substations. Councilmember Gonzales asked what was done with the confiscated drugs. Chief Treviño stated that twice a year they took confiscated drugs to the Burn Facility in Houston and performed a coordinated burn of the drugs.

Councilmember Gallagher asked of the Per Capita of SAPD compared to other cities. Chief Treviño reported that it was 2.1 and that San Antonio was in the middle in comparison to the 10 Largest Cities. Councilmember Gallagher spoke of the importance of the SAFFE Officers and educating the community on Hands Free Driving. He added that the Citizen on Patrol Program was also very important.

Councilmember Medina commended the SAPD Leadership Team and asked of efforts to address Truancy. Chief Treviño replied that he had met with the majority of the School District Police Chiefs a week before school began to ensure that they were providing a safe environment for the students attending school. He spoke of the Youth Curfew Ordinance and the great relationship they have with School District Police Officers which has helped reduce Truancy. Councilmember Medina stated that he was pleased with Safety in School Zones and the amount of Diversity in the SAPD.

Councilmember Krier recognized SAPD for their great work and asked how SAPD would address the 200,000 individuals that could be annexed into the City of San Antonio. Chad Tustison stated that they would need 165 additional Police Officers to address the five areas they were proposing to annex. Councilmember Krier asked of the cost of a new Police Officer. Chief Treviño replied that total costs were $100,000 per year for each new Police Officer.

Councilmember Treviño stated that he was pleased with the sense of family and community among SAPD and asked of the homeless and panhandling issues in the Downtown Area. Chief Treviño stated that they were focusing on a concentration of activity along the Commerce Street Corridor and coordinating with Park Police along the San Antonio River. He noted that they were adding a Mental Health Unit to the Downtown Foot and Bike Patrol. Councilmember Treviño asked of the highest volume of calls and false alarms. Chief Treviño replied that they did not have that information but would provide it to the City Council. He noted that they received approximately 61,000 false alarms each year. Councilmember Treviño stated that the fee for false alarms was minimal and did not account for the loss in Officers' time.

Mayor Taylor thanked Chief Treviño for the presentation.

B. FIRE

Chief Charles Hood played a video highlighting the work of the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD). He presented a Power Point regarding the Proposed FY 2016 Fire Department Budget. He stated they had 1,813 Positions in the Fire Department consisting of Uniform, Aviation, Civilian, and Grants Personnel. He provided a map of the 51 Fire

Station Locations and noted that four New Stations had been added and since 2006; five Replacements were completed. He reported that there were 4 Replacements and 2 Annexation Fire Stations in process.

Chief Hood provided an evolution of the SAFD Fire-Based Emergency Management System (EMS). He reported that in FY 2015, there were 243,758 Total Responses. He highlighted response efficiencies that include reduced Medic Unit Responses, and Peak Program Medical Unit. He also mentioned Taxi Vouchers that save units 36 minutes on average when used.

Chief Hood outlined the Staff History for SAFD from 2007 to present noting that they would increase the Uniform Personnel by 51 Positions in FY 2016. He presented the diversity of the Uniform Personnel by Race and Gender and spoke of Recruitment Efforts. He mentioned that more females were applying than ever before and noted the wellness, fitness and safety measures they were focusing on.

Chief Hood reported that the Proposed Budget for FY 2016 totaled $295 Million noting an increase of 8% from FY 2015. He outlined the General Fund Budget of which 84% was utilized for Personnel Costs totaling $242.7 Million. He highlighted the FY 2016 Mandates and Improvements which include the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program ($980K), High Rise Building Inspector ($148K), City South Annexation ($1 Million), UT Health Science Center ($199K) and Time Management and Payroll System. He explained that through the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program, 65 Individuals were contacted; 20 individuals graduated; and 24 were currently enrolled. He noted that they had received 615 less calls for service and the Police Department received 440 less calls due to the program. He provided maps of the two Fire Stations to address City South Annexation.

Chief Hood outlined FY 2016 Program Reductions that would not reduce Emergency Service Delivery. He stated that New Revenues would include a Private Ambulance Co. Franchise Fee, High Rise Inspection Fee, and Mobile Food Establishment Permit Fee Increase. He noted that they would implement an Acting Safety Officer Program and Cancer Taskforce, as well as continue its Strategic Planning Initiatives in FY 2016.

Mayor Taylor thanked Chief Hood for the presentation and for the many sacrifices of the SAFD to perform their jobs. She commended the SAFD for thinking outside of the box in relation to efficiency and addressing community issues such as the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program. She asked of the status of the Public Safety High School. Chief Hood replied that they had a good relationship with the Public Safety High School and were very active within the School System.

Councilmember Medina thanked the SAFD for their great work in the community and asked of their ability to respond during crisis situations and addressing low water crossings. Chief Hood replied that all Firefighters attended Swift Water Training and spoke of the great work of the Technical Rescue Team. He noted that they had the skills and experience but needed infrastructure improvements.

Councilmember Saldaña stated that he was pleased that construction would begin on Replacement of Fire Station Number 2 and asked of the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program. Chief Hood spoke of the success of the program noting that they had educated the citizens that had repeated calls to 9-1-1. He stated that they were recommending adding personnel which would help improve response times. Councilmember Saldaña referenced potential annexation and asked of assistance provided to other small cities. Chief Hood stated that they would assist others as necessary. He noted that the unincorporated areas and small cities were underserved by a Volunteer Fire Department or Emergency Service District.

Councilmember Warrick asked of the fees for Food Trucks. Chief Hood replied that initially, there were no fees the first three years. He reported that fees increased to $150. He added that the Health Department Fees were $300 and they were recommending bringing the Fire Department Mobile Food Establishment Permit Fee in line at $300. He added that Food Truck Vendors would utilize a sticker that would be visible to customers and Inspectors. Councilmember Warrick asked of the potential to slightly increase the fee instead of double it. Chief Hood stated that they had not been charged a fee for the first three years and the increase would allow the Fire Department to issue the required permits for a longer period of time.

Councilmember Viagran expressed support for the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program and moving forward with same in the FY 2016 Budget. Mayor Taylor thanked Chief Hood for the presentation.

Mayor Taylor announced that the meeting would continue in the City Council Chambers for the scheduled Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING

The City Clerk read the caption for Item 2:

2. Public Hearings on the City's 2015 Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the FY 2015 Budget and the FY 2016 Proposed Budget. [Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Maria

Villagomez, Director, Management & Budget]

Mayor Taylor opened the second Combined 2015 Tax Rate & FY 2016 Budget Public Hearing and called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Susana Segura, Maria Quezada, and Guadalupe Segura representing Save Lerma's addressed the City Council. Susana Segura stated that she had worked on the Lerma's Project for the past five years pro bono. She highlighted the role of Mary Agnes Rodriguez, a Local Chicana Artist and Preservationist in District 5. She presented a video illustrating the important cultural background of the West Side of San Antonio.

Eliza Perez, Gianna Rendon, and Amelia Valdez representing Esperanza Peace and Justice Center addressed the City Council. Gianna Rendon stated the importance of preserving the Latino Culture for future generations of San Antonio. She expressed support for the preservation of Lerma's Building and referenced citizen support at past meetings. Amelia Valdez of District 5 and Eliza Perez of District 1 also expressed support for the Lerma's Building.

Meredith McGuire expressed concern for the impact of utility fee increases on lower and middle income households and petitioned the City Council to re-examine the SAWS Proposed Rate Structure.

Jim Spickard spoke of the issue of economic segregation in neighborhoods and areas of persistent poverty. He expressed concern for the lack of funding for affordable housing.

David Klar expressed concern for high levels of income segregation and petitioned the City Council to cancel the Vista Ridge Project.

John Bachman expressed concerns with the San Antonio Zoological Society and their lack of addressing issues related to "Lucky" the Elephant.

Deanna Lee stated the importance of additional funding allocation for spay and neuter operations in order to address the issue of animal overpopulation in the City of San Antonio.

Gloria Aguilar, Mary Garcia, Rachel Martinez representing Lerma's Lovers addressed the City Council. Gloria Aguilar read a petition asking for the allocation of $1 Million from the City of San Antonio to save Lerma's Nightclub. Tony Villanueva expressed his support for "Saving Lerma's."

Oscar Garcia, Rita Vidaurri, and Mark Weber representing Los Taquaches addressed the City Council. Mark Weber petitioned the City Council to assist in the preservation of Lerma's Building. Ms. Rita Vidaurri sang a song as an example of Conjunto Music.

Alan Montemayor expressed concern with the growing costs of the Vista Ridge Pipeline Project and urged the City Council to halt development of the project and re-examine less costly alternatives.

Enrique Sanchez, Gustavo Sanchez, and Isabel Sanchez representing Lanier Fuentes Scholarship Committee addressed the City Council. Isabel Sanchez and Enrique Sanchez spoke of the cultural value of Lerma's Building to the local community.

Maricela Herrera, Jessica Lee Perez, and Mary Agnes Rodriguez representing Mujeres for Lerma's Building addressed the City Council. Maricela Herrera expressed support for the preservation of Lerma's Nightclub and the need for a cultural arts hub in the West Side of San Antonio.

Alvaro Garcia, Jeremy Kreusel, and Richard Mogas representing Community Design Studio addressed the City Council. Richard Mogas commented on the work of Community Design Studio and stated his support for reclaiming and preserving Lerma's Nightclub as a music venue.

Mark Perez expressed concern for businesses operating without the proper permits and lost revenue for the City of San Antonio.

Antonia Castaneda, Alma Morales Riojas, and Cynthia Spielman representing Lanier High School Alumni addressed the City Council. Alma Morales Riojas commented on the importance of maintaining San Antonio's cultural diversity. She mentioned the need for the City to reinvest in revitalization efforts on the West Side.

Dudley Brooks, Tomas Ybarra Frausto, and Sarah Gould representing Westside Preservation Alliance addressed the City Council. Dudley Brooks commented on his years of work with the Westside Preservation Alliance. Tomas Ybarra Frausto stated his membership with the organization and requested support for Lerma's. Sarah Gould mentioned the international following of Conjunto Music and highlighted its cultural diversity.

Rogelio "Smiley" Riojas spoke of family history centered around the Lerma's Building and the important cultural legacy of the location.

Anahi Rivera, Blanca Rivera, and Tirso Romo representing Corazones del Westside addressed the City Council. Blanca Rivera expressed her support for Lerma's Nightclub and spoke of her neighborhood on the West Side. She petitioned the City Council to provide financial support for Lerma's Nightclub.

Mu Son Chi of the Texas Organizing Project mentioned citizen concerns in neighborhoods and asked for funding to address streets and lighting.

Kathy S. Samms read a letter from Congressman Joaquin Castro in support of the preservation of Lerma's Nightclub. She added that it was a vital part of her family's history.

Jesus Vidales highlighted the need for reinvestment in the West Side Neighborhoods of San Antonio.

Arturo Chavez commented on the need for greater public lighting on the West Side as a deterrent to local crime. He petitioned the City Council to allocate funds for increased neighborhood lighting.

Mary Martinez mentioned the need for sidewalks on the West Side near local schools.

Sandra Duarte noted problems with City Infrastructure on the West Side. She noted the frequency of flooding in the area and the subsequent mosquito problem.

Juan Martinez, Gloria Ramirez, and Charlie Smith representing International Accordion Musicians addressed the City Council. Charlie Smith shared Conjunto Artist experiences from across the world including artists from Spain, Japan, and the Netherlands. Gloria Ramirez read a letter from Preservation Texas asking to preserve Lerma's Nightclub with a budget allocation of $1 Million.

Grace Rodriguez petitioned the City Council to allocate more resources to infrastructure improvements on the West Side. She mentioned the importance of the political process in engaging citizens and City Leaders in addressing neighborhood issues.

Araceli Herrera spoke of the stories and emotions illustrated by Conjunto Music and the role of Lerma's Nightclub in preserving the heritage of Conjunto Culture.

Elida Contreras spoke of the loss of Mission Trails Homes and the subsequent impact to families.

Alejandra Lopez spoke of neighborhood inequality in the City of San Antonio and

petitioned the City Council to address community issues presented by citizens.

Maria Biemer noted the income quality gaps in the City and spoke of neighborhood inequality. She asked for increased allocation for home rehabilitation in overlooked communities.

Jessica Azua spoke of the need for improved and expanded infrastructure in community neighborhoods. She noted the impact to public health and safety.

Harvey Mireles, Sylvia Mireles, and Juan Tejeda representing Accordion Conjunto Festival addressed the City Council. Juan Tejeda petitioned the City Council to preserve Lerma's Nightclub.

Rogelio Garza, Adan Hernandez, and Adolfo Segura, Jr. representing Westside Nation addressed the City Council. Adan Hernandez spoke on the preservation of cultural icons and petitioned the City Council to save Lerma's Nightclub as unique aspect of San Antonio Culture.

Christopher Baird spoke of mental health funding and the need for greater rehabilitation resources for the homeless and mentally ill.

Buddy Villejo, Alejandro Guzman, and Humberto Rocha representing SEIU Texas addressed the City Council. Buddy Villejo spoke of the need for infrastructure in neglected neighborhoods. He praised the proposal to raise the City's Minimum Wage. Humberto Rocha thanked City Staff and the City Council for addressing community concerns. He noted that further funding for improving infrastructure was needed in District 5. Carmen Rocha thanked the City and the Council for addressing needs in District 5. She commented on the need for greater drainage and addressing the issue of homelessness in the area.

Frances Adel Williams petitioned the City Council to redirect funding for women's health away from abortion-related drugs.

Jack Finger spoke of Project Worth and Healthy Futures and petitioned the City Council to withdraw abortion-related funding from the Metropolitan Health District.

Angie Garcia requested that the City Council allocate greater funding to neglected neighborhoods in order to protect the quality of life in those communities. She thanked the City Council for their efforts to address the issues presented.

Dolores Sotomayor detailed her experience working with advocacy programs for at-risk

youth and needy families. She stated that most affected families come from the West Side and are in need of greater funding and resource allocation.

Roger Muniz commented on the viability of employment as a possible solution to issues of homelessness and poverty in the community.

Fidel Castillo spoke of the need to properly employ jailed youth who suffer from mental health issues.

Jeremiah McMillan spoke on poverty and crime issues in the City of San Antonio. He commented on the impact of greater lighting on reducing crime rates in afflicted communities.

Chuck Bayne spoke of community issues on the West Side and noted that the area required more drainage, sidewalks, lighting, and greater rehabilitation for homes. He added his support for the preservation of Lerma's Nightclub as a cultural anchor in the community.

Lilly Quintanilla spoke of her family's history in the community and stated the need for greater infrastructure in her neighborhood on Rivas Street.

Tomas Guadiano spoke of the need for pay raises for City Employees and stated that neglected neighborhoods required greater infrastructure improvements.

Marisa Laufer expressed her support for the use of Body Cameras for the San Antonio Police Department noting that it would increase transparency and accountability.

Genaro Solis petitioned the City Council to allocate funds to citizens who needed it most.

Irasema Cavazos stated that investments in the community would create jobs and help alleviate poverty in the City.

Theresa Ybanez requested that the City Council consider purchasing the areas surrounding the Missions in order to construct Mission Parks and preserve their role in the community.

Steven Price, Sr. expressed his support for Lerma's Nightclub and stated his concern for the lack of funding for Veterans and sidewalks.

Jean Brady, Chair of the SA Library Board of Trustees, thanked the City Council for their support and requested additional funding for the San Antonio Public Library System.

Joaquin Abrego petitioned the City Council to support Lerma's Nightclub.

Charles Trevino expressed concern with vacant buildings downtown. He stated that prime tourist areas are located downtown where over 40 vacancies exist and suggested the implementation of an aggressive pilot program to cut down on vacant properties.

Marilyn Malmer expressed concern with funding cuts to the Center City Development Department and associated services.

Mike Lowe expressed his support for body cameras for the San Antonio Police Department based on the recent death of Marquise Jones.

Celeste Solana Brown detailed her work to increase the voice of youth in politics and stated that there was hope for greater transparency and State Funding.

Marianne Kestenbaum submitted written testimony in opposition to budgeting based on a Tax Rate Reduction. She expressed concern that more funding was needed for housing which could not be fully funded by a 2017 Bond Program.

Mayor Taylor stated that the City Council will vote on the City of San Antonio Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2015 at its meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2015, which will begin at 9:00 am and will be held in the City Council Chamber, 114 W. Commerce Street. Having heard all comments from those citizens wishing to be heard, Mayor Taylor closed the second Combined 2015 Tax Rate & FY 2016 Budget Public Hearing.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Taylor called upon the citizens registered to speak under Citizens to be Heard.

John Cope expressed his opposition to abortion and the City of San Antonio's Non Discrimination Ordinance. He cited different passages of the Bible.

Danny Petri expressed his concern for the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility located at 2140 Babcock Road and asked the City Council to review applicable zoning laws.

Patrick Von Dohlen expressed concern for the zoning of the Planned Parenthood Facility at 2140 Babcock Road and commented on their negative impact to women's health.

Margaret Day expressed opposition to the Vista Ridge Pipeline and stated the need for alternate sustainable neighborhood initiatives.

Terry Burns expressed concern with the Vista Ridge Pipeline and the proposed rate structure of SAWS.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony regarding the expansion of the Bexar County Northeast Tax Office. He expressed concern with the VIA Primo Bus Service noting that it was not a smooth ride. He wrote that waiting lists were growing as more Veterans sought healthcare. He also wrote that 7 Area Charter Districts were facing closure.

RECESSED

There being no further discussion, Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 8:58 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC
CITY CLERK