



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, City Hall at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the Work Session to go into Executive Session at 9:06 a.m.

The City Council went into Executive Session, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, to receive advice from Legal Counsel, to discuss matters of land acquisition, litigation, and personnel matters as specifically listed on this agenda and to receive advice from Legal Counsel regarding any other item on this agenda.

- A.1 Discuss legal issues related to Austin Lifecare, Inc. v City of Austin et al. Cause No. 1:11-CV-875-LY & Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin, et al. v City of Austin et al. Cause No. 1:11-CV-00876-LY; In the U.S. District Court-Western District of Texas (Austin Division) (private consultation with legal counsel pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and Mayor Leffingwell called the Work Session back to order at 9:32 a.m.

BRIEFINGS

- B.1 Emergency Medical Services staffing configuration briefing.
The briefing was done by Ernie Rodriguez, Director of Emergency Medical Services; Dr. Paul Hinchey, Medical Director for EMS; Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager; and Steve Stewart, President of the Austin/Travis County EMS Employees Association.

COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST

- D.1 Discuss topics to be considered at the City Council retreat. (Council Member Kathie Tovo)
Council Member Tovo asked that the two items under the main topic of economic developments that provide community benefits be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan and that the following topics be expanded: the City and school working together and youth programs. Council Member Spelman agreed to give a modified version of the presentation he did to the Public Safety Commission. Council Member Morrison asked for an expanded discussion on two officers per 1,000 population ratio and incorporating long range planning by departments in the Comprehensive Plan. Council Member Riley asked that the Council's committee structure be the last item on the agenda in case there is insufficient time for the other items. He and Mayor Pro Tem Cole asked that transportation, the bond package and future planning be added to the agenda. Council Member Riley asked that the park planning as it relates to the bond election be covered.

City Manager Marc Ott asked Council to finalize the agenda so staff can do the preparatory work. There was an agreement to discuss time limits for each item listed on the agenda to keep the retreat on track. At the beginning of the retreat, Council may need to prioritize the items on the agendas if the number of items is too long to cover in a one day retreat.

The Mayor introduced the agenda for the February 9, 2012 Council meeting and allowed Council to give input or ask questions on any item posted on the agenda. Staff was available to provide verbal responses to Council questions. Discussion was held on the following items taken from Thursday's agenda.

Austin Water Utility

3. Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the wholesale wastewater service agreement between the City of Austin and the City of West Lake Hills allowing wholesale wastewater service to be provided to new commercial development located within the City of West Lake Hills without increasing the level of service specified in the agreement.

Staff announced this item will be postponed on Thursday until March at the request of the West Lake Hills Mayor.

Parks and Recreation

12. Approve an Ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Parks and Recreation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20110912-006) to appropriate \$2,360,000 for the construction of a multipurpose structure at Colony Park next to the Turner Roberts Recreation Center. Related to Item #13.
13. Approve a resolution declaring the City of Austin's official intent to reimburse itself from Certificates of Obligation in the amount of \$2,360,000 for the construction of a multipurpose structure at Colony Park next to the Turner Roberts Recreation Center. Related to Item #12.

Law

10. Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to a legal services agreement with the law firm of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., for legal services regarding the implementation of revised electric rates and any related proceedings before the Public Utility Commission of Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,450,000.

Contract Management

4. Authorize execution of a construction contract with STR CONSTRUCTORS, LTD., Liberty Hill, TX for the Morris Williams Golf Course Pro Shop/Cart Barn in the amount of \$1,986,300 plus a \$99,315 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,085,615.

Transportation

31. Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CMTA) and the City of Austin to fund additional rail service to include Friday evenings and Saturdays along the MetroRail Red Line route within the City of Austin in an amount not to exceed \$2,200,000 in any one year, to be reimbursed to the City through Capital Metro funds paid the City under the Quarter Cent Program.

Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services

8. Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment of the design commission contract with Nader Tehrani, NADAA Inc. for \$50,465 to address changes to the scope for lighting design and engineering

requirements, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$194,465 and approve the schematic design for Seaholm Substation Wall Art in Public Places Project prepared by the team led by artist Nader Tehrani, NADAAA Inc., and authorize proceeding with design development services.

COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST (CONTINUED)

- D.2 Presentation and discussion on the Austin Energy rate proposal, including the proposed changes to the rate structure, the rate review process, the Navigant Report, the rate case audit and the customer assistance program audit.

Larry Weis, General Manager of Austin Energy, was available to respond to questions. Council Member Morrison asked that the discussion about the allocation methods be taken up by the Audit and Finance Committee. Council Members Tovo and Morrison asked how the discussion about interim rates could be facilitated and what percent increase Council would have to consider to keep the utility financially stable until permanent rates could be determined.

Mayor Leffingwell adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m. without objection.

The minutes for the work session of February 7, 2012 were approved on this the 1st day of March 2012 on Council Member Spelman's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Cole's second on a 7-0 vote