



COUNCIL JUDICIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012

The City of Austin Council Judicial Committee convened on Wednesday, June 6, 2012 in the Boards and Commissions Room, First Floor Room 1101, City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas. Present were Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Council Member Martinez, and Council Member Bill Spelman.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 10:37 a.m.

1. Citizen Communication: None

2. Minute consideration:

A motion was made by Council Member Martinez, seconded by the Mayor, to approve the minutes of the November 2, 1011 meeting without objection. The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of substitute judges to fill unexpired terms at the City of Austin Municipal Court:

Presiding Judge McKee provided a list judges positions and asked that two of the three vacancies for Substitute Judges be filled. Roberta Byram of the City's Human Resources Department provided two options to fill these positions: Option A was for Judge McKee to review applicants and make recommendations by the August Judicial Committee meeting, and Option B was the same process as followed in past years with the Austin Bar Association screening the applicants although this process may take until the end of September. Discussion was held regarding other bar associations in the area and deadlines.

A motion was made by Council Member Martinez, seconded by Council Member Spelman, to direct staff to move forward with Option B and add the opportunity for other bar associations to either participate with the Austin Bar Association screening or form their own screening committees, and to move the timeline up to the August 8th Judicial Committee meeting date. The motion carried with all members voting AYE.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the city's Red Light Camera program and methods used to collect delinquent penalties:

The Clerk of the Municipal Court, Rebecca Stark, made a presentation on the current status and scope of delinquent red light camera cases, and asked that the Court be allowed to add these cases to its scofflaw program, which is the denial of vehicle registration renewals until the cases are closed. Steven Garrett of the Law Department advised that this process is allowed under state law for these types of cases and the current agreement between the city and state covers them also.

A motion was made by Council Member Spelman, seconded by Council Member Martinez, to enforce the law. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting AYE.

There being no further business or objection, the meeting was adjourned by the Mayor at 11:06 a.m..

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Stark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Stark
Clerk of the Municipal Court

APPROVED:

Approved by all members present at the Council Judicial Committee meeting held on August 8, 2012.

Rebecca Stark