



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Work Session Meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, City Hall at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the Council Meeting to go into Executive Session at 9:04 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Fire Department hiring process. (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and Mayor Pro Tem Cole called the Council Meeting back to order at 10:35 a.m.

COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Mayor Pro Tem introduced the agenda for the January 23, 2014 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.

- 7. Approve an ordinance establishing the value of the exemption from ad valorem taxes for a portion of the appraised value of residential homesteads owned by individuals who are disabled or are 65 years of age or older.
Direction was given to staff to provide information on the tax burden to homeowners who do not qualify for the exemption, the demographics showing percentage of home owners vs renters that are in the over 65 category, the projected growth in the population over 65 who are homeowners, on how other taxing jurisdictions handle tax exemptions and to provide a briefing on overlapping tax rates and exemptions to both the Audit and Finance Committee and the COA/AISD/Travis County Joint Committee.
- 52. Approve an ordinance amending City Code Title 12 to prohibit vehicles stopping, standing, or parking in designated transit priority lanes, to provide for vehicle removal; to establish a penalty; and to provide for emergency passage.

Mayor Pro Tem Cole adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 30th day of January, 2014 on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's 's motion, Council Member Morrison's second on a 7-0 vote.