



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

The Resource Management Commission convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, in Austin, Texas.

Commissioners in Attendance: Leo Dielmann, Chair (District 7); Cyrus Reed, Vice Chair (District 9); James Babyak (District 6), Rebecca Brenneman (District 10), Scott Kohan (District 3), Derrick Lesnau (District 1), Tom “Smitty” Smith (District 5), and Kaiba White (District 2). The commission has three vacancies: Mayor, District 4, and District 8.

Staff in Attendance: Garrett Cox of the Capital Contracting Office; Marisa Flores-Gonzalez, Ginny Guerrero, Mark Jordan, Lauren King, Teresa Lutes, Christina Romero, and Martin Tower of Austin Water; Beth Culver and Richard Anderson of the Development Services Department; and Debbie Kimberly, Denise Kuehn, Karl Popham, and Toye Goodson of Austin Energy.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dielmann called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

David Foster of Clean Water Action congratulated Austin Water for achieving Platinum Certification for Excellence in Water Conservation from The Alliance for Water Efficiency. He urged the City to sync Water Forward processes with those in CodeNext. He also said that in order to be more climate resilient, the City should look for distributed forms of water supply—stormwater and rainwater capture, graywater, and AC condensate—to serve new developments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion by Chair Dielmann, seconded by Vice Chair Reed, to approve the minutes for the meeting of June 19, 2018, passed on an 8-0 vote.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Recommend the issuance of a rebate to Fairmont Austin, for performing energy efficiency improvements at its Fairmont Hotel Austin located at 101 Red River Street, in an amount not to exceed \$206,014. **Motion by Vice Chair Reed, seconded by Commissioner Kohan, passed on an 8-0 vote.**
- b. Recommend award and execution of a construction contract through the National Joint Powers Alliance cooperative purchasing program with ChargePoint Inc., for equipment, design, and construction services for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, in the amount of \$1,500,000 for an initial 2-year term, with two 1-year extension options of \$850,000 each, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$3,200,000. **Motion by Chair Dielmann, seconded by Commissioner White, passed on an 8-0 vote.**
- c. Recommend approval of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Austin Energy Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20170913-001) to decrease the Austin Energy Operating Fund Ending Balance by \$556,694 and increase the Conservation Rebates expenses by \$556,694 to provide additional funding for the Austin Energy Customer Assistance Program's Low Income Weatherization program. **Motion by Chair Dielmann, seconded by Vice Chair Reed, passed on an 8-0 vote.**

- d. Recommend approval to include Austin Water's Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone in its five-year Capital spending plan, as required by financial policy #8. **Motion by Chair Dielmann, seconded by Commissioner Smith, passed on a 6-1-1 vote, with Chair Dielmann, Vice Chair Reed, and Commissioners Brenneman, Kohan, Lesnau, and Smith voting in favor; Commissioner Babyak voting against; and Commissioner White abstaining. (Recommendation No. 20180717-4d.)**

5. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action regarding Development Services Department staffing options for Energy Code enforcement.

Beth Culver and Richard Anderson of the Development Services Department addressed questions regarding the need for additional inspectors. Commissioners referred to a Memo sent to Council Members from Rodney Gonzales, Director, dated June 21, 2017, in which staffing options for plan review and inspections were provided.

Motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Brenneman, to approve the following recommendation, passed on a 6-2 vote, with Vice Chair Reed, and Commissioners Brenneman, Kohan, Lesnau, Smith, and White voting in favor; and Chair Dielmann and Commissioner Babyak voting against. (Recommendation No. 20180717-005.)

"The Resource Management Commission recommends that additional FTEs be included in the upcoming budget for the Development Services Department to fully enforce the energy code for residential and commercial buildings, with up to 14 FTEs for plan review and up to 11 FTEs for building inspections, as described in Option 1 under Plan Review and Option 1 under Inspections in the memo from J. Rodney Gonzales to Council dated June 21, 2017."

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Austin Energy Customer Energy Solutions budget overview by Debbie Kimberly, Vice President, Customer Energy Solutions, and Denise Kuehn, Director, Energy Efficiency Services.

Speaker Tim Arndt said he worked with a contractor who serves low-income single family and multifamily customers, and that reducing the budget for the programs was not the way to go. He disagreed that the reason for decreased funding in the low-income multifamily program was saturation. Mr. Arndt explained that the low-income multifamily program was shut down for two months for evaluation, after which only projects listed in the Austin Tenants Council Guide to Affordable Housing were eligible for participation. He added that the biggest roadblock for participation was the requirement that properties be ECAD compliant.

- b. Water Forward, Austin's Integrated Water Resource Plan, draft recommendations by Teresa Lutes, Managing Engineer; Marisa Flores-Gonzalez, Program Manager; and Mark Jordan, Program Manager, Environmental Conservation of Austin Water.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners reviewed items scheduled for next month's agenda including an overview of Texas Gas Service's proposed conservation budget, presentation of the proposed Austin Energy

Customer Energy Solutions programs budget, and a follow up from the Office of Sustainability on emissions data related to gas and electric usage in residential properties.

Commissioner Smith announced that Jamie Mitchell, an Austin Energy government affairs staff member, had become a father of a baby boy.

Vice Chair Reed announced the showing of a documentary by the Sierra Club called “Reinventing Power: America's Renewable Energy Boom,” on July 21 at the Alamo Drafthouse Mueller. The documentary included the Austin Energy La Loma Community Solar Project.

Commissioner Babyak said he would like to explore ways that energy code inspections could be more thorough to ensure accurate credit to meet energy savings goals.

Commissioner Smith requested that backup documents be sent a week in advance of the meetings to allow more time for review.

8. **ADJOURN** – Chair Dielmann adjourned the meeting at 9:57 p.m. without objection.