



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a special meeting Monday, August 26, 2019, Austin City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, TX.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

Mayor Adler recessed the Council Meeting to go into Executive Session at 3:33 p.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.

2. Discuss legal issues related to the November 2019 election. (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and Mayor Adler reconvened the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20190808-017 to amend ballot language for a special municipal election on the use of Austin's Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue; and declaring an emergency.

The motion to approve the ordinance as amended below by adopting the caption language submitted to read as follows was made by Council Member Pool and seconded by Council Member Kitchen. The amendment was to revise Part 4 to read: "Proposition B. Shall an ordinance be adopted to prioritizing the use of Austin's Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue for the promotion and support of local cultural, heritage and environmental tourism; requiring voter approval and public oversight for significant expansions of the Austin Convention Center; and establishing other local requirements for the use of Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue."

The motion to approve the ordinance as amended above failed on Council Member Pool's motion, Council Member Kitchen's second on a 2-8 vote. Those voting aye were: Council Members Pool and Tovo. Those voting nay were: Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Garza, Council Members Casar, Ellis, Flannigan, Harper-Madison, Kitchen and Renteria. Council Member Alter abstained.

The motion to approve the ordinance as amended below was made by Council Member Flannigan and seconded by Council Member Ellis.

The amendment was to revise Part 4 to read as follows:

PART 4. Pursuant to that direction, Ordinance No. 20190808-017 is amended to alter the ballot language of Proposition B to permit voting “Yes” or “No” on the proposition:

Proposition B: Shall an ordinance be adopted that prioritizes the use of Austin’s Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue by continuing the City practice to spend 15% of the Austin Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue on cultural arts and 15% on historic preservation, limiting the City’s spending to construct, operate, maintain, or promote the Austin Convention Center to 34% of Austin’s Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue, and requiring all remaining Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue to support and enhance Austin’s Cultural Tourism Industry to the potential exclusion of other allowable uses under the Tax code; and requires the City to obtain voter approval and public oversight for convention-center improvement and expansion costing more than \$20,000,000.

Ordinance 20190826-001 was approved as amended above on Council Member Flannigan’s motion, Council Member Ellis’ second on an 11-0 vote.

Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 19TH day of September 2019 on Council Member Alter’s motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garza’s second on an 11-0 vote.