

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS
216 W. SEALY STREET
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY APRIL 24, 2020
12:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

BE IT REMEMBERED that, on the above date, the City Council of the City of Alvin, Texas, met in in a Special Teleconference Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in accordance with order of the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020 in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) with the following members present: Mayor Paul A. Horn; Mayor Pro-Tem Glenn Starkey; Councilmembers: Gabe Adame, Adam Arendell, Joel Castro, Brad Richards, and Keith Thompson.

Staff members present: Junru Roland, City Manager; Suzanne Hanneman, City Attorney; Dixie Roberts, City Secretary and Larry Buehler, Director of Economic Development; Ron Schmitz, EMS Director/Emergency Management Coordinator; and Robert E. Lee, Police Chief.

Discuss and consider Ordinance 20-M, establishing the COVID-19 Economic Development Business Relief Grant Program; establishing the COVID-19 Economic Development Business Relief Grant Program Fund; amending the 2019/2020 Budget to fund the program; providing an effective date and open meeting clauses; and providing for other related matters.

Mayor Horn put together a subcommittee of City Council members consisting of Glenn Starkey, Joel Castro, and Gabe Adame to review a possible economic relief grant program funded by the City to help local businesses.

Glenn Starkey presented a program that could offer local businesses 2 categories for possible funding; \$8,000 for those businesses who were required to close completely, and \$5,000 to those essential businesses that were allowed to remain open but were restricted in operation and suffered economic hardship, or closed due to the impacts of the COVID-19 related City of Alvin ordinances. Funding for this grant program would come from reserves in the General Fund.

The grant presented would require that business must be locally owned and operated, physically located in the corporate city limits of Alvin, and must be in compliance with all applicable City ordinances, must have no more than a combined 50 part-time or full time employees as of March 1, 2020, and must demonstrate that the business suffered a negative financial impact as a result of the City’s orders and ordinances related to COVID-19.

Discussion was had regarding the financing of such program from the General Fund reserves and how this would affect the City’s budget. Discussion continued.

Council member Starkey moved to deny Ordinance 20-M. Seconded by Council member Thompson. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “Aye”; motion to deny was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Horn adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED the 7th day of May 2020.

Paul A. Horn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dixie Roberts, City Secretary