



# City of Pflugerville

## Minutes - Final City Council

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Wednesday, July 23, 2014

6:30 PM

Municipal Courtroom, 1611 E. Pfennig Lane

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### Worksession

#### 1. Call to order

City Councilmember Victor Gonzales called the worksession to order at 6:35 p.m. Councilmembers Omar Peña and Starlet Sattler were in attendance. Mayor Jeff Coleman, Mayor Pro Tem Wayne Cooper and Councilmember Brad Marshall were absent. City employees attending: Brandon Wade, City Manager; Chuck Hooker, Police Chief; Laura Wilkes, Police Lieutenant; Rhonda McLendon, Animal Control Director; Terri Waggoner, Public Information Officer; Karen Thompson, City Secretary. Trey Fletcher, Assistant City Manager, joined the worksession at 7:30 p.m.

Members of Councilmember Victor Gonzales' animal shelter working group in attendance: Victor Gonzales, Councilmember; Starlet Satter, Councilmember; Chuck Hooker, Police Chief; Laura Wilkes, Police Lieutenant; Rhonda McLendon, Animal Control Director; and citizens Barbara Woodworth, Peter Corpus, Kim Waters, and George Cudd. Members of Councilmember Victor Gonzales' animal shelter working group absent: Wayne Cooper, Mayor Pro Tem.

Others in attendance: Cristina Peña, Pflugerville Pflag; Karyn Buchanan, Mary Biesemeier, Ashton Brigner, Devin Cook, Amber Overton, Patsy Van Geem, Sarah Nolte and Andrea Richards.

#### 2. Discuss only

##### 2A. 2014-3165

Discuss current and long-range strategic planning for the Pflugerville Animal Shelter.

Ms. McLendon spoke regarding the immediate needs to provide new kennels to meet state standards for long-term housing of dogs and to meet the needs of the operations of the shelter and the increasing number of animals. Shelter statistics were reviewed and there was discussion with audience members concerning the public's interest in being a "no kill" shelter. Lieutenant Wilkes explained that "no kill" means 10% or better and that the City of Pflugerville tries to get all animals adopted out unless they are ill or infirm. She stated that they try to do everything they can and to do better than the "no kill" standard. She stated that they try to be pioneers and do better than everyone else, stating that she considers the City of Pflugerville's shelter to be "limited kill" and better than the 10% standard. Ms. McLendon stated that "no kill" is a misconception and indicated the concern that it causes people to want to dump animals. There was continued discussion and comments from the audience.

Discussion followed regarding new shelter concepts and the need to meet state requirements and standards. Information on new shelters constructed by City of Alvin, City of Farmers Branch, City of North Richland Hills, City of Lewisville, City of Carrollton, City of Denton, City of Irving, Galveston County and City of Arlington were reviewed for comparisons of size and cost with construction costs ranging for those shelters from \$1.9 million to \$8.4 million. There was discussion regarding making POD additions to the current location for a cost estimated at \$900,000 as well as constructing a new shelter on existing city property with locations for discussion to include Randig House property, Biehle House property, Pfennig Lane Soccer Field, property adjacent to Police Department, and Lake Pflugerville dam property. There was discussion regarding the estimated timeline of two years to plan, design and construct a new shelter. Discussion of the Lake Pflugerville dam site continued. Mr. Wade stated that they could program into the park if located at the lake and if satisfied with the lake location, staff could do more research to focus in on the \$8 million cost estimate with Council direction to put together the bond material. He noted that the Council could still change the amount to less or more than \$8 million. Mr. Wade stated that he wants the animal shelter to be available and inviting and for people to want to rescue an animal. He stated that he did not want pretty, but wanted a functional shelter. Attendees indicated agreement.

Mr. Gonzales summarized that he thinks the Lake Pflugerville site is where they want to start. Discussion followed regarding short-term vs. long-term needs. Mr. Wade suggested placing animals with non-profit organizations temporarily and to not build a throw-away facility for short-term use. Mr. Wade asked that the working group identify who those non-profits would be and the estimated cost for overflow in peak months. Mr. Wade suggested that if the City Council were not to call the bond election or if a bond election was called and the item is not approved by the voters, that they would plan to go back to the existing site and make POD additions in order to meet the immediate needs and state regulations. Mr. Gonzales stated that he thinks that they have a back up plan and that it is important to have one in place. It was indicated that for the strategy moving forward, that they would consider the dam location as an option and that Mr. Wade would have additional information for the City Council to consider at the August 12, 2014 City Council meeting.

Mr. Gonzales spoke to the uncertainty of elections. He stated that they don't have experience with November bond elections in terms of voter turn out and the education of voters. He stated that he does not think that adversely affects the other but the question is how are the voters feeling about where they are at.

The audience inquired about the possibility of corporate sponsorships for the animal shelter. Mr. Wade stated that he would have to visit with the City Attorney on that possibility.

### 3. Adjourn

Mr. Peña made a motion to close the worksession. Ms. Sattler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried. The worksession was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Thompson  
City Secretary

Approved as \_\_\_\_\_ on August 12, 2014.