



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a special meeting Wednesday, September 4, 2019 in Boards and Commission room of City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, TX.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Council Member Pool was absent.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

1. Discussion about the fiscal year 2019-2020 proposed budget.  
Presentation was made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer.

The following topics were discussed:

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FIRST RESPONDER MENTAL HEALTH CALLS FOR SERVICE**

Presentation was made by Justin Newsom, Assistant Chief, Austin Police Department, and Dawn Handey, Chief Operating Officer, Integral Care.

Direction was given to staff to provide possible funding sources for a consultant to assist with the evaluation of the current telehealth software; functional software requirements needed by the department; best practice for software and software recommendations, if any, for telehealth software; information on the impact of all police officers receiving mental health training on the stipend paid to officers; and additional information on the existing telehealth software.

**FIRE COMMAND TECHNICIAN PROGRAM & WILDFIRE DIVISION**

Presentation was made by Joel Baker, Chief, Austin Fire Department.

Direction was given to staff to provide information on the needs for the additional funding for overtime and the total amount of overtime funding within the departmental budget; information on where the additional funding for Fire overtime provided in the past couple of years is now located; information on the number of incidents for which the proposed Command Technician Program would be deployed; information the additional staff needed for the Moore's Crossing fire station and any impact to the overtime budget; to provide information and statistics on work being done relating to wildfire mitigation; an explanation on of the impact of development on the wildfire risk; information on programing and timeline for wildfire mitigation being done in each district; where the firewise communities are located and the process for engaging communities to become a firewise community; for each one of the high or elevated fire risks area which ones have we reached out to them about becoming a firewise community.

**POLICE STAFFING PLAN**

Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer, and Brian Manley, Chief, Austin Police Department were present to answer questions.

Direction was given to staff provide actual overtime costs compared to the overtime budget; a fund flowchart for vacancy and overtime funding; projected overtime costs for FY20 and a description of how the projection is calculated; how many officers retired as a result of the new contract; and project graduation rates for incoming cadet classes.

**ANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED BUDGET**

Presentation was made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer.

Direction was given to staff to provide written documentation of where in the budget the funds for housing assistance for the new South Austin Housing Center is located.

**CHILDCARE CENTER AT NEW SOUTH MUNICIPAL COURT LOCATION**

Alex Gale, Interim Real Estate Office was present to answer questions.

Direction was given to staff to provide a cost estimate for retrofitting and providing a childcare center at the new municipal court location.

Mayor Adler recessed the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Mayor Adler reconvened the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

**ANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED BUDGET DISCUSSION CONTINUED**

Presentation was made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer.

Direction was given to staff to provide written documentation within the budget where the funds for housing assistance for the new South Austin Housing Center is located; provide an update on the funding uses for the Housing Trust Fund; update on questions from the budget hearings relating to the pay scale for life guards; a list of all of the ways the City works to keep the community clean; information on what the Clean Community fee could be used for such as wildfire mitigation.

Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2019 on Mayor Pro Tem Garza's motion, Council Member Ellis' second on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Harper-Madison was absent.