

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

The City Council of Austin, Texas, convened in a special called meeting on Friday, September 20, 2019 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 9:27 a.m.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

Discuss and take possible action on an ordinance related to City Code Sections 9-4-11 (Camping
in Public Area Prohibited) and 9-4-14 (Obstruction in the Downtown Austin Community Court
Area Prohibited); and creating an offense. Council Sponsors: Council Member Ann Kitchen,
Council Member Kathie Tovo, Council Member Alison Alter, Council Member Leslie Pool.

A motion was made to approve the ordinance labeled "Casar Alternatives" by Mayor Pro Tem Garza and seconded by Council Member Casar.

A motion to postpone the item indefinitely was approved on Council Member Kitchen's motion, Council Member Renteria's second on a 9-1 vote. Council Member Flannigan voted nay. Council Member Alter was off the dais.

Direction was given to staff to schedule a work session on homelessness for the week of October 10 if possible; to provide information on which areas Austin Police Department would like clarity on for enforcement; cost estimates for the recommendations received from the Downtown Austin Community Court; and information or options for addressing the encampments along the over/under passes.

2. Approve a resolution related to camping and other related issues frequently faced by people experiencing homelessness in the City of Austin. Council Sponsors: Council Member Kathie Tovo, Council Member Ann Kitchen, Council Member Alison Alter, Council Member Leslie Pool.

Public comment was taken but no action was taken on the resolution.

Direction was given to staff to schedule a work session on homelessness for the week of October 10 if possible; to provide information on which areas Austin Police Department would like clarity on for enforcement; cost estimates for the recommendations received from the Downtown Austin Community Court; information or options for addressing the

encampments along the over/under passes; and further consideration related to the use of the Health South property as a potential, temporary shelter.

3. Discuss and take possible action on an ordinance related to City Code Sections 9-4-11 (Camping in Public Area Prohibited) and 9-4-14 (Obstruction in the Downtown Austin Community Court Area Prohibited); and creating an offense. Council Sponsors: Mayor Steve Adler, Council Member Gregorio Casar, Council Member Sabino 'Pio' Renteria, Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza.

A motion was made to approve the ordinance labeled "Casar Alternatives" by Mayor Pro Tem Garza and seconded by Council Member Casar.

A motion to postpone the item indefinitely was approved on Council Member Kitchen's motion, Council Member Renteria's second on a 9-1 vote. Council Member Flannigan voted nay. Council Member Alter was off the dais.

Direction was given to staff to schedule a work session on homelessness for the week of October 10 if possible; to provide information on which areas Austin Police Department would like clarity on for enforcement; cost estimates for the recommendations received from the Downtown Austin Community Court; and information or options for addressing the encampments along the over/under passes.

4. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to assess additional opportunities and make recommendations for immediate and short-term actions to engage and assist individuals experiencing homelessness. Council Sponsors: Mayor Steve Adler, Council Member Gregorio Casar, Council Member Sabino 'Pio' Renteria, Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza.

Public comment was taken but no action was taken on the resolution.

Direction was given to staff to schedule a work session on homelessness for the week of October 10 if possible; to provide information on which areas Austin Police Department would like clarity on for enforcement; cost estimates for the recommendations received from the Downtown Austin Community Court; and information or options for addressing the encampments along the over/under passes.

Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 3rd 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.