

**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES****WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Work Session Meeting on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, via Videoconference.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

BRIEFINGS

- B1.** Briefing on Covid-19 related matters, including a report on nursing homes. (Standing staff update)
The Presentation was made by Stephanie Hayden, Director, Austin Public Health and Dr. Mark Escott, Interim Medical Director. The report on nursing homes was made by Stacey Chang, Dale Medical School.

Direction was given to staff to revise slide 7 “City of Austin and Travis County COVID-19 Hospitalization by age group (Austin MSA)” to a graph so that it is displayed in a manner that can be understood. Direction was given to present the nursing homes update presentation to the Commission on Seniors and the Health and Human Services Committee.

- B2.** Update on staff response to Resolution No. 20200917-062, (SAVES Resolution), related to economic recovery due to COVID-19.

52. Approve an ordinance amending certain Fiscal Year 2020-2021 department budgets to fund the Save Austin's Vital Economic Sectors (SAVES) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief as follows: the Financial Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$6,000,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Building Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$500,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; the Pay for Success Reserve Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$4,800,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Austin Transportation Department Mobility Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$3,700,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and declaring an emergency.

A request was made to hear item 52 with briefing B2.

The presentation was made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Brion Oaks, Chief Equity Officer, Veronica Briseno, Economic Development Director.

Mayor Adler recessed the Council Meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Mayor Adler reconvened the Council Meeting at 1:15 p.m.

COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST

52. Approve an ordinance amending certain Fiscal Year 2020-2021 department budgets to fund the Save Austin's Vital Economic Sectors (SAVES) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief as follows: the Financial Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$6,000,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Building Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$500,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; the Pay for Success Reserve Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$4,800,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Austin Transportation Department Mobility Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$3,700,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and declaring an emergency.

Direction was given to staff that with regard to the 380 agreement concept to provide information that could be offered to landlords as reducing costs if they are not getting paid rent, for example now, even in triple nets, they are still paying the taxes and to understand what the impact might be on property tax revenue depending on how widely remade something like this is available as part of maintaining some infrastructures to get a better understanding of that side of it too. Direction was given to provide information on whether a review of utility costs has occurred for commercial or businesses and if there is any relief that can be offered to them.

12. Ratify a contract amendment with the Better Business Bureau to administer a total of \$25,890,750 in emergency funds through the Austin Small Business Relief Grant, the Austin Non-Profit Relief Grant, and the Austin Creative Worker Relief Grant programs to small businesses, non-profits, and creative workers in need of relief as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with an option to amend and extend the term and administrative fee should additional grant funds become available to administer.

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.

- E1. Discuss legal issues related to open government matters (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

WORK SESSION MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

- E2.** Discuss legal issues related to funding economic recovery efforts (Private consultation with legal counsel- Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Mayor Adler recessed the Council meeting to go into Executive Session at 2:26 p.m. without objection.

Executive Session ended and Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 15th day of October 2020 on Council Member Pool's motion a 11-0 vote.