



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Work Session Meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, via Videoconference.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

BRIEFINGS

B1. Briefing regarding petitions on potential charter amendments.

Presentation was made by Ashley Glotzer, Division Chief, Caroline Webster, Assistant City Attorney, Chris Coppola, Assistant City Attorney and Lee Crawford, Division Chief, City Law Department.

Direction was given to staff to provide: a list of requirements and qualifications for mayor and for city manager; an explanation on how the veto power would apply to the budget adoption and budget direction provided in the budget process; information on if the mayor could change the timeline for the budget adoption; analysis on the impact on mayor's ability to veto the budget and council's ability to call a tax-rate election; information on the state law relating to appointment and removal of chief of police by the executive officer; information on impact of moving to presidential election years on the term-limit of two terms; information on what authority Council would have to hold the mayor accountable; analysis of the authority of mayor for hearing appeals by employees; and information on veto power and if it normally resides in the legislative branch.

Mayor Adler recessed the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

Mayor Adler reconvened the meeting 1:34 p.m.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mayor Adler introduced the agenda for the February 4, 2021 Council meeting and allowed Council to give input or ask questions on any item posted on the agenda. Staff was available to provide verbal responses to Council questions. Discussion was held on the following items taken from Thursday's agenda.

8. Approve a resolution adopting the Equitable Chamber Funding Report and its findings supporting the base equitable funding model and methodology for contracting and funding the local chambers

of commerce. Strategic Outcome(s): Economic Opportunity and Affordability and Cultural and Learning Opportunities.

32. Approve an ordinance creating the Forensic Science Department; amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Police Department Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out 86.75 full-time equivalent positions and decrease funding in the APD Decouple Fund in the amount of \$11,908,897, which consists of the positions and funding for the Forensic Science Bureau, and decrease the transfer from the General Fund to the APD Decouple Fund by the same amount; and amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in 86.75 full-time equivalent positions and increase funding in the amount of \$11,908,897 for the Forensic Science Department, which consists of the same positions and funding for the Forensic Science Bureau. Strategic Outcome(s): Safety
Direction was given to staff to include in the backup any reports used in the decision to move forward with this approach.

49. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to develop and implement the Housing-Focused Homeless Encampment Assistance Link (HEAL) initiative to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to housing and services in certain identified areas; to develop ordinances or other documents necessary to fund the initiative; and to propose amendments to City Code Section 9-4-11 to clarify that these four locations will not be available for camping after completion of the HEAL initiative. Council Sponsors: Council Member Ann Kitchen, Council Member Leslie Pool, Council Member Sabino 'Pio' Renteria, Council Member Mackenzie Kelly.

The Mayor recessed the meeting to go into Executive Session at 2:28 p.m.

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).
Withdrawn
- E2. Discuss real estate and legal matters related to the purchase, exchange, lease or value of an interest in real property and improvements to be used for historic preservation and affordable housing (Real property -Section 551.072 of the Government Code and Private consultation with legal counsel -Section 551.071 of the Government Code).
- E3. Discuss legal issues related to the potential May 2021 election (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

The minutes were approved on this the 4th day of March 2021 on Council Member Alter's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Harper-Madison's second on a 11-0 vote.