

**State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio**



**Meeting Minutes  
City Council A Session**

Municipal Plaza Building  
114 W. Commerce Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

**2023 – 2025 Council Members**

Mayor Ron Nirenberg

Dr. Sukh Kaur, Dist. 1 | Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, Dist. 2

Phyllis Viagran, Dist. 3 | Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, Dist. 4

Teri Castillo, Dist. 5 | Melissa Cabello Havrda, Dist. 6

Marina Alderete Gavito, Dist. 7 | Manny Pelaez, Dist. 8

John Courage, Dist. 9 | Marc Whyte, Dist. 10

**Thursday, September 14, 2023**

**9:00 AM**

**City Council Chambers**

The City Council convened a regular meeting in the Norma S. Rodriguez Council Chamber in the Municipal Plaza Building beginning at 9:03 AM. City Clerk Debbie Racca-Sittre took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Council Members present:

**PRESENT: 11** – Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

**ABSENT:** None

**PROCEDURAL**

**1. Invocation**

The invocation was delivered by Father Antonio Gonzalez of St. Leo's Catholic Church, guest of Councilmember Viagran, Council District 3.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Nirenberg led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of minutes for the City Council meetings of August 29, 2023, August 30, 2023, and August 31, 2023.

Councilmember Castillo moved to Approve the minutes of the City Council meetings of August 29, 2023, August 30, 2023 and August 31, 2023. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte  
**Absent:** McKee-Rodriguez

#### **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mayor Nirenberg proclaimed September 15 through October 15, 2023 as Hispanic Heritage Month and invited the Consul General from Mexico, Ruben Minutti, to speak.

Mayor Nirenberg recognized the United States Air Force's 76<sup>th</sup> birthday and invited representatives to speak.

Mayor Nirenberg proclaimed October 2-6, 2023 to be High School Voter Week and invited representatives of "Youth Do Vote" to speak.

Mayor Nirenberg proclaimed September 18-23, 2023 to be National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week and invited representatives of "Restore Education" to speak.

Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez honored the life of former Council District 2 Councilmember Joe Webb who died in 2021 and invited the community to attend a celebration this weekend hosted by the Joe Webb, Sr. Foundation.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia recognized the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Avance and invited representatives of the organization to speak.

Councilmember Castillo highlighted the work of the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute (MACRI) and a new mural on the westside honoring Jovita Idar and invited Dr. Sarah Zeneida Gould, Director of MACRI to speak.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia announced the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists Annual Gridiron Event.

Councilmember Alderete Gavito provided information on the Council District 7 Town Hall.

#### **ACTION ITEMS FOR STAFF BRIEFING**

**2023-09-14-0623**

4. Ordinance adopting the Annual Consolidated Operating and Capital Budgets for the City of San Antonio Fiscal Year 2024 that begins October 1; approving projects included in the FY 2024 to FY 2028 Five-Year Infrastructure Management Plan; approving the FY 2024 to FY 2029 Six-

Year Capital Improvements Program for the City of San Antonio; approving certain contracts; providing for a one-time annuity increase for retirees and their beneficiaries and a revision to the City's contribution rate in connection with the Texas Municipal Retirement System; authorizing personnel complements; appropriating funds; and amending related ordinances. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

City Manager Erik Walsh presented his final Proposed Budget including City Council recommended amendments to the Proposed Budget. City Manager Walsh stated that the Proposed Budget included property tax relief, focused on safety, quality of life and service excellence. City Manager Walsh outlined the use of the surplus revenue from CPS Energy earned as excess power which was sold to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT).

Items 4-9 were discussed as a group and were reflected in the minutes under Item 4.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rose Hill commented that Council District 2 residents were not given ample time to review and consider the Proposed Budget and requested the creation of a Citizen's Budget Oversight Committee.

Guillermo Vasquez representing the American Federation of Civil Services and Municipal Employees (AFCSME), spoke in support of proposed civilian pay raises, addressing wage compression issues and the healthcare premium freeze.

Faith Elwonger, Royce Clough, Luis Gutierrez and Galaxy Acton spoke in opposition to the Reproductive Justice Fund.

Chris Baecker spoke in support of raising the homestead exemption and recommended a refocus on the basic safety of residents.

Betty Eckert expressed concern that there was not enough information about the Reproductive Justice Fund so she opposed it as being pro-abortion and stated that senior citizens would not support it. She recommended a focus on transportation and nutrition.

JR Trevino, Interim CEO of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of small businesses and the Construction Mitigation Grants.

Denise Gutierrez expressed concern with the plan for Animal Care Services (ACS) and recommended more enforcement across departments to include not only ACS Officers but SAPD and SAFD Officers. She alleged that no one had studied the animal problem to provide good solutions and she mistrusted the current ACS leadership. She also criticized the Ready to Work Program.

Raymond Zavala commented that Haven for Hope was to be funded by the City for 10 years but it had been funded for 22 years so far. He recommended the Rapid City South Dakota model.

## DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Alderete Gavito recognized challenges of our city and supported the additional funding for ACS, homeless outreach and encampment abatement, ballistic glass in SAPD vehicles, SA CORE Team expansion to respond to residents' mental health crisis and the Senior Assistance Pilot Program to help mow lawns and maintain code compliance. Councilmember Alderete Gavito stated that the Proposed Budget funded 246 streets, alleys, sidewalks and other infrastructure in Council District 7; coupled with the addition of \$100,000 in Neighborhood Access Mobility Program (NAMP) which would address infrastructure needs. She supported expansion of the council district office's print Budget to perform more outreach.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda announced that this was the year of the Edgewood Area Budget and thanked Councilmember Castillo and the other Councilmembers for their support of the funding for Cuellar Park and the senior center. She highlighted funding for the Hero Like Her Program to encourage young women to enter careers in public safety. She supported funds for the Urban Academy Champions. Councilmember Cabello Havrda was excited about the development of a Sidewalk Condition Index and the light to be placed at the corner of Grissom and Old Grissom Roads. She supported mental health support services for first responders and the addition of more SA CORE Teams for the community and the COSA Cares Program for City employees. She supported Cellebrite technology to help solve crimes quickly and more ACS Officers, one Veterinarian position and enhanced spay/neuter services through new storefronts.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda strongly supported funding the Reproductive Justice Fund for women's health. She supported funding for Morgan's Wonderland and disabled communities. She noted that expansion of the Enhanced Library Cards would help many disadvantaged friends and neighbors with identification needs.

Councilmember Kaur thanked the staff and particularly Budget Director Justina Tate for her hard work. Councilmember Kaur supported expansion of the homestead exemption and addressing other needs of the community such as public safety; and addressing homelessness by increasing housing. Councilmember Kaur commented that the goal to shelter the homeless was set at 400 individuals and that ACS would increase the number of calls they could respond to and the number of animals that could be spayed/neutered.

Councilmember Kaur lauded the effort to add two more SA CORE Mental Health Units to serve the community and to provide overnight support. She supported infrastructure such as streets, nonservice alleys and sidewalks. Councilmember Kaur supported funding for the Reproductive Justice Fund for women's health. She noted that there was \$1.4 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to help small businesses impacted by city construction and funds to renovate the Kenwood Community Center.

Councilmember Kaur encouraged members of the community to keep advocating for how City funds would be spent and who the City selected to provide services such as operation of the spay/neuter clinics.

Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez commented that this was the most progressive Proposed Budget the City had ever presented and cited programs such as the funding for Opportunity Home to performing maintenance on public housing, funding to help senior citizens facing code enforcement issues, shade structures city-wide in city playgrounds, more coverage for the SA CORE team, streets and infrastructure funding using an equity lens, funding for a new east side senior center, support for the Diabetes Continuum of Care to provide insulin, providing a grant coordinator to focus on proactive crime prevention, expansion of the ability for ACS to respond to critical calls as well as the spay/neuter storefront clinics.

Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez supported establishment of the Reproductive Justice Fund and recognized that the City Council needed to determine what services would be provided and by whom. He supported the newly expanded community engagement funding for council district offices so that he could perform more outreach. Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez was pleased that there was \$1.4 million in ARPA funding to assist small businesses. He thanked advocates for their work pushing City Council to enact these progressive goals including the proactive apartment inspections, public housing and social determinants of health. He lauded the Proposed Budget as a collaborative document and thanked Council District 2 residents for their input.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia recognized that the Proposed Budget was a compromise but overall, it had a goal to improve the quality of life to our residents. She recognized the work of Communities in Schools and was happy to support funding for 100 new Police Officers, ballistic glass for police cruisers, additional EMS coverage on the south side, increasing the ACS Budget by 26%, expansion of the SA CORE Team hours, launching the Good Neighbor Program (GNP), historic funding for VFW Post 76 and providing seed money for the Kelly Heritage and Learning Center Foundation to create a museum in honor of the first century of flight and history of the United States Air Force in San Antonio.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia supported the park improvements including shade structures, funding for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, funding for the Morgan's Wonderland Inclusion Center Hotel in Council District 10, Summer of Service (SOS), 100 flashing stop signs, the Opportunity Home Maintenance Fund for public housing, \$1.5 million for parks in Council District 4 and funding to watch the solar eclipse at Pearsall Park. She stated that she supported funding for library renovations.

Councilmember Pelaez commented that the City's Proposed Budget was \$3.7 billion which was a significant amount of money and suggested that it was hard for people to understand the concept, so it was City Council's job to explain it. He supported the historic investment in public safety, streets, sidewalks, drainage, homelessness, mental health services, safety nets for the most vulnerable, ACS, arts, culture and preservation of historic assets.

Councilmember Pelaez noted the merits of the discussion on the Reproductive Justice Fund and asked if the City was voting to fund abortions. City Manager Walsh stated that the Proposed Budget would not approve funding of abortions or travel, but City Council would have a later discussion about how the fund would be used.

Councilmember Castillo supported increases to NAMP funding for streets and sidewalks as well

as drainage funding and maintenance for the San Antonio Natatorium. Councilmember Castillo commented that the Proposed Budget prioritized safer streets and sidewalks as well as maintenance of non-service alleyways, 100 flashing stop signs and park shade structures. She commented that San Antonio was the first city in Texas to offer seniors providing volunteer services to help pay their property taxes and supported the new housing initiatives such as funding for public housing maintenance.

Councilmember Castillo recognized the Title Clearance Assistance Program investment of \$100,000 for homeowners. She supported the GNP, and commended Councilmember Alderete Gavito for the Senior Assistance Pilot Program to help with code compliance. Councilmember Castillo supported the Reproductive Justice Fund and highlighted the impact of the Cellebrite technology to help the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) solve violent crime.

Councilmember Whyte supported a reduction in taxes, maximizing the City's homestead exemption but stated that they could be cut more. He supported funding for 100 new Police Officers, bulletproof glass, Cellebrite technology, an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) unit in Council District 10 and funding for performing homeless encampment abatements within two weeks. Councilmember Whyte supported funding for infrastructure such as roads and sidewalks and funding for the Construction Mitigation Fund. He thanked Morgan's Wonderland and CRIT for their work helping disabled children and was excited about funding their programs.

Councilmember Whyte expressed concern that the Reproductive Justice Fund would fund abortion access and declared that he would always stand for life adding that he didn't think the residents of San Antonio wanted to pay for an individual's travel to get an abortion and provided scenarios that could occur.

Councilmember Viagran interrupted to call the question and request a vote on the Proposed Budget. Mayor Nirenberg requested that she make her statement in the form of a motion. City Attorney Andy Segovia clarified that the motion would need a second and Councilmember Whyte moved to amend the Reproductive Justice Fund allocation to restrict funds allocated to Metro Health for distribution to third party entities for only women's reproductive health services that did not include abortion or access to abortion. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion.

Councilmember Viagran did not support separating this from the Proposed Budget and stated that there should be a discussion in B session or in a committee instead of making this decision right now.

Councilmember Alderete Gavito stated that she had been assured that the Reproductive Justice Fund was legal and stated that its intent was to give women a chance to access quality healthcare and did not automatically provide funding for travel out of state to get an abortion. She mentioned that the Item was only a small portion of the Proposed Budget and was within the boundaries of the City's role to provide healthcare to women.

Councilmember Courage seconded the amendment for clarification and to question the role of city government which included providing for the health and safety of City residents. He noted that the issue of City funds being used for abortion would be unprecedented. He commented that all

Councilmembers took an oath of office to obey the laws of the State of Texas. Councilmember Courage asked how much money was being allocated toward women's health. Metro Health Department Director Claude Jacob, stated that \$16.4 million was allocated for women's health in grant and general funds. Councilmember Courage clarified that this was an additional \$500,000 that was not intended to be used for abortion or abortion services and decisions regarding the use of the fund would come later with a larger B Session discussion. City Manager Walsh agreed that the Proposed Budget did not award any contracts or set any parameters; it simply approved the Proposed Budget. City Attorney Andy Segovia clarified that there was no action being taken today that was illegal or outside the parameters of State Law. Councilmember Courage stated that he would support the amendment.

Councilmember Pelaez requested clarification on Segovia's statement asserting that the only action was to approve the Proposed Budget for the Reproductive Justice Fund and the use of those dollars would be debated and decided at a later date. He stated that he would not support the amendment so there could be a larger discussion.

Councilmember Castillo expressed her support for the Reproductive Justice Fund noting that the City Council had passed a Resolution last year to protect women's reproductive healthcare and did not support the amendment highlighting that other cities had similar funds.

Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez commented that this was not a new issue noting that it had been discussed for months and he supported the Reproductive Justice Fund and suggested that each Councilmember needed to represent their respective constituencies. Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez supported more conversation about the Item later.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia noted that Council District 4 had many uninsured or underinsured residents and noted that the fund would help fund birth control, tests and treatment for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD), as well as education, access to prenatal care and Doula services among other services.

Councilmember Whyte thanked Councilmember Courage for his second of the motion and stated that he fully supported the additional women's healthcare services listed by Councilmember Rocha Garcia and his amendment would allow those services, just not access to abortions. He stated that he could not vote for the Proposed Budget without the amendment.

Mayor Nirenberg suggested listening to the women on City Council and he noted that he did not support the amendment.

Councilmember Courage emphasized the good things in the \$3.7 billion Proposed Budget including funding for 360 new Police Officers over the next three and a half years, NAMP funding and other funding for infrastructure, funding for ACS, affordable housing, homelessness and other basic services. He mentioned that the amendments being debated were funded by \$20 million earned by system sales from CPS Energy.

Councilmember Viagran celebrated the milestone of passage the FY2024 Proposed Budget and top public safety priorities such as law enforcement with 100 new Police Officers and a new Police

substation on South Flores Street, extended emergency services for the southside, debt relief for Child Safe, and the Reproductive Justice Fund. She lauded the funding of Council District 3 infrastructure projects such as street, drainage, sidewalk and park improvements. She commented that the Proposed Budget focused on health such as timely trash collection and alley maintenance.

Councilmember Pelaez commented that the proactive apartment inspections had led to improved conditions at a Council District 8 apartment complex, and this was an example of how the entire Proposed Budget provided citywide impact and benefits. He asked members of the media to focus on the positive rather than just the controversy. Councilmember Pelaez supported the improved tools and services for first responders.

Councilmember Whyte reiterated how much good there was in the Proposed Budget including funding for Police, Fire, EMS and he stated that he respected the opinions of his colleagues, though he disagreed, he respected them. Councilmember Whyte moved to remove the Reproductive Justice Fund out of the Proposed Budget for a separate vote so he could, in good conscience vote in favor of the Proposed Budget without compromising his ideals. Councilmember Pelaez seconded the motion.

Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez stated that he made a similar motion to separate the Public Safety Budget in FY2021 after hearing from his constituents about their concerns with the George Floyd incident and it was denied. He empathized with Councilmember Whyte's concern.

Councilmember Pelaez supported the separation so that Councilmember Whyte could vote on the rest of the Proposed Budget.

Councilmember Courage stated that he was reassured that the issue of the Reproductive Justice Fund would be discussed later and asked Councilmember Whyte to consider that the discussion could occur later.

Councilmember Viagran noted that last year she requested to separate the CPS Energy revenues and that it was not approved so she did not support the amendment.

Mayor Nirenberg noted that the Proposed Budget was a consensus document and did not support separating issues. He ordered the vote which failed 2-7 with Councilmember McKee-Rodriguez abstaining.

Mayor Nirenberg closed the discussion by crediting the city staff and called for a round of applause. Mayor Nirenberg listed the excellent services that would contribute to enhanced safety and quality of life such as a property tax rate cut for the second year in a row, increase of the homestead exemption, placing 400 individuals into homes and the diversion of 300 individuals from homelessness, funding for more housing stock production and rehabilitation, increased public safety resources through ACS, Police, Fire, EMS and SA CORE, funding for 72 more miles of sidewalk, 1,500 street projects and 15,000 library materials. He noted that he was grateful for community input and was committed to transparency and equity noting that this was the seventh equity Budget but more work was needed to reverse past inequities. Mayor Nirenberg assured San Antonio residents that their voices and input were genuinely heard.



Councilmember Whyte moved to separate the Reproductive Justice Fund from the rest of the Proposed Budget. Councilmember Pelaez seconded the motion. The motion failed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Pelaez, Whyte  
**No:** Kaur, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Courage, Nirenberg, Castillo  
**Abstain:** McKee-Rodriguez

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve funding for SAISD. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte  
**Recuse:** McKee-Rodriguez

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve funding for Older Adults Technology Services (OATS). Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte  
**Recuse:** Viagran

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve funding for Communities in Schools. Councilmember Kaur seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte  
**Recuse:** Rocha Garcia

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve funding for Family Violence Prevention Services, Inc. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Courage, Whyte  
**Recuse:** Pelaez

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve funding for BioMed SA, Las Casas Foundation, Mexican American Civil Rights Institute, Girl Scouts, Musical Bridges Around the World, Project Quest and the Witte Museum. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

**Recuse:** Nirenberg

Councilmember Whyte moved to restrict funds allocated to Metro Health for distribution to third party entities for only women's reproductive health services that did not include abortion or access to abortion. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion The motion failed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Courage, Whyte

**No:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve the balance of the FY2024 Budget as amended and presented by the City Manager. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage

**Abstain:** Whyte

**2023-09-14-0624**

5. Ordinance ratifying the adoption of the FY2024 Budget that will require raising more revenue from property taxes than in the FY2023 Budget. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Courage, Whyte

**No:** Pelaez

**2023-09-14-0625**

6. Ordinance setting the Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operation of the City of San Antonio at 33.009 cents per \$100 of taxable valuation for the Tax Year beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2023. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a Maintenance & Operation Tax Rate of 33.009 cents per \$100 of taxable valuation, which was effectively a decrease in the tax rate. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Courage, Whyte

**No:** Pelaez

**2023-09-14-0626**

7. Ordinance setting the Ad Valorem City Property Tax Rate to pay the principal and interest on the funded debt of the City of San Antonio at 21.150 cents per \$100 of taxable valuation for the tax year beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2023. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved that taxes be increased by the adoption of a Debt Service Tax Rate of 21.150 cents per \$100 of taxable valuation, which was effectively a decrease in the tax rate. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

**2023-09-14-0627**

8. Ordinance amending fees as included within the fiscal year 2024 budget within the General Fund and certain restricted funds and amending the City Code of San Antonio, Texas to reflect such changes. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage  
**No:** Whyte

**2023-09-14-0628**

9. Ordinance carrying forward certain FY 2023 Funds; amending prior appropriations; appropriating Funds for requirements in City projects and departments; and appropriating funds. [Erik Walsh, City Manager, Justina Tate, Director, Management & Budget]

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Purchase of Services, Supplies and Equipment**

10. **2023-09-14-0629**

Ordinance approving a contract with Qiagen, LLC, for the purchase of one EZ2 Connect Instrument for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District for a total cost of \$82,321.10. Funding is from the COVID-19 Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant from the Texas Department of State Health Services. [Ben Gorzell Jr., Chief Financial Officer; Troy Elliott,

Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Finance]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

## **Capital Improvements**

### **11. 2023-09-14-0630**

Ordinance approving a construction contract with E-Z Bel Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$1,392,656.59 of which \$284,250.08 will be reimbursed by San Antonio Water System for necessary adjustments to their existing infrastructure related to the Contessa Drive Drainage Improvements project. Funding is from the Storm Water Operating Fund included in the FY 2023 - FY 2028 Capital Improvement Program. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Director, Public Works]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

## **Acquisition, Sale or Lease of Real Property**

### **12. 2023-09-14-0631**

Ordinance authorizing the City of San Antonio to declare as surplus and sell a portion of City-owned property located at 5500 Castroville Road within New City Block 13962, as requested by CMD Holdings, LLC for a fee of \$111,100. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Director, Public Works Department]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

## **Street Closures and Traffic Control Procedures**

### **13. 2023-09-14-0632**

Ordinance recommending the closure, vacation and abandonment of an improved E. Elmira Street Public Right-of-way within New City Blocks 7008 and 6791, as requested by Oxbow Real Estate, LLC, for a fee of \$87,100. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Razi Hosseini, Director, Public Works Department]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

### **Boards, Commissions and Committee Appointments**

14. Approving the At-Large reappointments of John Bonillas, Evelyn Brown, Celencia Hayes, and Razmin Riahi to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the remainder of a term of office to expire on May 31, 2025. [Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

15. Approving the following board, commission and committee appointments for the remainder of an unexpired term of office to expire May 31, 2025 [Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk]
- A. Appointing Sandi Wolff (District 8) to the City of San Antonio Commission on Education
  - B. Appointing Anamaria Suescun-Fast (District 10) to the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women
  - C. Appointing Jennifer Neal (District 1) to the City of San Antonio Commission on Strengthening Family Well-Being

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

16. **2023-09-14-0633**

Ordinance approving the following At-Large appointees to the SA: Ready to Work Advisory Board for the remainder of an unexpired term of office to expire on May 31, 2025 [Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk]

- A. Appointing Alexandra "Allie" Perez to the Community Organization category
- B. Reappointing Jerry Graeber and Amanda Wright in the Current/Previous City Workforce Development Program Participant category
- C. Appointing Stefanie Gaines and reappointing Jennifer Cantu, Sonia Garza and Benjamin Peavy in the Local Employer – In Demand Occupation category
- D. Appointing Geronimo Guerra in the Trade/Labor Organization category
- E. Appointing Priscilla Aguilar in the Training Provider/Higher Education Institution category

Councilmember Kaur highlighted her support for the district board appointments.

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

## **Miscellaneous**

### **17. 2023-09-14-0634**

Ordinance approving the settlement of a motor vehicle accident lawsuit styled Edward Battles v. City of San Antonio, Cause No. 2020-CI-07779, in the 225th Judicial District Court, Bexar County, Texas for a total amount of \$120,000. [Andy Segovia, City Attorney]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

### **18. 2023-09-14-0635**

Ordinance approving a Professional Services Agreement with Geekdom, LC to manage and operate Launch SA for a total amount of \$1,743,668 for a three-year term ending September 30, 2026, with two, two-year renewal options. Funding is from the Economic Development Incentive Fund FY 2024 Proposed Budget. [Alejandra Lopez, Assistant City Manager; Brenda Hicks-Sorensen, Director, Economic Development]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

### **19. 2023-09-14-0636**

Ordinance approving the naming of the Walker Ranch Senior Center Dining Hall as the “Honorable Joe and Cyndi Krier Dining Hall” located at 12603 West Avenue. Funding in an amount up to \$5,000 to update the name is from the General Fund FY 2023 Adopted Budget. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager, Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Councilmembers Courage and Whyte highlighted their support for the Item and the work of Joe and Cindy Krier.

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

**20.**

**2023-09-14-0637**

Ordinance approving an agreement with David A. Marks, MD, PA for medical oversight and staffing for the San Antonio Fire Department Wellness Center, for a term of three years with the option to extend for two additional one-year periods. The first year of this agreement is \$321,280.00 from the FY 2024 General Fund Budget, funding for subsequent years is contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget for a potential five-year contract not to exceed \$1,648,000.00. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Charles N. Hood, Fire Chief, Fire]

Councilmember Viagran moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rocha Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Nirenberg, Kaur, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello  
Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez, Courage, Whyte

### **City Manager's Report**

#### **21. City Manager's Report**

City Manager Erik Walsh thanked the 13,000 employees for their work and emphasized the value they provided to our community and commitment to public services. He recognized the outstanding work of the Office of Management & Budget and the Finance team, Office of the City Attorney, Executive Leadership Team, and specifically Deputy City Manager Maria Villagomez and Chief Financial Officer Ben Gorzell.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 1:05 p.m. to deliberate and discuss the following:

- A.** Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).
- B.** The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).
- C.** Legal issues related to litigation involving the City pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D.** Legal issues related to emergency preparedness pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 1:44 p.m. and announced that no official action was taken in Executive Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

**Approved**

**Ron Nirenberg  
Mayor**

**Debbie Racca-Sittre  
City Clerk**