

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



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Public Comment Session**

City Hall Complex  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

**2021 – 2023 Council Members**

Mayor Ron Nirenberg

Mario Bravo, 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  
Ana Sandoval, Dist. 7 | Manny Pelaez, Dist. 8  
John Courage, Dist. 9 | Clayton Perry, Dist. 10

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**Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

**5:00 PM**

**Municipal Plaza Building**

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The City Council convened a regular meeting in the Norma S. Rodriguez Council Chamber in the Municipal Plaza Building beginning at 5:02 PM. City Clerk Debbie Racca-Sittre took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Council Members present:

**PRESENT:** 9 – Nirenberg, Bravo, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Courage, Perry

**ABSENT:** Sandoval, Pelaez

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Public Comment is your opportunity to address your City of San Antonio elected officials directly about issues that are important to you and your community. To sign up to speak visit [www.saspeakup.com](http://www.saspeakup.com). Click on meetings and events and select the meeting you'd like to

participate in. Sign up to speak or submit a written comment. Members of the public are given up to three minutes to speak, and groups are given up to nine minutes.

The following members of the public spoke during the Public Comment Meeting:

Tim Taylor spoke regarding the acceptance of the love of God and read excerpts from the Bible and said that the unborn child should have the same rights as any person and requested the City Council reverse its resolution from August 2, 2022 in favor of protecting the unborn.

Jeff Hull stated he was an artist and recovering addict who had spent time in the public housing. Hull asked for a conversation with the Mayor to discuss upgrading the security and safety in his apartment building. Hull listed the problems at his apartments.

Jon Melendez spoke in opposition to the migrant center on San Pedro Avenue stating that migrants from the facility had polluted the neighborhood and harassed residents at night asking them for food and money. Melendez proposed that the facility should be moved to a rural or industrial location. He added that the facility was not large enough for the number of migrants being served.

Jesse Ortega spoke regarding a noise assault on his home on Presa Street by a motorcycle gang while his mother was being assisted by paramedics several weeks ago. Ortega stated that three construction workers were also causing problems and things were getting worse in the area.

Steve Versteeg recommended more funding for Animal Care Services that would provide better control of stray animals after he was bit by a dog in his neighborhood. He mentioned that the no kill policy was really 90% no kill and needed to be 100%. He said that there was a crisis of animal control in the City.

D'Ette Cole stated there were too many dogs and not enough people wanting to adopt them. Cole stated neighbors did not feel safe walking their own dogs on a leash or pushing their baby in a stroller which was due to lack of space in animal shelters and that animals being killed daily. She called for citizens to get involved and be a part of the solution and requested that the issue be taken up at a City Council Committee to develop real solutions.

John Bachman stated that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) requested the City take back the money given to Texas BioMed stating that the \$10 million could spay or neuter all intact animals in the City. Bachman showed a photo of dogs that were killed in the past month at ACS and requested that money be spent on spay/neuter services.

Sylvia Don protested that no one notified them of a property owner building an apartment building in their neighborhood on Mary Abbott Street and Escalone Street. She said that the street was very narrow dead-end street and that there was not enough room for residents to park with this added complex. Don requested change of Zoning and submitted a list of petition signatures.

Jack Finger said he did not believe Council was not aware of the Migrant Resource Center (MRC) being installed at its current location and called witness to all the complaints regarding the MRC. Finger said that everyone says we are a compassionate city and implored the City Council to understand that migrants bypassed numerous countries to get here. Finger expressed concern that our community was paying for migrants' healthcare, schooling, and housing and recommended getting rid of the MRC.

Chief Apostle Hester claimed he was the Chief Apostle of 130 churches in San Antonio. He said he was homeless and had been robbed repeatedly. Hester stated that restaurants called him inappropriate names because he came back to life after dying even though he didn't cause any problems. Hester said his mom was Coretta Scott King and she was 122 years old and asked when all were going to start being treated the same.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comment, Mayor ProTem Courage adjourned the meeting at 5:36 PM.

**Approved**

**Ron Nirenberg**  
**Mayor**

**Debbie Racca-Sittre**  
**City Clerk**