

City of Alba City Council
May 12, 2025
6:30 pm

Mayor Pro-Tem Kraemer called the regular monthly meeting of the City of Alba City Council to order at 6:33 pm on Monday, May 12, 2025 in the Council Chambers at 145 S Broadway Street in Alba, Texas.

Municipal Judge Charles Busby swore Paul Kelbe in as Mayor. Lindy McCarty swore in Donna Lansdowne and Debi Shaddox and Alderwomen.

An invocation was led by Mayor Kelbe and the room recited the Pledges to the American flag and the Texas flag.

Members Present:

Paul Kelbe, Mayor
Robert Kraemer, Mayor Pro-Tem
Donna Lansdowne, Alderwoman
Tammy Kirkpatrick, Alderwoman
Tim Westervelt, Alderman
Debi Shaddox, Alderwoman

Staff Present:

Juan Ramirez, Police Chief
Shawn Newland, Public Works Director
Leigh Thompson, Atty via Zoom
Lindy McCarty, City Sec'y

Visitors present: Brenna Williams, Tim Koonce, Casey Bohannon, Travis Reed, Tammy Kelbe, Amanda Bohannon

A motion to appoint Charles Busby as Municipal Judge was made by Lansdowne. A second followed from Kraemer and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Kelbe swore Judge Busby in.

Kirkpatrick made a motion to appoint Robert Kraemer as Mayor Pro-Tem. Westervelt made the second and the motion carried 4 for and 1 abstain by Kraemer.

No public comment on Agenda Items Only.

Kelbe stated the monthly FD report was late and that the EDC had no report and he would like to see each department submit a report. Kirkpatrick asked if city hall is going to do a report and Kelbe said that should not be a problem. A motion to approve the consent agenda items with the exception of the FD report was made by Kraemer. Lansdowne made a second and the motion carried unanimously. Kraemer asked FD about a budget amendment on their "Repairs: Equipment" line on their budget. Kelbe stated that he didn't see a need to make budget amendments monthly due to not being able to see where the city is on their budgets if the numbers are changing each month. The auditor's recommendation is at 6 months and then right before the fiscal year end.

Westervelt made a motion to discuss the Resolution for Council Decorum Policy. A second came from Shaddox and the motion carried unanimously. Kirkpatrick cited on Page 1 of the policy that the word "Charter" should be deleted, the first paragraph on Page 2 should be deleted regarding Agenda and on Page 5 the last sentence in the first section change to "Business Casual attire is required for all attendees of Council meetings." Kraemer cited on Page 1 second paragraph that the Mayor Pro-Tem MAY NOT vote while conducting the meeting and should be changed to MAY vote even when conducting a meeting and on Page 2 under Quorum, sentence should be changed to "The Mayor shall not count as a Council Member for the establishment of a quorum." Thompson asked for the policy in a Word document so she can make the changes. Also, that Kelbe is requesting an Action Item Form for placement of items on the agenda is a good practice to put into place. After this discussion, Kirkpatrick made a motion to table the policy until the attorney gets the changes made for the June agenda. A second was made by Lansdowne and the motion carried unanimously.

Travis Reed with SPI was present to speak about the TWDB Grant project. He pointed out the significance of this grant with Alba being one of 13 cities in the whole state to receive a 100% loan forgiveness grant. So far this project will be to rehabilitate the water tower and replace old water lines. All plans will be submitted to TCEQ for approval. There will be 2 contractors, one for the tower project and 1 for the line replacement. Kirkpatrick asked if he had met our new Public Works Director and Travis said yes and he looked forward to working with him.

Travis Reed then spoke regarding the TCEQ Enforcement Case #66866 and the Proposed Agreed Order. There are some options available but the council agreed that they would like to see the city do a project to benefit the wastewater plant and not just send money to TCEQ. The city has to reply within 15 days and Newland said he would get with Travis on that. Newland said he

would like to look at smoke testing and possibly changing the city's permit. Kirkpatrick made a motion for Newland to handle this with Travis. Lansdowne made a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Kirkpatrick asked whether the city would have to pay interest on the TMRS contributions for Trussell and Ivory. She read an excerpt from the TMRS site regarding interest. Lansdowne made a motion to make the correction on the TMRS contributions for Trussell and Ivory. A second came from Kirkpatrick and the motion carried unanimously. Council agreed that the employees should not be responsible to pay their portion of the contributions.

Newland requested to the council that Kelbe do the daily checks on the wells during Randall Bohannon's vacation in May and June. Kelbe will be paid as a contract laborer. Westervelt made a motion for Kelbe to do the rounds. A second came from Shaddox and the motion carried unanimously.

Newland recommended to the council that due to all the unexpected expenditures, the vacancy in the W&WW department being filled should be postponed until the new budget year. Kirkpatrick made a motion to postpone filling the vacancy until the new budget year beginning 10-1-25. A second came from Westervelt and the motion carried unanimously.

Westervelt made a motion to approve the purchase by the EDC of new sails at the park from Playwell for \$10,511.34 for the sails and \$1,720.43 for the installation of said sails. Lansdowne made a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Westervelt made a motion to approve the bid from Smith Builders for \$36,885.00 by the EDC for the renovations to the Family Community Center. Lansdowne made a second. Kelbe asked if that item had been included in their budget. The motion then carried unanimously. Casey Bohannon said that the contractor would be able to start by the end of June.

Westervelt made a motion to send the vote for a replacement to fill out a vacancy on the EDC board back to the board so they can pick the replacement. The vote by the board was a tie. They have two applicants. Lansdowne seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of Thompson, a motion to enter into executive session at 7:45 pm was made by Shaddox with Ramirez remaining, to discuss personnel. Westervelt made a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Judge Busby addressed the council briefly before he left the room.

A motion to exit out of executive session at 7:59 pm was made by Lansdowne. A second followed from Kraemer and the motion carried unanimously.

Kelbe called the meeting to order again in regular session.

Lansdowne made a motion that no action would be necessary regarding the personnel complaint received from citizen, Ted Levitt. A second came from Shaddox and the motion carried unanimously.

Westervelt made a motion to adjourn. A second followed from Kirkpatrick and the motion carried unanimously.



Lindy McCarty, City Sec'y



Paul Kelbe, Mayor