



**CITY OF LEON VALLEY
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**
Leon Valley City Council Chambers
6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238
Monday, August 10, 2020

MINUTES

5:30 PM Call to Order; Determine a Quorum is Present, Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status
Chris Riley	City of Leon Valley	Mayor	Present
Monica Alcocer	City of Leon Valley	Mayor Pro-Tem, Council Place 3	Remote
Donna Charles	City of Leon Valley	Council Place 1	Remote
Catherine Rodriguez	City of Leon Valley	Council Place 2	Present
Matthew Hodde	City of Leon Valley	Council Place 4	Present
Will Bradshaw	City of Leon Valley	Council Place 5	Present

Mayor Chris Riley welcomed everyone and then announced a quorum of City Council was present.

Mayor Riley asked Councilor Will Bradshaw to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Riley went over the Rules of Decorum with a brief summary.

REGULAR AGENDA

Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution of the City of Leon Valley City Council, Approving a Program, Including Grants of Public Money up to \$100,000 Total to be Used for Household Stabilization Located Within the City of Leon Valley in Response to the Statewide Disaster Declaration and to be Administered by Ascension DePaul Services and Authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Contract with Ascension DePaul Services; and Providing for an Immediate Effective Date (M&C # 2020-08-10-01 W. Cox)

William Cox, Business Relations Specialist presented the item seeking City Council consideration of a resolution approving a program through Ascension DePaul Services which will be used for household stabilization within the City of Leon Valley in response to the Statewide Disaster Declaration and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Contract with Ascension DePaul Services for the stabilization program.

The not-for-profit program will provide economic relief to citizens for the following: mortgage assistance, temporary rental assistance, up to 2 months of internet services, fuel, food assistance programs, clothing closets, and counseling services

This not-for-profit program has been serving the needs of the metropolitan area since 1958. Part of their mission is to service all persons in need or who are vulnerable - they have a charity tracker program and the support staff available to administer the program.

Mr. Cox concluded the presentation saying that the authorization of this resolution could have a positive fiscal impact for Leon Valley Citizens struggling from COVID 19 related employment or health issues. It could utilize up to \$100,000 of CARES Act Funding allocated to Leon Valley for economic support.

Those who spoke on this item were: Heather Riddle

A motion was made by Councilor Will Bradshaw to adopt the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Catherine Rodriguez.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Will Bradshaw, Council Place 5
SECONDER:	Catherine Rodriguez, Council Place 2
AYES:	Alcocer, Charles, Rodriguez, Hodde, Bradshaw

Presentation and Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Article 3.04, Sign Code of the City of Leon Valley Code of Ordinances (M&C # 2020-08-10-02 B. Melland)

Brandon Melland, Planning & Zoning Director presented this item which has a purpose of amending Article 3.04, Signage, of the City’s Building Code. Last year the City Council established a citizen-led subcommittee to consider amendments to the City’s existing signage regulations. This amendment was generally initiated due to citizen complaints regarding temporary signage and political signage.

However, opportunity also existed to potentially amend signage regulations as currently required by the City’s Zoning Overlay Districts to be more flexible for the City’s retail and multi-tenant shopping centers. Opportunity also existed to better organize the City’s signage regulations as they are currently located in two separate sections of the City’s Code of Ordinances - Chapter 3, Building Code and Chapter 15, Zoning Code.

The red-lined ordinance amendments in the attached Exhibit A represent the amendments proposed by the sub-committee, with further editing by the City Attorney as necessary to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

Noteworthy proposed amendments include the following: 1. Amendments to no longer have regulations split between two separate chapters of the City Code; and to have all regulations pertaining to signage be located within Chapter 3, Building Code. This

recommendation was made for the following reasons: a. It is confusing to Staff and the development community to have signage regulations located in multiple sections of the code; b. With signage regulations located only in Chapter 3, the development community will only have to receive approval from the City Council for variances, rather than both the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the City Council, as currently required. 2. Nonconforming signage regulations strictly comply with state law requirements; 3. The Planning and Zoning Commission is to serve as the authority for approving or disapproving variances and appeals; 4. The City Council is to serve as the appellate authority for decisions made by the Planning and Zoning Commission; 5. The Planning and Zoning Commission is established as the advisory body to the City Council regarding future amendments to the Sign Code; 6. Political signs may be placed on City owned property subject to certain limitations; 7. Free standing signage along Bandera Road is permitted additional height and area depending on the number of tenants in the facility; 8. Pole Signage is no longer permitted under any circumstance. All existing pole signs shall be considered legally non-conforming and shall be subject to additional modifications if desired to be altered or expanded; 9. Signs must now be constructed of aluminum, alumalite, acrylic, glass, steel, stainless steel, masonry, wood, or a similarly durable material. Vinyl or polyvinyl chloride (PVC); and 10. More flexibility for temporary signage for businesses, particularly new businesses.

Director Melland concluded the presentation saying that at the March 16, 2020, Sign Code Update Advisory Committee meeting, members unanimously recommended approval of the attached proposed amendments.

The presentation was followed by a lengthy discussion.

Those who spoke on this item were: Heather Riddle, Chair of the Sign Code Update Advisory Committee; Justin Pulliam from Fort Bend County and his YouTube channel; Philip Riddle of Leon Valley; Patrick Roth (didn't say where he was from); and Rey Orozco of Leon Valley

Director Melland said the next steps would be to advertise for public hearings and then bring back the proposed ordinance change to City Council in September for a first and second read.

RESULT: PRESENTED

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Those who spoke at this time were: Diana Sarfin of Leon Valley; Justin Pulliam from Fort Bend County; Richard Blackmore of Leon Valley; Benny Martinez of Leon Valley; and James Cane from Houston

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Riley announced that the meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

APPROVED

Chris Riley

CHRIS RILEY
MAYOR

ATTEST: *Sandra Passailaigue*
SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY

