

**Village of Salado Municipal Building
301 North Stagecoach Road
Salado, Texas
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Aldermen
April 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.**

The Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Michael Coggin. *The meeting was conducted in person and on YouTube.*

Mayor Coggin gave the Invocation, and the Board of Aldermen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Board Members Present: Mayor Michael Coggin, Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Bell, Alderman Paul Cox, Alderman D. Jasen Graham, Alderman Bert Henry, and Alderman Jason Howard.

Staff Present: Village Administrator Manual De La Rosa, City Secretary Debra Bean, Police Chief Allen Fields.

1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Jim Boyton spoke out against a notice in the newspaper that ran in support of the mayor. He also criticized a local deacon in a church for not being willing to come speak out against the mayor.

Darlene Walsh wanted to clarify comments made at the last meeting. She does not believe the village offices need an upgrade currently. She agrees the Police Station needs an upgrade. Her suggestion as far as the police station is concerned is to locate land to build on or that the existing building be demolished and a new two-story building to include a rooftop billboard advertising upcoming events be built in its place. She had spoken with Mr. De La Rosa regarding her willingness to donate a building for the police to use during construction.

Ashley Lewis read from Salado Police Report #88 dated March 1, 2024. She said she later found out her boss had hired the spouse of the subject of the investigation. She requested a meeting with her boss regarding this, but he would not see her. She said this is the reason she quit her job.

Troy and Vicky Kelly spoke on behalf of keeping the Sirena Festival in Salado. Mr. Kelly gave a brief history of when he created Sirena. He wanted to discuss the plans to move the festival to Belton. He said Sirena is site specific and needs to stay by the water. He said he does not understand why this is happening. Mr. Kelly is calling on citizens to look at the impact Sirena has had on Salado. Mrs. Kelly shared illustrations and photos of Sirena being created.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- (A) APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE VILLAGE OF SALADO.
- (B) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING ON APRIL 4, 2024.

Motion made by Alderman Howard to approve Item (A). Seconded by Alderman Graham. All approved and motion carried by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed.

3. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ANY ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

None

4. **STATUS REPORTS**

(A) VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- SALES TAX COLLECTIONS
Sales tax collections for March representing February were \$54,682.
- RAIN, HAILSTORM, AND STORMWATER EVENT ON APRIL 9TH
Solomon Thomas from MRB explained the event stating this was between a fifty and one-hundred-year storm event. He shared with the Board possible remedies to prevent future flooding. Mr. De La Rosa explained that he is collaborating with the engineers to update the drainage standards.
- UPDATE ON DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES WITH THE FIRM OF JACOBS PERTAINING TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Mr. De La Rosa has shared with the Board the information on the CPI with the caps that are equitable with both sides.
- UPDATE ON CITY MAPS
Mr. De La Rosa shared the maps earlier this week with the Board. Questions included lack of zoning information in some areas. He explained that this would change. The maps are the most current with the ETJ. Several people have requested removal from the ETJ. These will be addressed at the next meeting.
Mayor Coggin asked about where we are with road repairs. Mr. De La Rosa has met with the county commissioner and the idea is to stabilize the surface and then put in an overlay. The mayor pointed out several needing attention.
Alderman Graham asked about the budget being tapped out for street repairs. Mr. De La Rosa stated the Village is looking at \$50,000 to \$100,000 in future repairs that will need to come from a loan or out of general fund.

Alderman Graham asked if the Parks Advisory Committee had been asked to provide a group of projects. Mr. De La Rosa met with them, and they discussed closing out Pace Park and ideas for future projects.

Alderman Graham asked if Mr. De La Rosa expected to exceed the budget on wastewater. Mr. De La Rosa said he expects we will stay within the budget.

Alderman Graham asked if the Stagecoach Circle Project was on schedule. Mr. De La Rosa said the completion date was 120 days, but they have rainy days available. Alderman Graham asked if the contract was a firm price and Mr. De La Rosa said yes, it is a firm price.

Alderman Graham asked about the Royal Street project. Mr. De La Rosa said Royal Street got kicked back this week, but corrections have been made.

Alderman Graham asked about the Williams Drive sidewalk. Mr. De La Rosa has checked the code of ordinance that sets the industry standard. He is trying to ensure it will be a safe environment for all involved.

Alderman Graham wanted to make sure a workshop was scheduled to address the subdivision ordinance. Mr. De La Rosa stated it would be done during the budget process. He said the subdivision and zoning ordinances are not the problem but rather the management and enforcement of them.

Alderman Graham asked what is next with the new Municipal Building. Mr. De La Rosa has met with the County Commissioner regarding the septic system. He said we should be breaking ground within the year.

Alderman Cox stated the Village left a lot of money on the table and asked if Mr. De La Rosa knew how much. Mr. De La Rosa said he does not know those types of analysis, but he would not continue to give it away.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- (A) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A REQUEST TO CLOSE ROYAL STREET ON OCTOBER 19TH, 2024, FROM 7:45 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M., FOR THE VOLKSRIDE AND VOLKSMARCH EVENT, AS REQUESTED BY MRS. KD HILL WITH BARROW BREWING COMPANY AND MS. BERTA DAVIS.

KD Hill was available to answer questions. She explained that it is the fifth year for the Volksride and she knows it is critical to have control on Royal Street at the start for safety. There were around four hundred riders last year. The VFD has helped in the past.

Motion by Alderman Cox to approve the request as presented. Seconded by Alderman Henry. All approved and motion carried by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed.

- (B) FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-02, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF SMITH BLUFF ROAD AND SMITH BLUFF WAY, CREATING AN ALL-WAY STOP; AND INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT; EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.

Mr. De La Rosa reviewed the request for speed bumps, and it was determined that stop signs would be better. Stop signs have been installed and the speed limit has been reduced to 30 mph. Alderman Cox stated he has gone through the intersection 3 times, and it is much better, and he is very happy with the results.

- (C) FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-03, AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SALADO, TEXAS GRANTING MUSTANG SPRINGS UTILITY, LLC CERTAIN POWERS, LICENSES, PRIVILEGES AND FRANCHISE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A WATER UTILITY SYSTEM WITHIN THE VILLAGE; TO USE THE STREETS, AVENUES, EASEMENTS, RIGHT-OF-WAY, ALLEYS, HIGHWAYS, SIDEWALKS, AND BRIDGES IN SAID VILLAGE; PRESCRIBING CERTAIN RIGHTS, DUTIES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF A PERCENTAGE OF ITS TOTAL BILLED WATER USAGE; PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. De La Rosa explained that this is a franchise agreement ordinance. It has very few differences from the Salado Water Supply Agreement. The developer has agreed to the agreement. Mr. Charles has made a suggestion for a few changes, and they have been made.

Alderman Howard asked how long it had been since a request was made for a correction to the plat for Mrs. Kennedy. Mr. De La Rosa said 2 months.

Mayor Pro Tem Bell asked if they had to pay a franchise fee after 5 years. Mr. De La Rosa said the agreements do expire.

Entered Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN:

- (A) SECTIONS 551.074. PERSONNEL MATTERS; CLOSED MEETING. TO DELIBERATE THE EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE: THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR.

Reconvened in Open Session at 8:52 p.m.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- (A) DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AGENDA ITEM 6(A).

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Coggin called the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Approved:



Michael Coggin, Mayor

Attest:



Debra Bean, City Secretary