

Village of Salado Board of Aldermen
Meeting Minutes

Salado Civic Center Auditorium
Thursday, November 15, 2001

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Douglass at 6:30pm. Quorum determined.

Alderman Ashe made a motion to accept and approve the previous meeting minutes Nov. 1st, 2nd by Alderman Carver, motion carried.

Due to some people on the agenda who were there at the beginning of the meeting and some who were not, Mayor Douglass did not follow the items on the agenda in the order that they were listed.

New Business, Item #4:

Mr. Terry Potts, owner of the Levi Tenney House B&B, was present and requested permission to erect a sign in front of his B&B. Mr. Potts handed out a drawing of what the sign will look like. Motion was made by Alderman Carver to approve Mr. Potts sign request, 2nd by Alderman Means, motion carried.

Report from Chief of Police:

Chief Rogers reported that he has received the radar he ordered and feels like the presence of the Salado Police has been adequately established and it is now time to start issuing citations if necessary.

A Racial Profiling Policy that is due by January 1st has been written and submitted to the Board for review.

Old Business:

1. Mr. Bobby Lee Vernon was present to request a signage change and to inform the Board that he and Ms. Claudia Carroll, the owner of the business right behind his, have talked and agreed to erect a sign that has the name of the three businesses on that block on it. Mr. Vernon informed the Board that he would like to: 1) remove the sign he recently put up that is located on Main Street on the Garrett's property that says "Bobby Lee's Antiques"; 2) put up a sign on Main Street in conjunction with Claudia Carroll that lists all three businesses (Ms. Carroll would take down the sign she currently has that lists only Salado Antique Mall and Kitchen Cottage); 3) put up a sign on the north edge of his property that faces Main Street that would indicate the rear entrance of his business and would say "Bobby Lee's Antiques". That would give Mr. Vernon a total of three signs, two new ones and the existing Marquee sign. Mr. Vernon also asked that he be allowed to put up two small signs (2x3) on light poles on his property that would say simply "Antiques". The Board declined his request to put those two signs on the light poles. Mr. Vernon said he would put them on his building. Motion was made by Alderman Carver to approve Mr. Vernon's signage request as stated above, 2nd by Alderman Ashe, motion carried.

Mr. Vernon also asked the Board for permission to put up a temporary, movable 8'x16' vinyl sign that he would use during the weekends of his Salado Trade Days sale. Motion was made by Alderman Carver to approve the request by Mr. Vernon to use the vinyl sign during the Trade Days weekends, 2nd by Alderman Cooper, motion carried.

Mr. Vernon informed the Board that the property owner next door has erected three posts at the beginning of a small gravel road that runs east and west next to Mr. Garrett's (the owner of the building Mr. Vernon is renting) property and therefore, no traffic can come through that road. Alderman Ashe will look into who owns that road and whether the posts are lawful.

Mr. Vernon also informed the Board that he learned of the complaint filed against him regarding his signage from the local newspaper and felt that the Board should have notified him directly upon receiving the complaint. Mayor Douglass acknowledged his opinion and a better method of notification will be looked at in the comprehensive plan.

2. Mayor Douglass reported on the Nov. 7th Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Mayor Douglass stated some of the issues the committee felt that Dunkin, Sefko & Assoc. should be looking into in the comprehensive plan. In the next few months the committee will be looking at interim guidelines. All of the Steering Committee meetings are open meetings. Public Hearings will be called and property owners will be notified by postcards of the hearings. Alderman Means informed the Board that the committee decided to go ahead with zoning and subdivision ordinances in order to get something in place before the completion of the comprehensive plan. All but three of the committee members were present for the meeting.

3. Alderman Cooper handed out a revised contract with the Salado Volunteer Fire Department. Alderman Cooper will get phone numbers that need to be put on the contract and get the original to Mayor Douglass. Ordinance No. 2001.23 which was handed out at the Nov. 1st meeting had no changes. Motion was made by Alderman Means to accept Ordinance No. 2001.23 which authorizes the Village to contract with the SVFD, 2nd by Alderman Cooper, motion carried.

4. Mayor Douglass reported that Mr. Barry Williams hand delivered to her a letter stating his position on his sign violation. Alderman Ashe stated that in his opinion the letter from Mr. Williams is not a sign variance request. Mr. Williams submitted no diagrams or specifics for a variance. Alderman Cooper made a motion to authorize Mayor Douglass to write a letter to Mr. Williams stating that the Board has considered his letter but will not consider it a request for variance unless he or a representative comes before the Board and argues/submits the request. If Mr. Williams does not appear before the Board or submit documentation to argue his case, other measures will be taken to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Williams request was tabled until the next Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Alderman Means, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Patty Akers was present and explained to the Board about the services Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever, & McDaniel law firm can offer Salado and the different methods of payment. Mrs. Akers suggested that her firm put a package together showing several different payment methods. The Board agreed and asked Mrs. Acres to do that.

2. Mayor Douglass passed out a list of those organizations that submitted grant request from the Tourism Council and went over each highlighting the dollar amount each organization requested and the amount the Tourism Council recommended giving them. Each Alderman also had a copy of the proposed Interim Budget for the Tourism Council. Mayor Douglass went over the budget. Motion was made by Alderman Means to accept the Tourism Council Budget as submitted, 2nd by Alderman Ashe, motion carried.

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 7:55 to discuss a possible action on offer for settlement from Shiloh Sign Company.

The Board reconvened at 8:30. Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to authorize Mayor Douglass to negotiate a settlement with Shiloh Sign Company with the following stipulations:

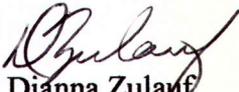
1. No money will be paid to Shiloh.
 2. Request for sign variance is approved with height of sign not to exceed 45 feet.
 3. Sign is to remain no longer than 20 years.
 4. Sign to be erected as depicted in TxDOT permit, i.e.: at corner of Auto Excellence building.
 5. Built in accordance of Exhibit "A".
 6. Permanently display on skirt of sign a Salado ad to be changed at the discretion of city.
 7. Parties execute mutual releases releasing each other from any and all obligations, causes of action, damages, etc. in conjunction with the suit. All court cost be taxed against the party incurring.
- Motion was seconded by Alderman Means, motion carried 4 to 1.

Announcements:

1. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2001.
2. Municipal Building open house will be Monday, November 26th from 5:30 to 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Dianna Zulauf
Village Secretary