Village of Salado, Texas
Board of Aldermen
Minutes
Special Called and Workshop Meeting
6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 22, 2016
Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Road
Salado, Texas

Present: Mayor Skip Blancett, Alderman Frank Coachman, Alderman Amber Preston Dankert, Alderman Michael McDougal, Alderman David Williams.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tempore Brown.

Others Present: Chrissy Lee, Planning & Development; Mary Ann Ray, Village Secretary.

I. Call to Order.

Mayor Blancett called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Workshop Session.

1. Discuss recommendations of the Environmental/Deer and the Trails/Parks committees for appropriate signage at Pace Park and other Village green spaces.

   There was discussion about the proposed signs, which would be placed in Pace Park, near the "Big Bubbly" spring, and near the waterfall area by First Baptist Church. The signs would advise people that swimming is encouraged at Pace Park only and that swimming at other places is at their own risk. Signs also would prohibit open flames, tent stakes, littering, glass containers, moving or removing creek gravel or vegetation, and pets to be leashed in Pace Park and other green spaces. There was discussion about water quality testing.

2. Discuss Texas Parks and Wildlife grant for a bouldering park at Pace Park and potential additional phases.

   There was discussion about the application for a grant for a natural playscape. The playscape would be developed in three phases. The grant requires a 50-percent match, but in-kind donations can be part of the match. The Village currently has $10,000 in the Park Fee Fund that was donated by the Hidden Glen development. There was discussion about the ownership of Pace Park and insurance coverage for improvements on non-Village-owned property.

   The Mayor closed the Workshop Session at 7:08 p.m.

III. Regular Session.

3. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on recommendations of the Environmental/Deer and the Trails/Parks committees for appropriate signage at Pace Park and other Village green spaces.

   Alderman McDougal made a motion to accept recommendations of the Environmental/Deer and the Trails/Parks committees for appropriate signage at Pace Park and other Village green spaces as presented.

   Discussion:
   It was discussed to include the language changes that came out of workshop: signage will stress that swimming is recommended for Pace Park only.

   The motion carried by a 4-0 margin.

4. Presentation, public hearing, discussion, and possible action on the proposed application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for a grant for a bouldering park in the amount of $75,000 and including a Village match of $37,500 to include a $10,000 cash donation plus in-kind donations totaling $27,500.

   The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m. and called three times for speakers; none emerged. He closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

   Alderman Coachman made a motion to approve a proposed application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for a grant for a bouldering park in the amount of $75,000 and including a Village match of $37,500 to include a $10,000 cash donation plus in-kind donations totaling $27,500, with the approval of the Pace Park Foundation and positive insurance coverage. Alderman McDougal seconded. The motion carried by a 4-0 margin.

   The Mayor closed the Regular Session at 7:15 p.m.

IV. Executive Session.

5. Conduct an executive session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters, to discuss the appointment, employment, and /or reassignment of the following positions: Interim Village Administrator; Village Secretary; Village Planner; and Receptionist.

6. Conduct an executive session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, to consult with attorney regarding investigation and employment contract of Village Administrator.

   The Mayor asked the Chief of Police to clear the room and adjourned to Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. He closed the Executive Session at 9:46 p.m.

V. Regular Session.

The Mayor reconvened the Regular Session at 9:51 p.m.

7. Reconvene in open session and take any necessary action.

The Mayor said that, on the advice of the Village attorney, legal counsel will conduct the investigation into complaints against the Village Administrator. The attorneys will report back to the BOA on or before October 6, 2016. In addition, he said that, on advice of the attorney, officials and employees of the Village should not comment on the ongoing investigation of the Village Administrator.

Alderman Coachman made a motion to appoint Chrissy Lee City Secretary effective October 1, 2016. Alderman McDougal seconded. The motion carried by a 4-0 margin.

VI. Adjourn.

Alderman Dankert made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Williams seconded. The motion carried by a 4-0 margin.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Skip Blancett, Mayor

ATTEST:

~~Mary Ann Ray~~, Village Secretary
Chrissy Lee