

Village of Salado, Texas

Board of Alderman

Minutes

Regular & Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting

6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 5, 2017
Municipal Building, 301 N. Stagecoach Road, Salado, Texas

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

Others Present: Judy King, Village Secretary; Chrissy Lee, Planning & Development; Jack Hensley, Chief of Police; Shane Berrier, Chief of Fire Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Mayor Skip Blancett opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer.
- b. Mayor Skip Blancett led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Aldermen convened as the Zoning Board of Adjustments and proceeded to conduct a Zoning Board of Adjustments Session.

2. ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS SESSION

- a. Hold a Public Hearing and consider a variance from Section 5.3c1(b), Fences in Residential Areas of the Zoning Ordinance for a residential fence located in the side yard closer than fifteen feet (15') to a public street at 500 Whispering Oaks.

A presentation was made by Chrissy Lee, Planning and Development regarding the variance being considered for a fence in a residential area at 500 Whispering Oaks. She presented a Power Point showing the property and the proposed fence line. She reported that there had been no objections to the variance received from the notices sent to residents within 200' of the address.

Mayor Skip Blancett made 3 calls for public comment at the Public Hearing to consider a variance from Section 5.3c1(b), Fences in Residential Areas of the Zoning Ordinance for a residential fence located in the side yard closer than fifteen feet (15') to a public street at 500 Whispering Oaks. No public comments were made.

Alderman Fred Brown made a motion to approve a variance from Section 5.3c1(b), Fences in Residential Areas of the Zoning Ordinance for a residential fence located in the side yard closer than fifteen feet (15') to a public street at 500 Whispering Oaks with the stipulation that should the Village need access to the right-of-way, any removal or reconstruction will be at the expense of the property owner. Alderman Dankert seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Aldermen re-convened as the Board of Aldermen and proceeded to conduct the meeting in Regular Session.

3. PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- a. Presentation of Child Safety and Hotel/Motel funds from Bell County.

Shay Luedke, Bell County Tax Assessor, presented a check for \$2,660.74 to the Village of Salado on behalf of the Child Safety funds from Bell County. He read a letter specifying that these funds must be used by Salado I.S.D. to fund crosswalk programs or other safety programs for the students. The check will be reissued to Salado I.S.D. for this specified use. A picture was taken with the Board of Aldermen and Shay Luedke to record this special recognition.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. None

5. REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Skip Blancett announced the upcoming Q & A Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 6:30-8:00 p.m. to be held at the Civic Center. He reminded the Aldermen and the Departmental heads that their submissions for the Quarterly Supplement he is preparing for our citizens is due on Friday, January 7, 2017.

Police Department Report

Chief Jack Hensley reported that the department will be assisting with two 5K Runs on January 7, 2017 with the Episcopal Church and February 11, 2017 with the Bell County Paralegal Society respectively. He presented the monthly report from December 2016. (attached)

Fire Department Report

Chief Shane Berrier presented the monthly report from December 2016. (attached)

Chamber Report

David Swarhout, the newly elected Chairman of the Board for the Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Board of Aldermen. Mary Poche, Director of the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism was absent. He introduced the newly elected Vice Chairman, Jennifer McFarland, who was also in attendance. He gave an overview of the 2017 plans for the Chamber to create better working relationships with all of the different organizations working for the benefit of the Village of Salado. He announced that there will be a joint meeting of all of the organizational leaders to develop a strategic plan to insure a synergistic approach to serving Salado most effectively. He announced that the Chamber would be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Salado Chamber of Commerce at a banquet to be held on January 26, 2017 at Tenroc Ranch.

Administrator's Report

Interim Administrator David Miller gave an update on the WWTP Project. He noted that the schedule had been delayed due to the requirement for additional environmental studies. He outlined a revised timeline provided by the Village engineers indicating that the project might not be completed until early 2019 in a worst case scenario, but could come in earlier than that should no more studies be required. He assured the Board of Aldermen that every effort was being pursued to keep this project moving along as swiftly as possible given the requirements for studies. He introduced Judy King as the new Village Secretary.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Consider approving the Consent Agenda item:

- a. Minutes, December 8, 2016, Special Called & Workshop Meeting.

Alderman McDougal made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Alderman Coachman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

7. WORKSHOP SESSION

- a. Presentation of the proposed Salado Citizens Academy program by Alderman David Williams.

A Power Point Presentation of the proposed Salado Citizens Academy program was delivered by Alderman David Williams. The purpose of the Academy would be to involve a class of 20 Salado citizens who have expressed an interest in understanding the workings of the Village at a deeper level. The Academy would meet weekly for 8-12 weeks. It would cover the basics of municipal government and the various departments at work in Salado. Alderman Williams proposed a start date of March 2017. He suggested that sponsors would be solicited to provide a light dinner to the participants each week. Mayor Skip Blancett offered to personally sponsor a dinner for one of the weeks. Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Jennifer McFarland, addressed the Board and compared this to the Leadership Salado program that had experienced some success for approximately 8 years, but lost momentum and is now defunct.

- b. Discussion and updates on the assessments of Salado Creek for the WWTP Project.

Interim Administrator David Miller provided updates on the assessments of Salado Creek for the WWTP Project. Based on his conversations with the Village Engineer overseeing the project, it is estimated that the bidding process could begin in June 2017. The Engineer was asked to provide a "worst case scenario" for completion to take into consideration any more requests for studies, etc. He responded that the worst case scenario for the operation of the new plant would be February 2019, but the parties involved are pushing to exceed that projection and begin operation sooner. There are ongoing mitigation issues with the creek due to the various endangered or threatened species. This issue will be taken for discussion before the BOA at the next Workshop meeting.

8. REGULAR SESSION

- a. Discussion and possible action on an agreement with Keep Salado Beautiful for grant writing services.

Chrissy Lee presented the proposed Agreement between the Village of Salado and Keep Salado Beautiful to contract grant writing services to KSB on "as needed" basis, not to exceed the 8 hours per week that the employee is available at the Village for such services.

A motion to pass Resolution No. R-2017-154 determining that the provision of grant writing services to Keep Salado Beautiful serves a public purpose of the Village, providing for guidelines to ensure such purpose is fulfilled; adopting a grant writer position description and authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Keep Salado Beautiful was made by Alderman Frank Coachman. Alderman Dankert seconded. Alderman Williams proposed adding the language "and adequate resources are available" to Section II. of the agreement. There was no agreement to consider this proposal. The motion carried 4-1 with Alderman Williams opposing.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Alderman entered into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

- a. Discussion regarding the position of the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce/Tourism Bureau as authorized by Texas Government Code 551.074, Personnel Matters.
- b. Discussion regarding the position of Village Administrator as authorized by Texas Government Code 551.074, Personnel Matters.

The Board of Aldermen emerged from Executive Session at 9:13 p.m.

10. **ADJOURN**

Alderman Coachman made a motion to adjourn. Alderman McDougal seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.


Skip Blancett, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy King, Village Secretary