

Village of Salado
Salado Municipal Building
301 N. Stagecoach
Salado, Texas
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Aldermen
October 5, 2017

The Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Skip Blancett.

Larry Sands gave the Invocation and Mayor Blancett and the Aldermen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Board Members Present: Mayor Skip Blancett, Mayor Pro-tem Fred Brown, Aldermen Andy Jackson, Frank Coachman, and Michael McDougal. Alderman Amber Dankert was absent.

Staff Present: Village Administrator Don Ferguson, City Secretary Cara McPartland, Police Chief Rick Ashe, Salado Volunteer Fire Department Chief Shane Berrier, and Tourism Director Erin Klingemann

Citizens Communications

Michael Cooper of 2101 Bluff Circle spoke highly of current City Attorney Alan Bojorquez' professional qualifications and commended his experience as a municipal lawyer.

Jackie Mills of 2108 Indian Trail spoke of her experience as one of the Village's first aldermen and strongly favored keeping Alan Bojorquez as city attorney. She read a letter from Victor and Janice Means that supported keeping Alan Bojorquez and cited his firm's history and its numerous accomplishments, including the Village's establishment of many ordinances. Mr. Means felt it important to maintain Mr. Bojorquez in light of the many critical issues currently facing the Village.

Denver Mills of 2108 Indian Trail spoke of his conversation with Alan Bojorquez and expressed concerns that the Village has not adequately communicated its position to Mr. Bojorquez. He favored keeping Mr. Bojorquez as the city attorney and hoped the Board will take a measured approach before making any changes.

Former Mayor Merle Stalcup spoke in support of continuing the Village's relationship with Alan Bojorquez as city attorney and cited Mr. Bojorquez' many accomplishments, extensive background, and qualifications, including his institutional knowledge of the Village of Salado.

Mayor Pro-tem Fred Brown read a letter from Congressman John Carter informing Mayor Skip Blancett that he will be presented with the 2017 Congressional Veteran Commendation recognizing wartime sacrifice and peacetime community involvement on October 21st at Texas A & M University-Central Texas in Killeen.

Alderman McDougal thanked tonight's speakers for their participation and said this is a valid demonstration that democratic government works.

1. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes of the Regular Board of Aldermen meeting of September 21, 2017.
- B. Approval of minutes of the Special Board of Aldermen meeting of September 28, 2017.

Alderman McDougal moved to approve Consent Agenda items, as presented. Alderman Jackson seconded. Motion carried on a 4-0 vote.

2. Presentation

Presentation of Salado Public Library Activity Report. (*Library Director Jeanie Lively*)

Library Director Jeanie Lively presented information on library resources, including types of materials and services available such as tablets, e-books, computers, inter-library loans, and scan/copy/fax services. She advised two meeting rooms are available for public use and provided details on a record-breaking number of library programs that are free and open to the public. Ms. Lively presented special library cards to each alderman and invited them to visit the library.

Mayor Blancett thanked Ms. Lively and invited her back to accept a proclamation on behalf of the library in November. Alderman Jackson noted Ms. Lively's dedication, as she recently worked late to assist a local historical society. Alderman McDougal asked Ms. Lively about the possibility of hosting a Board of Aldermen meeting in the library and Ms. Lively responded affirmatively.

3. Status Reports

A. Mayor's Status Report

Mayor Blancett commended Citizens on Patrol (COP) members for a well-organized meeting, highlighted specific Sirena Fest activities, including the Cemetery Walk, and encouraged attendance and participation. He spoke on a conversation with TxDOT representatives regarding the need for On-cor Electric to connect service to the lights on the bridge over Salado Plaza, and plans for installation of permanent signage. Alderman McDougal reported on last week's Street Committee meeting resulting in a proposed recommendation to the Bell County engineer regarding entering into an interlocal agreement between Bell County and the Village of Salado for improvements from Center Street to Indian Trail. Discussion addressed the cost-savings and benefits to the Village of entering into an interlocal agreement and recognized individual members of the Village's Street Committee.

B. Village Administrator's Report

- Status report on wastewater issues (*existing Stagecoach plant and improvements, proposed wastewater system permit, rates and impact fees*).

Village Administrator Ferguson reported bid documents for the treatment plant and collection system should be issued next week. He advised work is underway on the rate and impact fee study.

- Status report on 2017 Salado National Night Out

Village Administrator Ferguson reported that National Night Out encountered no problems other than some rain and the event was a success.

- Status report on implementation of Village-wide communication system

Village Administrator Ferguson reported work is underway on implementing the system and provided details on signing up and activation.

- Status report on Keep Salado Beautiful Clean-up

Village Administrator Ferguson reported that the clean-up is scheduled for October 21, 2017 at 8:30 a.m., beginning at the Civic Center. He encouraged participation by those interested in volunteering for the clean-up.

Village Administrator Ferguson also reported that in addition to the presentation given tonight by the Library Director, he plans to invite other entities such as Salado Water Supply Corporation and On-Cor Electric to provide informational quarterly reports to the Board. He reminded the Board about preparations for the upcoming Harker Heights Rotary Club Dodgeball Challenge fundraising event. Mayor Blancett thanked Bell County for its assistance on the clean-up event and encouraged participation.

C. Salado Police Chief Status Report

Salado Police Chief Rick Ashe provided September statistics on number/types of calls, number of reports, arrests, citations/warnings issued, and response times. He also reported on the COP organizational meeting, associated training, and planned ride-alongs, anticipated to begin in early November. He noted three National Night Out parties were moved indoors due to rain and were attended by about fifty people. He reported that the new partitions/cages have been installed in vehicles.

D. Salado Fire Chief Status Report

Salado Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD) Chief Shane Berrier provided statistics on September fire/EMS/motor vehicle accident calls within the jurisdictions of Village of Salado and Bell County and reported that an AMR ambulance is now stationed at Salado Fire Station No. 2.

E. Salado Tourism Director Status Report

Tourism Director Erin Klingemann reported on a newly hired staff member for the visitor's center, a recent article in Texas Hill County magazine, planned billboard advertising, and a very successful Chocolate and Wine Weekend. She reported that work continues on the upcoming events,

including Sirena Fest, Christmas Stroll event, and Scottish Festival. Brief discussion addressed the success of events and increased group visits to Salado. Mayor Blancett requested volunteers for the dunking booth at Sirena Fest. Village Administrator Ferguson stated that the lease agreement with the Chamber of Commerce has been executed and requested Board input on the appointment of a tourism advisory board.

4. Resolutions

- A. Consider approval of a resolution of the Board of Aldermen of the Village of Salado, Texas, authorizing the submission of a grant application for the Rifle Resistant Body Armor Program to the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson explained the need for a resolution to authorize submission of the grant application seeking funding for five (5) rifle resistant vests for Salado police officers and recommended approval.

Alderman Jackson moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- B. Consider approval of a resolution of the Board of Aldermen of the Village of Salado, Texas amending Resolution No. 2016-139 "Committees and Advisory Boards" to establish the Pace Park Advisory Board to be appointed by the Board of Aldermen. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson explained the need to establish an advisory board now that the Board acts as trustees for Pace Park. He proposed that the board be comprised of seven (7) members as follows:

- One representative of the former Pace Park Board of Trustees
- One representative of the Salado Habitat Initiative
- One representative of the Salado Rotary club
- One owner of property contiguous with the boundary of Pace Park
- Two at-large members who reside within the Village limits
- One ex-officio member

He recommended designating one of the two at-large positions to be filled by a representative from the Salado Lions Club. He advised there is a subsequent item on this agenda to allow the Board to consider appointments.

Alderman McDougal moved to approve the resolution establishing the advisory board, including the recommendation to fill one of the two at-large positions with a representative from the Salado Lions Club. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

After Agenda Item 6F, Alderman Coachman moved to reconsider its previous action on this item. Mayor Pro-tem Brown seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Alderman Coachman moved to amend the resolution as follows:

Section 1 (2):

“Terms of appointment for the Pace Park Advisory Board shall be for two (2) years. For the initial appointment, which is anticipated to occur in October 2017, *three (3) members shall be appointed for thirty-two months (October 2017 through May 2020) and four (4) members shall be appointed for thirty (30) months (October 2017 through May 2019) to be determined by the mayor or his designee.*

Exhibit “A”:

Membership: This is a seven (7) member, standing committee consisting of the following members: One (1) representative of the former Pace Park Board of Trustees; One (1) representative of the Salado Habitat Initiative; One (1) representative of the Salado Rotary Club; One (1) owner of property contiguous with the boundary of pace Park; ~~and~~ one (1) at-large member who resides within the corporate limits of the Village of Salado; *and one (1) representative of the Lions Club.* All members are appointed by the Board of Aldermen. In addition, there shall be one (1) member of the Board of Aldermen designated by the Board of Aldermen as an ex-officio member.

Alderman Jackson seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

5. Ordinances

- A. Consider approval of an ordinance of the Village of Salado, Texas, designating the governing body of the Village of Salado as the City Council and replacing the title of Board of Aldermen; changing alderman to council member; providing for repeal of ordinances in conflict herewith, providing for severability and providing an effective date. (*Mayor Pro-tem Fred Brown*)

Mayor Pro-tem Brown clarified that there is no intention to change “Village” of Salado to “City” of Salado. He explained his reasoning for requesting the terminology change from “Board of Aldermen” to “City Council,” which he felt is clearer for the public, easier to understand, and enhances credibility with other entities.

Mayor Pro-tem Brown moved to hold a workshop meeting on this item. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- B. Consider approval of an ordinance of the Village of Salado, Texas, amending Section 3(B) of Ordinance No. 2008.07 “Noise Regulation” to modify dates and times construction and remodeling activities are allowed; providing for the following: findings of fact; purpose; general prohibition; specific prohibitions; non-applicability; repealer clause; a severability clause; effective date; enforcement including criminal fines not to exceed \$500 and civil penalties not to exceed \$100 per offense and injunctive relief; and proper notice and meeting. (*Mayor Pro-tem Fred Brown*)

Mayor Pro-tem Brown cited current noise regulations that allow construction Monday through Friday until 10:00 at night. He favored amending the subject noise ordinance to allow construction Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Mayor Pro-tem Brown moved to approve the ordinance amendment, as presented. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

6. Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Discuss and consider possible action approving an interlocal agreement with the County of Bell, Texas, relating to animal control services. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson spoke of the need for an interlocal agreement that would allow the Village to deliver animals for intake to Bell County's shelter, associated fees for deliveries, Bell County's position on providing animal control services for incorporated municipalities, potential expenses, and options to help cover expenses. He presented a draft agreement to facilitate the Board's discussion.

Alderman Coachman moved to open this item for discussion. Mayor Pro-tem Brown seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0. Discussion favored further exploration of options and gathering of citizen input at a future workshop meeting.

Alderman McDougal moved to hold a workshop meeting on this item. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- B. Discuss and consider possible action appointing members of the newly created Pace Park Advisory Board. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson recommended the following list of possible stakeholder nominees who have expressed interest in serving on the board:

- Susan Humiston (former Pace Park Board of Trustees member)
- Susan Terry (Keep Salado Beautiful)
- Will Lowry (Salado Habitat Initiative)
- Bobby Whitson (Rotary Club)
- Amy McClain (contiguous property owner)
- Tim Fleischer (at-large)

In light of the Board's previous action on the resolution establishing the advisory board, Village Administrator Ferguson advised that a Lions Club representative will be need to be appointed, if the Board desires to fill one of the at-large positions with a Lions Club representative. Discussion addressed the willingness of the named nominees to serve and favored staggering of two-year terms.

Mayor Pro-tem Brown moved to approve the aforementioned nominees, as recommended by Village Administrator Ferguson, with the additional provision to create staggered two-year terms. Alderman McDougal seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Village Administrator Ferguson advised there will be a need to reconsider the previously approved resolution (see Agenda Item 4B) to include the provision relating to staggering of terms.

- C. Discuss and consider possible action establishing the Village of Salado Goals and Priorities for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. (*Village Administrator*)

Mayor Blancett advised that this item will be continued to a future meeting to allow for consideration by all Board members.

- D. Discuss and consider possible action approving the Fiscal year 2017-2018 Employee Holiday Schedule for the Village of Salado. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson presented the following holiday schedule for Board consideration:

<i>Designated Holiday</i>	<i>Date</i>
Columbus Day	Monday, October 9, 2017
Veterans Day	Friday, November 10, 2017
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 23, 2017 Friday, November 24, 2017
Christmas	Monday, December 25, 2017 Tuesday, December 26, 2017
New Year's Day	Monday, January 1, 2018
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 15, 2018
Presidents Day	Monday, February 19, 2018
Good Friday	Friday, March 30, 2018
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28, 2018
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4, 2018
Labor Day	Monday, September 3, 2018

Discussion established that the holiday schedule applies to all full- and part-time Village employees.

Alderman Coachman moved to approve the FY 2017-2018 Employee Holiday Schedule, as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Brown seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- E. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the selection of a wastewater project management consultant. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson and Alderman Jackson reported on interviews held with following engineering firms and subsequent scoring and ranking of those firms:

- CMTS, LLC, Dallas, TX

- MRB/Gray Engineers LLC, Temple, TX
- R.D. Howard Construction, Fort Worth, TX
- Vanir CM, Austin, TX

Alderman Jackson and Village Administrator Ferguson said all four firms were qualified, but felt Vanir CM stood out for its understanding of the importance of interaction and public communications/networking with businesses and citizens. Discussion addressed authorizing staff to negotiate a contract with the selected firm, approximate total project management costs (to be paid from bond proceeds), and future approval of a contract by the Board.

Alderman McDougal moved to approve the selection of Vanir CM as the Village's wastewater project management consultant and to authorize Village Administrator Ferguson to negotiate a contract with Vanir to be considered by the Board at a future meeting. Alderman Coachman seconded. Discussion included the need for a project manager, creation of a task force, and regular project updates. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

F. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the selection of a city attorney. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson stressed issuance of an Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was not for the purpose of removing the Village's current attorney, but is a good business practice to conduct periodically for all services provided to the Village. He provided background information and qualifications on the following firms that responded to the RFQ:

- Bojorquez Law Firm, P.C., Austin, TX
- Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP, Austin, TX
- Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C., San Antonio, TX

Village Administrator Ferguson and Mayor Blancett reported on extensive interviews held with all three firms and recommended consideration of Bojorquez Law Firm and Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta.

Alderman Coachman moved to open this item for discussion. Alderman McDougal seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion addressed the Board's preference for exclusive representation by Alan Bojorquez; term of legal services contract; authorization to staff to negotiate a contract with the selected firm; and agreement from Mr. Bojorquez to provide personal exclusive representation for the Village.

Mayor Blancett spoke of the interview process as an opportunity to hear how other attorneys handle various issues and stressed that none of the RFQ respondents were invited to tonight's meeting. He noted the lack of consistency in assigning of Bojorquez staff attorneys who were expected to advise the Village on numerous difficult issues. Village Administrator Ferguson advised that the RFQ's purpose was to go through the public process, make a fair evaluation, and build the best team for the Village. He felt that either of the two recommended firms would be a good choice.

Mayor Pro-tem Brown strongly favored making it clear to Mr. Bojorquez that his personal representation would be required, rather than one of his firm's other attorneys. Mayor Blancett spoke of Mr. Bojorquez' firsthand knowledge of Salado politics and said the Village needs straight talk on making the right decisions. Village Administrator Ferguson stated Mr. Bojorquez has expressed willingness to meet the Village's requirement that he personally counsel the Village in all legal matters and advice.

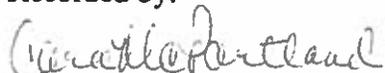
Alderman McDougal moved to authorize Village Administrator Ferguson to negotiate a contract with Bojorquez Law Firm, P.C., designating Alan Bojorquez as the Village's sole attorney, with such contract to be approved by the Board at a future date. Alderman Coachman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Adjournment

Alderman McDougal reminded that the University of Texas band will be passing through Salado on Friday, October 13th at around 9:30 a.m.

Hearing no further business, Mayor Blancett called the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

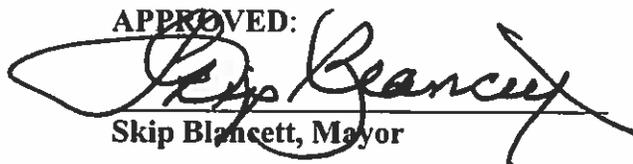
Recorded by:



Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 19th of October, 2017.

APPROVED:


Skip Blancett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cara McPartland, City Secretary

