

Village Board of Aldermen
Meeting Minutes

Municipal Building
Thursday, August 7, 2003
6:30pm

Members present: Rick Ashe, Jackie Mills, Charlotte Douglass, Vic Means, Michael Cooper, Suzi Epps

Members Absent:

Others Present: Dianna Zulauf – Village Secretary, Alan Rogers – Chief of Police, Tim Fleischer – Village Voice newspaper, Eldon Miller – Village Treasurer, citizens: Darwin Britt, Rob & Sheryl Russell, Dale Gore, Larry Wolfe

Mayor Douglass called the meeting to order at 6:30PM, quorum present.

Alderman Epps made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes dated July 24th. Motion was seconded by Alderman Mills, motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions and/or Proclamations:

There were none.

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Rogers reported that he intends to hire a reserve officer by the name of Frankie Poole. July Crime Report – state required reporting: nine thefts, six cleared.

Tourism Director Report:

Alderman Epps reported for April Allen. Chamber mailed out 31 visitor packets during the month of July. Visitor's center serviced 75 registered visitors. Tourism Council will meet on August 14th to review proposed budget and grant applications. They will meet again August 19th to finalize grant applications and budget. The Board of Aldermen reviewed the proposed Hotel/Motel budget, but the Tourism Council still needs to complete it and submit a recommended budget to the Board later in the month. (Alderman Cooper came in at this point in the meeting)

New Business: Mayor Douglass moved this agenda item up on the agenda to accommodate the visitors.

4. Discussion of Golf Cart Usage During Festivals

Mayor Douglass explained that the Rotary Club uses their golf carts to transport visitors at the annual Art Fair to and from the fair grounds in Pace Park to Main Street. This is a courtesy to visitors, only donations are accepted. Some of the carts are street worthy and some are not. Only licensed drivers are allowed to operate the carts. Chief Rogers informed the Board of the state laws regulating golf carts. Mayor Douglass stated that a complaint was voiced to her about the Village allowing golf carts to fairy visitors to and from the park when an unlicensed youth recently received a citation for driving a golf cart around town. Discussion was made on how to keep the courtesy carts in operation at the fair, but do it legally. Chief Rogers and the Mayor will work with the Rotary Club and DPS on finding a legal way to allow the carts to continue at the Art Fair.

Unfinished Business:

1. Report on Zoning Steering Committee Meeting

Alderman Means reported that the steering committee has finalized the zoning ordinance and is preparing to deliver a recommended ordinance to the Board of Aldermen. The Village office will send out notice cards to all property owners in Salado notifying them that the proposed ordinance will go to the Board on September 18th. The cards will be mailed out by August 14th.

2. Discussion on Pros and Cons of any Possible Noise Ordinance

Mayor Douglass asked the Board if they had received any further input from citizens on the proposed Noise Ordinance. Alderman Mills was the only Alderman who received input, which was that they felt Salado did not need a noise ordinance at this time. The Board decided to not adopt a Noise Ordinance at this time.

3. Review of Proposed 2003 – 2004 Budget to Include Discussion on Inclusion of Warning Sirens and Early Payoff of Municipal Building

Mayor Douglass stated that the Village office had the Chamber of Commerce send out an e-mail to all their membership asking them if they felt like Salado needed/wanted to purchase two warning sirens for approximately \$24,000.00. Six out of thirteen responses were for purchasing the sirens. Verbal feedback to the Mayor was about four to one against purchasing sirens. Those queried were not opposed to having fundraisers to raise the money. The Board felt strongly that Salado could not afford to purchase sirens at this time, but would investigate putting together some fundraisers for future purchases of sirens.

All four budget plans were reviewed; with and without sirens, and with and without paying off the municipal building early. Plan A, B, and C (those with money for sirens) are no longer in consideration. Plan D will be reviewed again at the next Board meeting.

Treasurer Miller stated that \$83,000.00 is the new payoff amount on the municipal building. The Board felt strongly to pay off the building early.

New Business:

1. Review Inter-jurisdictional Mutual Aid Agreement with the County

Mayor Douglass presented an Inter-jurisdictional Mutual Aid Agreement with Bell County stating that the county will aid Salado in the event of a disaster. Resolution No. 019 was drafted and used as a cover document to the agreement authorizing Mayor Douglass to sign the agreement.

Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to authorize Mayor Douglass to sign the Inter-jurisdictional Mutual Aid Agreement as presented and pass it via Resolution No. 019. Motion was seconded by Alderman Means, motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider Letter/Complaints on Overgrown Lots

Mayor Douglass informed the Board that the Village office has been getting many complaints from citizens about overgrown lots. The Board agreed that there is a misconception as to what the Health & Sanitation Ordinance is intended for. The public needs to be informed that the ordinance is not a mowing ordinance but is designed to correct dangerous health and sanitation problems, not to require undeveloped lots to be kept groomed. Mrs. Zulauf stated that finding out who owns the lots in question is the big problem. It was suggested that Mrs. Zulauf create a form to give to citizens who would like to request that a lot be cleaned up that would require them to list the physical address and the owner of the lot.

3. Appointment Someone to Attend the September 26th Texas Municipal League Annexation Workshop and the November 19th Texas Municipal League Annual Conference

Mayor Douglass asked the Board if anybody is interested in attending the annexation workshop on September 26th or the TML Annual Conference on November 19th. The Board felt it would be a better idea to have our Village Attorneys law firm come down and do an annexation workshop that is tailored to Salado. Each Board member will check their calendar and get back to Mayor Douglass if they can attend the annual conference.

Announcements:

1. Next scheduled Board meeting is August 21, 2003.

Adjourn into Executive Session at 8:05PM All those except Board members left the building.

Further discussion of benefits and pay status of Village employees.

Reconvene to Regular Session for further discussion

Motion was made by Alderman Cooper to increase the municipal court judges salary by \$25 a month. Motion was seconded by Alderman Means, motion carried unanimously.


Mayor Douglass stated that the Police Chief is currently under contract, therefore an increase in his salary is not put forth. No contract negotiations have been requested.

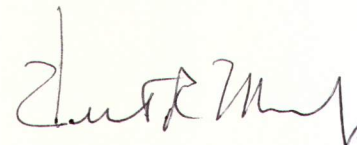
Mayor Douglass informed the Board that the motion made at the last Board meeting giving Judge Svadlenak the authority to pick a replacement judge if he was ever to recuse himself from a trial or could not adjudicate for any reason was not completely in line with statutes. Therefore, a Board meeting is called for Monday, August 11th at 4PM to appoint by name a municipal court associate judge.

For copies of all handouts, please contact the Village office at 947-5060.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted,


Dianna Zulauf
Village Secretary


Vic MEANS
~~Charlotte Douglass~~
Mayor PRO TEM



Village of Salado

**Board of Alderman Meeting
August 7, 2003
Municipal Building**

Report of the Tourism Office

The Chamber of Commerce mailed out 31 visitor packets during the month of August. The Visitor Center serviced 75 registered visitors. This is down from last year.

The Tourism Council will meet on August 14th to begin looking at the Grant Applications and look at the budget again. They will meet again on August 19th to make final decisions on the Grants and the Budget.

The deadline to pick up a Grant application packet has passed. If your organization has turned in your checklist acceptance and has questions regarding the Grants they may call the Tourism Office and leave a message referencing the question.

The Tourism Director is out of town this week attending the Texas Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus annual conference. April is a current member of the Conference Committee and the Education Committee and is slated to be appointed as the new Membership Committee Chair for next year. She will be checking her messages and her email as she is able if you need to get a hold of her. If it is an emergency you may call the Village Secretary and she will get the message to April.