

Village of Salado
Salado Municipal Building
301 North Stagecoach Road
Salado, Texas
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Aldermen
October 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Rodney Bell. *The meeting was conducted in person and using videoconferencing. Public participation was also available via videoconference.*

Mayor Pro-tem Bell gave the Invocation and the Board of Aldermen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro-tem Rodney Bell and Aldermen John Cole, Jason Howard, and D. Jasen Graham attended in person. Mayor Michael Coggin and Alderman Paul Cox were absent.

Staff Present: Village Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland

1. Citizens Communications

Judy Fields of 818 Blaylock Circle spoke in opposition to the Village of Salado entering into an agreement with Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) to provide administrative services related to reporting requirements for the American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the Village (*see Agenda Item 5B*). She questioned the qualifications of CTCOG Executive Director Jim Reed and referenced past wastewater project-related issues from 2015. She strongly recommended that the general public be considered for providing these administrative services.

Linda Reynolds distributed a handout to the Board of Aldermen listing amounts of sewer rebates issued to her in 2009-2011 for properties that she owns in Maine that were not connected to municipal sewer systems. She said there is an upcoming bond election this spring that would potentially allow for a \$525 rebate from the State of Texas's allocation of federal funds. She asked the Board to consider giving homesteaders who are not connected to the Village's wastewater system a sewer rebate from the Village's allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds and stated her understanding that such rebates meet the allocation requirements.

Darlene Walsh of 1001 Mill Creek Drive said there appears to be no pre-determined plan for spending the approximately \$587,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated to the Village. She felt that there needs to be public input on a spending plan and questioned possible future fees in the proposed CTCOG interlocal agreement that might be incurred upon renewal. She said voters elected the Board of Aldermen to make the best financial decisions and did not see the need for CTCOG's services.

2. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes of the Regular Board of Aldermen meeting of October 7, 2021.
- B. Approval of minutes of the Special Board of Aldermen meeting of September 28, 2021.
- C. Approval of the September 2021 Financial Statements for the Village of Salado.

Alderman Cole moved to approve all Consent Agenda items, including Addendum Item 2D (*see page 4 of these minutes*), as presented. Alderman Graham seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

3. Discuss and Consider Possible Action Regarding Any Item Removed from the Consent Agenda

No items were heard.

4. Ordinance

Approval of an ordinance of the Village of Salado, Texas, prohibiting the parking of all vehicles and trailers on Salado Plaza Drive between Main Street and Van Bibber Road within the corporate limits of the Village of Salado, and providing for the following: purpose, findings of fact, severability, repealer, effective date, and proper notice and meeting. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson reviewed past discussions on this issue and signage placement timeframe. He cited significant issues with heavy truck traffic causing damage to the pavement and possible future mitigation measures.

Discussion addressed feedback from Salado Plaza business owners who receive large truck deliveries; temporary off-loading of trucks; future wastewater construction; definition of “parking” on road or edge of pavement; white versus yellow striping and associated enforcement of parking regulations; and possible brief one-lane closures as an alternative to damage caused by heavy trucks parking halfway on the road causing damage to edges of the pavement.

Alderman Cole moved to approve the ordinance, as presented. Alderman Graham seconded.

Discussion addressed intent of ordinance to deter parking and maintain roadway; number and location of “no parking” signs; enforcement; definition of “blocking” roadway; and discussions with Salado Plaza business owners regarding parking of delivery trucks.

Motion carried on a vote of 3-1. Alderman Howard voted against.

5. Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the development of a spending plan for funds awarded to the Village of Salado under the American Rescue Plan Act. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson reviewed spending priorities identified from past discussions and detailed a list of possible expenditures and preliminary cost estimates (*attached to these minutes*), including specifics on listed drainage/wastewater improvements such as causes of drainage issues and possible solutions. He stressed that the drainage and wastewater improvement costs are preliminary estimates and can be modified as project scopes change. He requested the Board's input on prioritization or addition of projects.

Discussion addressed the need for citizen communication and input; anticipated timeframes for certain projects; ranking by probability of completing specific improvements; long-term impact of not taking action; project management plans to be developed after improvements are approved; drainage improvements as higher priority than wastewater improvements at this time; long-range planning for drainage projects, including coordination with other governmental entities and pursuit of alternative funding such as grants or low-interest loans; and need for regional flood study and updated floodplain maps. Village Administrator Ferguson advised a plan will be developed based on the Board's direction and presented for future consideration.

- B. Discuss and consider possible action regarding a proposed interlocal agreement with the Central Texas Council of Governments regarding administration of the American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated to the Village of Salado. (*Village Administrator*)

Village Administrator Ferguson sought to clear up misunderstanding among citizens who believe that CTCOG's Jim Reed will be contracted to handle administration of funds. He stressed that the administrative services in the interlocal agreement are limited to only the reporting of grant proceeds and expenditures. He emphasized that CTCOG is not managing the allocation or expenditure of funds for projects by the Village of Salado, which is the responsibility of the Board of Aldermen, but would only be submitting reports at no cost to the Village. He advised that the Village's grant management company provided an estimate of approximately \$10,000 to perform the same services that CTCOG would provide at no cost. He said a CTCOG staff person will be assigned to work with the Village on the required reporting to various agencies. As discussed, he recommended that the agreement be modified to simply state there will be no charge to the Village for the term of the agreement to last until all funds have been fully drawn down, as opposed to the existing annual renewal clause in Section 2. It was noted the Village has up to 3 years to spend American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Alderman Graham moved to continue this item until the Board's meeting on November 4, 2021 in order to present a modified agreement, as recommended. Alderman Howard seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- C. Discuss and consider issues relating to a proposed ordinance regulating the parking of recreational vehicles within the corporate limits of the Village of Salado, Texas. (*Village Administrator; this is a workshop item and no action will be taken*)

Village Administrator Ferguson reviewed past discussions and Board direction on the draft ordinance that would prohibit the parking of recreational vehicles on public or private property within the Village, with certain exceptions. He stressed that this is a draft ordinance for discussion purposes only. He noted that the Board may wish to postpone discussion until a full Board is

present. Mayor Pro-tem Bell agreed on continuance of this item, unless Aldermen Cole and Howard express any objections. No objections were heard.

Alderman Graham moved to continue this item until the Board's meeting on November 4, 2021. Alderman Cole seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Addendum to Agenda

2. Consent Agenda

- D. Approval of the route for the 60th Scottish Gathering and Highland Games Parade on Saturday, November 13, 2021.

Approved unanimously on 4-0 vote (*see page 2 of these minutes*).

Adjournment

Alderman Graham moved to adjourn. Mayor Pro-tem Bell called the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Recorded by:

Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 4th of November, 2021.

APPROVED:



Michael Coggin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cara McPartland, City Secretary



PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES

(For Discussion Purposes)

- **Drainage Improvements**
 - **South Ridge Low Water Crossing Drainage Improvements (\$306,228.05 + Engineering Design/Permitting)**
 - **Block Curb Repair (\$14,900)**
 - **Drainage Structure Improvements (\$291,328.05 + Engineering Design/Permitting)**
 - **Mill Creek Road Drainage Improvements (\$90,000)**
 - **Chisholm Trail Drainage Improvements (\$750,000)**
 - **Blaylock Road/Park Road Drainage Improvements (\$45,000)**
 - **Bluff Circle/Salado Creek Drainage Improvements (\$400,000 + Permitting)**
 - **Stagecoach Circle Drainage Improvements (\$250,000)**
- **Wastewater Improvements**
 - **Extension of Wastewater Service on East Side of IH 35 from Main Street to FM 2484 (\$1,500,000)**
 - **Expansion of Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$1,000,000)**
 - **Acquisition of Additional Wastewater Treatment Facilities (TBD)**