

CITY OF VAN ALSTYNE

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Van Alstyne Community Center
262 N. Preston Ave

JANUARY 9, 2018

6:30 P.M.

Members present: Mayor Larry Cooper, Brad Clough, Teddie Ann Salmon, Robert Jaska, Lee Thomas and Suzon Crowell.

Staff present: Jennifer Gould, Tim Barnes, Ryan Dockery, Judy Kimzey and Steve White.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order. *Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:36pm.*
2. Invocation. *Recited by Mayor Cooper.*
3. Pledges of Allegiance. *US and Texas.*
4. Citizens Communications. *Paul Nobles spoke regarding the Special Events Ordinance expressing that it is strenuous for small non-profit events and should only be required for larger events. Mr. Nobles also spoke about the camera system used for City Council meetings suggesting livestreaming via a cell phone to Facebook.*
5. Consider and take any action necessary regarding contracting with Vail & Associates, P.C. to conduct a forensic or other audit. *Mike Vail detailed the engagement letter provided for a forensic audit. Mr. Vail suggested considering a one-year internal control study since there is no suspicion of fraud. This can be done in phases and limited to a particular department, costing between twelve and fifteen thousand dollars. Suzon Crowell made a motion to table the item for the next regular meeting agenda requesting the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem obtain alternate quotes. Robert Jaska seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. Conduct a Public Hearing regarding a request by the owner/agent for a replat of the Reid Addition Lots 2R and 3R, Block A as recorded in Volume 2016, Page 354 of the Collin County Map Records William Creager Survey, Abstract No. 164, City of Van Alstyne, Collin County, Texas being 3.485 acres. This property is generally located south of County Road 377 and east of State Highway 5. *The Public Hearing was not opened as it was identified that the publication identified the incorrect board meeting. Mr. Witherspoon spoke regarding the replat, advising that a water shed survey should be required in the future as homes in the area are not constructed high enough to provide proper drainage.*

7. Conduct a Public Hearing regarding a request by the owner/agent for a replat of property being a 23.24 acre tract out of the James McKinney Survey, Abstract 770, City of Van Alstyne, Grayson County, Texas being Greywood Heights, Phase Two, Section 3. This property is generally located east of Sanford Circle, west of Greywood Drive and south of Spence Road. *The Public Hearing opened at 7:08pm. Mr. Helmburger, representing the Holy Family Catholic Church expressed concern for access to lots owned by the church with no opposition to the project itself. Len McManus advised that the proposal will not affect the church property but future phases may create an issue. As development continues staff and the developer will work with Helmburger to insure the church is satisfied with access concerns. Drainage in the area was discussed. There being no further comments, the hearing closed at 7:12pm.*

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the consent agenda allow the Council to approve all items together without discussion or individual motions. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member of the Council. Removed items will be discussed and action taken immediately after the consent agenda.

8. Consider and take any action necessary regarding approval of minutes from the December 12, 2017 Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting, December 12, 2017 regular meeting and the December 20, 2017 special called meeting.
9. Consider and take any action necessary regarding authorizing advertisement of bids for construction of Greywood Drive and Blassingame Avenue.

Teddie Ann Salmon made a motion to approve items 8 and 9 listed on the consent agenda. Brad Clough seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA (NON-CONSENT)

10. Consider and take any action necessary regarding a request by the owner/agent for a replat of the Reid Addition Lots 2R and 3R, Block A as recorded in Volume 2016, Page 354 of the Collin County Map Records William Creager Survey, Abstract No. 164, City of Van Alstyne, Collin County, Texas being 3.485 acres. This property is generally located south of County Road 377 and east of State Highway 5. *Teddie Ann Salmon made a motion to table the item until the next regular meeting due to incorrect publication of the meeting notice. Suzon Crowell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*
11. Consider and take any action necessary regarding a request by the owner/agent for a replat of property being a 23.24 acre tract out of the James McKinney Survey, Abstract 770, City of Van Alstyne, Grayson County, Texas being Greywood Heights, Phase Two, Section 3. This property is generally located east of Sanford Circle, west of Greywood Drive and south of Spence Road. *Brad Clough made a motion to approve the proposed replat. Teddie Ann Salmon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*
12. Consider and take any action necessary regarding amending the Van Alstyne Economic Development Corporation fiscal year 2018 budget in the amount of \$35,000.00. *Director Jodi Carr advised that an emergency repair to the spur was necessary. Also, marketing efforts for recruitment have presented creating the need for additional expenses. Suzon Crowell clarified that no money will be spent on a new logo. Suzon Crowell made a motion to approve the budget amendment as requested. Robert Jaska seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*
13. Consider and take any action necessary regarding nominating a person to represent General Law Cities to serve on the Greater Texoma Utility Authority Board of Directors. *Len McManus advised that GTUA is the regional water connector. The board meetings concern regional water issues, budget and projects. Scott Blackerby, the General Law Cities representative is from Pottsboro and has served for two years. Robert Jaska made a motion to nominate Scott Blackerby to represent General Law Cities to serve on the GTUA Board of Directors. Lee Thomas seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*

14. Consider and take any action necessary regarding purchase of video recording equipment/system for City Council and board meetings. *Discussion was held regarding equipment and devices suggested for use. Teddie Ann Salmon made a motion to authorize the expense of not more than two hundred dollars for a camera stand and equipment. Suzon Crowell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*
15. Consider and take any action necessary regarding purchase of condenser-style gooseneck microphones. *Suzon Crowell suggested evaluating the system in place and requesting GCEC help in determining what is needed. Discussion was held regarding the challenges of the current system. Suzon Crowell made a motion to direct staff to get a quote to trade in the current microphones for condenser style microphones. Teddie Ann Salmon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*
16. Consider and take any action necessary regarding City Council meeting agenda posting and timing. *Discussion was held regarding the current process for drafting, review and posting of agendas. Suzon Crowell requested a draft go out to City Council members on Thursday. Any comments should be back to the City Clerk by Friday morning and considering comments, a draft should then be sent to legal for review. Agendas should be posted and packets provided to City Council by noon on the Friday prior to the meeting.*
17. Discussion and review of ordinances pertaining to masonry requirements. *Robert Jaska advised that he would like to see language that clarifies when the masonry requirements in the zoning ordinance should be applied. Discussion was held regarding masonry requirement issues and how best to engage the public in discussion and consideration. Teddie Ann Salmon suggested an ordered review of the zoning ordinance regarding masonry by the Planning and Zoning Commission.*
18. Discussion and review of the sign ordinance(s). *Robert Jaska advised that the Sign Ordinance has created issues for citizens and business owners so a review is needed. Suzon Crowell advised that she would like to come back before the City Council and ask for the creation of a subcommittee to review and make recommendations to change the ordinance.*
19. Discussion and review of the special events ordinance. *Discussion was held regarding the original intent behind the adoption of the ordinance. Teddie Ann Salmon suggested looking at the ordinance with citizens and with citizens in mind.*
20. Departmental Reports. *Jennifer Gould provided the Administrative Department statistics for the prior month, Chief Tim Barnes provided Police Department statistics for the prior month, Judy Kimzey provided the Library Department statistics for the prior month, Chief Ryan Dockery provided Fire/EMS Department statistics for the prior month, Steve White provided Public Works Department statistics for the prior month and Len McManus provided an update on various projects.*
21. City Manager's Report. *None.*
22. Mayor and Council Closing Comments. *Mayor Cooper thanked staff. Suzon Crowell thanked participants in the budget work session and joint meetings held earlier in the week. Lee Thomas thanked participants in the budget work session and joint meetings held earlier in the week. Robert Jaska thanked small business owners and commended volunteers for their service. Teddie Ann Salmon thanked all for attendance/viewership.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Law), the City Council may meet in a closed Executive Session pursuant to applicable laws.

23. All items below for Executive Session:

Pursuant to the following designated sections of Texas Government Code, Annotated, Subchapter 551, the Council will enter into executive session to discuss the following items:

- a) Section 551.071 [Consultation with Attorney] regarding: (i) campaign and election laws; and (ii) disbursement of executive session information to the public and media.

Council recessed into closed session at 8:49pm.

Council reconvened into open session at 10:24pm.

OPEN MEETING

24. Consider and take any action necessary as a result of each item listed in executive session, including but not limited to (i) appointing a city media representative, and (ii) submission of newsletter to Texas Ethics Commission and/or District Attorney's office. *Julie Fort advised that in light of the recent events regarding a newsletter by the Mayor, the City Council will submit the newsletter to the District Attorney's office and the Texas Ethics Commission. Teddie Ann Salmon advised that the City Council has started interviewing prospects for the Interim City Manager position. Twenty-four applications have been received and no final decision will be made until the conclusion of the interview process. Mrs. Salmon added in order to provide consistent communication Lee Thomas is designated as the official spokesperson to speak on behalf of the City until a permanent City Manager is selected.*
25. Adjournment. *Teddie Ann Salmon made a motion to adjourn at 10:32pm. Robert Jaska seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*

Teddie Ann Salmon, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Jennifer Gould, City Clerk