



May 9, 2023

Mayor and Council Members
The City of Van Alstyne
152 North Main Drive
Van Alstyne, Texas 75495

City Leaders,

Please join me in welcoming two new members to the Van Alstyne team. Mr. Tyler Bark will serve as our Director of Parks and Recreation. Tyler was selected from a very competitive field of candidates applying for the position. Prior to accepting the Van Alstyne position, Tyler worked for the City of Denison, TX where he served as the Recreation Specialist. Tyler holds an MS degree in Sports Administration and brings with him an enthusiasm for his work that will be an outstanding add to our community. Tyler will oversee three aspects of our city Parks Department. 1. Fields and Grounds 2. Special Events 3. Youth and Adult Sports Programming. Mr. Jeff Slate has recently joined our Parks Department as the Superintendent of Fields and Grounds. Jeff has certifications in water, irrigation and chemical application and holds a BS Degree in Agriculture from Texas A&M. His prior employment includes a fifteen-year stint at the City of Plano, TX where he worked as the Athletic Fields Superintendent. His knowledge of field management will allow the city to improve our green spaces and develop parks we can be very proud of.

Updating Council and our citizens on current city projects:

1. The new parking lot at Main Ave and Marshall was found to hold large pools of water following completion. The architect and contractor have completed corrective action and the rain put the correction to the test. The lot quickly drained and appears to now function properly.
2. The Preston Ave drainage project has been completed and paving of the parking spaces in front of the Police, Fire and Community Center has been completed minus striping. Recent rains indicated that the drainage solutions appear to function properly.
3. Preston Ave paving along with Van Alstyne Parkway (RR tracks to Waco) held bid opening on April 27th. Our goal is to have this segment of roadway paved in concrete, curb and gutter with work commencing shortly after award of this contract.
4. Collin McKinney Parkway drainage is now at 70% completion. Anticipate the paving of Collin McKinney Parkway will commence mid-June.
5. Nunnalee sanitary sewer work will commence this month. All those living along the path of this project have received mailings and door hangers. Several posts have been placed on social media sites and we are working on the establishment of a link on the city website to provide an easy location to find updated information as the project proceeds.
6. As was briefed earlier, the new park project, Hynds Park, is now at 90% stage of design. We anticipate soliciting bids this month and hope to award a contract in June. Weather dependent, we hope to complete this project in late spring of 2024.



7. Planning continues on the project that will construct a new Public Safety Facility. Chief Barnes and Chief Dockery and I are meeting with the architectural firm monthly and continue to be optimistic that a spring 2025 opening remains possible.
8. By the end of May, we will have completed the installation of equipment that will permit the city to convert from a chlorine water disinfection process to chloramine. Work has progressed smoothly and within budget and timeline. Once complete, the water supply will have one water supply disinfection process and an improved quality of water.
9. Improvements are underway at well site #4. The pump and controls are being replaced and the well will be placed back in service augmenting the available water supply for Van Alstyne customers.
10. Recently, Public Works in coordination with a contractor identified a number of locations in the wastewater collections system suspected of incurring significant inflow during rain events. Historically, this inflow often overwhelmed the capacity of the collections system resulting in challenges to avoid overflows. As a result of identifying these issues and taking corrective action, during and following recent rain events, increases in the volume of wastewater have been significantly reduced. Flows are substantially less when compared to previous rain events of similar magnitude. Additional investigation to continue identifying sources of inflow is ongoing.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lane H. Jones', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lane H. Jones – C.M.O.
City Manager
City of Van Alstyne, Texas