

**CITY OF VAN ALSTYNE**

**MINUTES**

**City Council Work Session Meeting**  
Van Alstyne Community Center  
262 N. Preston Ave

**Monday, September 23, 2013**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**(The City Council Work Session Meeting will come to order  
immediately following the City Council Special Called Meeting)**

Members present: Mayor Teddie Ann Salmon, Billy Plake, Kaaren Teuber, Jim Smith, Russell Moore and John Jennings.

Staff present: Frank Baker, Jennifer Gould, Julie Fort, Tracy Luscombe, Landon Smith, Tim Barnes and Steve White.

**AGENDA.**

1. Call to Order. Mayor Salmon called the meeting to order at 7:28pm.
2. Discussion regarding the 2013 - 2014 Fiscal Year City of Van Alstyne General Fund Budget. Kaaren Teuber expressed a desire to see a change in salaries displaying a one percent pay for performance increase for those qualified and suggested adding an electronic message board for Council discussion and adding \$5,604.00 to fund. Mrs. Teuber expressed concern with vehicle purchases and does not agree with engine purchase for the Fire Department and Public Works vehicle purchases and does not agree with excessive spending. Jim Smith expressed concern with the salary increases and advised that he is not in favor of buying a fire truck. Mr. Smith added that Public Works needs to adjust the one million dollar wish list down by one third especially because the notes are too long and will outlast the equipment. John Jennings expressed agreement with the long term vehicle debt Mr. Smith discussed adding that the maximum loan to be considered should be seven years. Mr. Jennings added that he had no issue with salary increases presented. Russell Moore advised he feels the budget presented is good and is understanding of staff wanting to take advantage of low interest loans but expressed agreement with reducing the length of the loan. Billy Plake commended staff for an excellent budget and added that the City needs to remain competitive in salaries. Kaaren Teuber and Jim Smith expressed opposition to purchasing a fire truck while John Jennings, Russell Moore and Billy Plake expressed favor. Kaaren Teuber, Jim Smith, John Jennings and Russell Moore expressed favor in adding the electronic message board expense to the budget while Billy Plake expressed opposition. Mr. Moore added that he is not opposed to funding the message board but is opposed to implementing if there is a risk to the City. As it relates to salaries, Kaaren Teuber expressed a desire to provide a one percent pay for performance increase while Jim Smith expressed a desire to freeze salaries. John Jennings, Russell Moore and Billy Plake expressed a desire to leave salaries as presented by staff.

3. Discussion regarding the 2013 - 2014 Fiscal Year City of Van Alstyne Enterprise Fund Budget. John Jennings advised he has no concern with the budget as presented but would like to look at reducing the length of the proposed loan. Russell Moore suggested considering purchasing diesel rather than gas as they would last longer as well as separating the vehicles from the other purchases with a lesser loan term. Further discussion was held regarding equipment purchases and financing. Kaaren Teuber expressed understanding of past neglect but added that it cannot be corrected in one year and suggested spreading purchases out over a few years with the most important first then prioritize additional purchases. Ms. Teuber asked to see other options for health coverage to which Mr. Baker advised TML would not bid, BCBS is the current provider, Aetna is most comparable but staff is still working to get a comprehensive quote.

*Pursuant to Section 551.0415 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council may report on the following items: 1) expression of thanks, congratulation or condolences, 2) information about holiday schedules, 3) recognition of individual, 4) reminders about upcoming city events, 5) information about community events and 6) announcements involving an imminent threat to public health and safety.*

#### 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.*

4. All items below for Executive Session:

Council recessed into executive session at 8:23pm.

- a. Convene into executive session pursuant to Section 551.074 [Personnel Matters] for evaluation of the City Manager.

Council reconvened into regular session at 9:27pm.

#### OPEN MEETING.

5. Adjournment. Jim Smith made a motion to adjourn at 9:27pm. Kaaren Teuber seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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Teddie Ann Salmon, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jennifer Gould, City Clerk