

CITY OF ALVARADO

County of Johnson

State of Texas

February 18, 2008
MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Alvarado met in Regular Session on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The first thirty minutes of the meeting was a public work session for the staff to brief the Council on Agenda Items. The following were present for roll call:

Tom Durlington	*	Mayor
Dwayne Richters	*	Mayor Pro Tem
Joe Sain	*	Councilperson
Bruce Clark	*	Councilperson
Tom Moore	*	Councilperson
Mellie Ferguson	*	Councilperson
David Bayless	*	Councilperson

Others Present:

Kelle Whitfill	*	Interim City Manager
Debbie Thomas	*	City Secretary
Bryn Meredith	*	City Attorney

INVOCATION

Mayor Tom Durlington called this regular meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. Mayor Tom Durlington gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

Steven Ross from the State Energy Conservation Board presented the City of Alvarado a plaque for their outstanding achievement in energy efficiency and air quality improvements in the State of Texas.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore and duly seconded by Councilperson Bruce Clark, to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION – BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mayor Tom Durlington then proclaimed the month of February, 2008, Black History Month.

PROCLAMATION – SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

Mayor Tom Durlington then proclaimed the week of February 24 thru March 1, 2008 Severe Weather Awareness Week.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FROM BUDDY BALL ASSOCIATION TO APPLY FOR HAMBURGER HELPER GRANT.

Terry Fulton addressed the Council in reference to applying for a grant to improve Moore Park by providing handicapped playground equipment with a grant from General Mills Corporation, Hamburger Helper. The Buddy Ball Association is eligible to apply for a grant in the amount of \$500.00 up to \$15,000.00. Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson Mellie Ferguson to authorize the request from the Buddy Ball Association to apply for a Hamburger Helper Grant. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING ALLIED WASTE RATE INCREASE REQUEST WITHIN THE CITY OF ALVARADO.

Pat Moriarty and Jeri Harwell from Allied Waste Services addressed the Council in reference to the request rate increase and extension of the current contract with the City of Alvarado. He stated at this time that the City of Alvarado's rate was currently \$7.07 per household and that Allied is requesting an increase to \$9.36 per household per month. He explained that due to high fuel costs this increase was necessary. Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson David Bayless to allow the rate increase to \$9.36 per household per month to Allied Waste Services effective March 1, 2008. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

The extension of the current contract will be placed on the March 17, 2008 regular meeting's agenda.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2006-2007 ANNUAL AUDIT

Gil Vollmering, from Waters, Wright & Associates, LLP, reviewed with the Council the 2006-2007 Annual Audit of the City of Alvarado. He stated that the city was stable financially and was having a good growth period.

PUBLIC HEARING, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING A REPLAT REQUEST FOR BLOCK 1, LOT 1 OF THE SABRE PLAZA ADDITION, LOCATED AT 8653 HWY. 67 E, TO BE CALLED BLOCK 1, LOT 1R OF THE SABRE PLAZA ADDITION.

Mayor Tom Durlington opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 P.M.
The Public Hearing was closed at 7:45 P.M.

Motion was made by Councilperson Mellie Ferguson, duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters to approve the replat request for Block 1, Lot 1 of the Sabre Plaza Addition, located at 8653 Hwy. 67 E, to be called Block 1, Lot 1R, of the Sabre Plaza Addition. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed.
Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FOR A COMBINATION PLAT OF TRACT 6, 7 AND 8, OF THE J. MULLICAN SURVEY, ABSTRACT 584, LOCATED AT 5201 S. I-35W, TO BE CALLED BLOCK 1, LOT 1 OF THE BULLISH SUBDIVISION.

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson Joe Sain, to approve the combination plat of Tract 6, 7 and 8, of the J. Mullican Survey, Abstract 584, located at 5201 S. I-35W, to be called Block 1, Lot 1 of the Bullish Subdivision. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed.
Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FOR A COMBINATION PLAT OF TRACTS 29B AND 29C OF THE J. DIXON SURVEY, ABSTRACT 214, LOCATED IN THE 800 BLOCK OF HWY 67 W, TO BE CALLED BLOCK 1, LOT 1 OF THE SUNNY ADDITION.

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, to approve the combination plat of Tracts 29B and 29C of the J. Dixon Survey, Abstract 214, located in the 800 block of Hwy. 67 W, to be called Block 1, Lot 1 of the Sunny Addition. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALVARADO, TEXAS, APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ATMOS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE AND ATMOS ENERGY CORP. REGARDING THE COMPANY’S STATEMENT OF INTENT TO CHANGE GAS RATES, DECLARING EXISTING RATES TO BE UNREASONABLE; ADOPTING TARIFFS THAT REFLECT RATE ADJUSTMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND FINDING THE RATES TO BE SET BY THE TARIFFS TO BE JUST AND REASONABLE.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, duly seconded by Councilperson Mellie Ferguson to approve this ordinance approving a settlement agreement between the Atmos cities steering committee and Atmos Energy Corp. regarding the company’s statement of intent to change gas rates, declaring existing rates to be unreasonable; adopting tariffs that reflect rate adjustments consistent with the settlement agreement and finding the rates to be set by the tariffs to be just and reasonable. This motion supported six votes of approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING AN AGREEMENT FOR CONNECT-CTY TO REPLACE CODE RED TO ALLOW THE CITY OF ALVARADO TO SEND MESSAGES TO HOUSEHOLDS, BUSINESSES, AND CERTAIN CONSTITUENTS WITHIN THE CITY’S JURISDICTION.

Fire Chief Richard Van Winkle addressed the Council in reference to the agreement with Connect-CTY to replace Code Red as the city’s emergency notification system to notify households, businesses and other department heads within the city’s jurisdiction. He stated that Connect-CTY would save the city \$1,729.00 compared to Code Red’s price. The contract is a three year contract with a price lock-in of \$3,271.00 per year. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, duly seconded by Councilperson David Bayless, to direct the Mayor to sign the agreement between the City of Alvarado and Connect-CTY. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF KELLE WHITFILL AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Coach Richters, duly seconded by Councilperson Mellie Ferguson to approve an ordinance approving the appointment of Kelle Whitfill as Interim City Manager. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REQUESTING TXDOT TO INITIATE A TRAFFIC STUDY TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON HWY 67 IN FRONT OF SABRE INDUSTRIES.

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, to request TXDOT to initiate a traffic study to reduce the speed limit on Hwy 67 in front of Sabre Industries. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Tom Durington convened into Executive Session at 8:01 P.M.
Mayor Tom Durington reconvened into Open Session at 8:28 P.M.

CONSIDER POSSIBLE ACTION RESULTING FROM ITEMS POSTED AND
LEGALLY DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, to pay the Interim City Manager an additional \$800.00 per month retroactive to February 5, 2008. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilperson Mellie Ferguson, duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne “Coach” Richters, to adjourn this regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alvarado at 8:30 p.m. This motion supported six votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

Passed and approved this the 17th day of March, 2008.

s/Tom Durington
Mayor Tom Durington

ATTEST:

s/Debbie Thomas
Debbie Thomas, City Secretary