

# CITY OF ALVARADO

## County of Johnson

### State of Texas

April 20, 2009

#### MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Alvarado met in Regular Session on Monday, April 20, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The following were present for roll call:

Tom Durlington	*	Mayor
Joe Sain	*	Councilperson
Tom Moore	*	Councilperson
Dwayne Richters	*	Mayor Pro Tem
David Bayless	*	Councilperson

Absent:

Michael Rayburn	*	Councilperson
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Others Present:

Don Ives	*	City Manager
Debbie Thomas	*	City Secretary
Bryn Meredith	*	City Attorney
Sharon Vass	*	Director of Community Service

#### **INVOCATION**

Mayor Tom Durlington called this regular meeting to order at 6:55 P.M. Mayor Tom Durlington gave the invocation.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Ms. Sandra Alaniz from the Alvarado Sports Association explained what the association offered to young children in Alvarado. At this time, the Alvarado Sports Association is asking the city's help to use Moore Park as their base for their association.

Mr. Michael Boren from the United States Census Department presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2010 census and all of the changes that have been made to the process.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Tom Durlington opened the Public Hearing regarding the petition requesting annexation from Sabre Divisions, located at Lot 3, Block 1, of the Sabre Plaza Addition, an addition to Johnson County, Texas at 7:24 p.m. City Secretary Debbie Thomas explained the procedures required by law for voluntary annexation into the city. The city has to hold two public hearings and adopt the annexation ordinance within 90 days of the date of the request for voluntary annexation. The next public hearing will be held on May 18, 2009 at the regular council meeting.

Mayor Tom Durlington then closed this Public Hearing at 7.25 P.M.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore and duly seconded by Councilperson Joe Sain, to approve the Consent Agenda deleting item c. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

## **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING CITY EMPLOYMENT, DUTIES AND BENEFITS, REQUESTED BY ALVARADO POLICE SERGEANT MIKE DALESKE.**

Don Ives, City Manager, explained to the Council that all of Sergeant Daleske's leave benefits with the city had been exhausted at this time. Sergeant Daleske has two choices with his employment with the city. He can resign and be placed on COBRA for 18 months for his health insurance or he can medically retire and receive his life insurance benefit with a waiver of premium. To receive his life insurance benefits, he would have to be considered 100% disabled. Sergeant Daleske is considered disabled and is drawing benefits from the Social Security Administration at this time. Since he is drawing SSI benefits, he can only earn \$700 per month and not lose this benefit. If Sergeant Daleske chooses to resign, he could only work 30 hours per month so that he may pay for his COBRA benefits. If he medically retires, he would draw a small retirement pension from the Texas Municipal Retirement System with a \$7500.00 death benefit. If the Council chooses to approve the retiree health insurance coverage, he would also have his health benefits furnished by the city.

## **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION TO AMEND HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACT TO INCLUDE RETIREE COVERAGE.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson Joe Sain, to begin immediate retiree benefits for any employee with over ten years of service with the city and available only to the retired employee under the age of 65 and pay the health insurance premium for a period of twelve months with the option of annual evaluation. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

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**CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBERS.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson Bruce Clark to appoint Barbara Fuller to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

**CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING ORDINANCE AMENDING ALVARADO CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 150.73 (B) AND (C) CITY REPAIR OR DEMOLITION OF SUBSTANDARD BUILDINGS.**

Motion was made by Councilperson David Bayless, duly seconded by Councilperson Tom Moore to approve an ordinance regarding amending Alvarado Code of Ordinances, Section 150.73 (b) and (c) city repair or demolition of substandard buildings. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Joe Slowiak addressed the Council in reference to the memorial monument that the Alvarado High School Class of 1979 placed on the square remembering three classmates that were killed in a boating accident at Lake Alvarado. He requested that the city please return this monument to the square. Mayor Tom Durlington explained that a smaller plaque had been placed inside the gazebo and the city would place this plaque in a more visible location. He suggested that the memorial monument be placed either at the lake park or the cemetery. Mr. Slowiak will check with the cemetery association to see if this is possible.

**DISCUSS CLOSING OF RAILROAD CROSSINGS AT WATSON STREET/BAUGH STREET.**

Don Ives, City Manager, explained to the Council that he had obtained an estimate to add a road from Watson Street to Parkway. This would cost approximately \$100,000.00. The \$85,000.00 that would be received from the railroad for closing two crossings and TXDOT would offset the cost of this project. The Council wishes to proceed and asked the City Manager to contact the property owners for an easement of sixty feet wide with a minimum of fifty foot wide to construct this road.

**DISCUSS SEWER RATES**

Don Ives, City Manager explained to the Council that at this time the water revenues are subsidizing the sewer expenses by \$205,000 and explained the new sewer rate structure that lowers the minimum monthly rate from \$21.00 to \$18.25, doing away with the 2,000 free gallons, increases the consumption rate from \$3.75 per 1,000 gallons to \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons and increases the monthly maximum from \$41.00 (7,333 gallons per month) to \$58.25 (10,000 gallons per month). If we increase the rates to these levels it will only generate about \$100,000 per year.

**DISCUSS DEMOLITION OF OLD COUNTY BARN AND WAGON BARN**

Don Ives, City Manager, addressed the Council in reference to demolishing the old county barn and wagon barn within the city. Mayor Durlington would like to delay the demolition of the wagon barn until we have a concept plan available for the property. The Council would like to proceed with the demolition of the county barn.

**CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING SEWER RATE INCREASE.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Tom Moore, duly seconded by Councilperson David Bayless to approve the ordinance instituting the sewer rate increase which would be effective May 1, 2009. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An Executive Session was not held at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Councilperson David Bayless, duly seconded by Councilperson Bruce Clark to adjourn this regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alvarado at 8:22 p.m. This motion supported five votes in approval and zero votes opposed. Motion carried.

Passed and approved this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Tom Durlington

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Thomas, City Secretary

