

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TOWN OF BAYVIEW, TEXAS  
104 S. San Roman, Bayview, Texas  
December 15, 2016**

**Elected officials present:** Mayor Steenbock, Aldermen Lowder, Lewis, Mullendore, and Deason.

**Elected officials absent:** Mayor Pro Tem Scott Stachowiak

**Regular Meeting**

**General**

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen was called to order by Mayor Steenbock at 6:30 p.m.
2. Mayor Steenbock led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mayor Steenbock welcomed everyone for being in attendance. He stated that we have a fairly short agenda and at the end we have a couple of announcements: one concerning a “Meet and Greet” which we hope everyone will attend and a deadline for filing applications for ballots that will be posted on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 and the filing last date is January 18, 2017. Note: Please see Bonnie Gibbons comments below as this was stated incorrectly.
4. *Public comments and announcements:* Mayor Steenbock stated that “now is the opportunity for our citizens to address the Town Council on matters relating to Town business, issues, concerns or interests, including any items that are on the agenda. Speakers are required to state their names for the record and to limit their comments to three minutes. Note: State law does not permit the Mayor/Aldermen to discuss debate or act on items that are not on the agenda. Persons making comments and announcements may be referred to Town Staff for follow up or to have items placed on the agenda for a future Town Meeting.”

Bonnie Gibbons stated that the filing for the applications of ballots notice will go out the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 but that the starting date to file is January 18, 2017 and it’s not a “last day.”

Richard Whipple stated that he wanted the Board to consider placing a sign for dead end street at the walk bridge because he has seen some cars drive in not knowing it was a dead end. He also mentioned he wanted the Board to consider placing a new sign for Chachalaca because he has had delivery problems that there is a sign saying Mockingbird Lane continues to the right but there is no signage indicating that Chachalaca continues to the left of that stop sign.

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**Action Items**

**Old Business**

None at this time.

**New Business**

5. *Discussion and possible action approving or rejecting the November 17, 2016 Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting minutes-RS* Alderman Mullendore made the motion to approve the November 17, 2016 Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting minutes. Second: Alderman Lowder. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
6. *Approval or rejection of the November 2016 current financial report with current projected balances –CT* Mayor Steenbock stated that the General Fund is now holding its own and the good news is that we have not had to use any Ad Valorem funds to this point to support the town expenses. Alderman Deason mentioned that the Birch Communication bill for two months was \$113.70 making it \$56.50 per month and the budgeted amount was \$42.00 a month. Mayor Steenbock stated that it was worth looking into because Ms. Aida Mullendore had found us this plan lowering the price to \$42.00 and it was important to find out the difference. Alderman Deason made the motion to approve the November 2016 current financial report with projected balances. Second: Alderman Lowder. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
7. *Approval or rejection of the current Building Inspector's Report including any payment due-RS* Mayor Steenbock thanked Building Inspector David Travis for getting that last permit issued for the Evans pool. He mentioned that was the last of the outstanding permits since he had taken office. David Travis stated that Mr. Evans had the plate installed and came to sign the certificate of completion. Alderman Lowder asked David what he had learned through this about fiberglass pools because he knew there was some information passed on concerning uncertainty whether or not the plate was necessary or that whether or not the bonding on the electrical for the lights were really necessary. David responded "It's definitely required there are exclusions. For one, I did not know what his light consisted of and what Mr. Heinz was going to do is go in there and see if there was a groove to go in there and basically use that to test it and see if it was bonded properly or not. Then Mr. Evans literally tore the light out and found out it was low voltage and he had no bonding connection at all. That was unknown information. As far as the plate, it is definitely required. A bond is required for 9 square inches of bonding service in the water. But as far as learning anything, I guess it's not really a learning factor, more of now everybody knows procedure and to ensure that in the future inspections are completed and records are kept. That was the main thing, that there were no records and any inspections." Mayor Steenbock stated that what he means is that regardless of the light, a bonding plate is still required. Alderman Deason made the

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motion to approve the Building Inspector's report and pay the amount due of \$75.00.  
Second: Alderman Mullendore. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. *Introduction, and a statement from each candidate for the B & SC. Discussion and voting by blind ballot, for candidates for the B & SC. The voting Board members, that are not candidates, will each have one vote for each vacant position. In case of a tie or positions not filled, voting will continue until all positions are filled.* Mayor Steenbock stated that we had two interested candidates but only one was present. Ron Heinz was invited to speak. Ron Heinz stated, "Short speech. I am dedicated. I am committed to benefit of the Town, following rules as they're written, I am also committed to helping our citizens in a fair and equitable manner and achieving a balance. My experience throughout my career was doing just that, taking mad customers and representing the company and keeping those customers." Alderman Deason questioned what happened to the other applicant. Mayor Steenbock stated that Carmen had called him this morning and he said he would be here. She stated he was in the office to pick up a burn permit and confirmed he would be here. Alderman Lowder made the motion to appoint Ron Heinz to the Building and Standard Commission Board. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.
9. *Discussion and possible action on designating time and project for the January/February 2016 "Bayview Beautification Day". - RS* Mayor Steenbock asked if there was anything that we wanted to work on. Alderman Deason reported that all the bridges can be worked and suggested that we use the "Meet and Greet" day to ask for volunteers to help out once a month. He continued by suggesting that a sheet be provided to the visitors to promote volunteering. After a brief discussion on work needed, Mayor Steenbock stated that we would send out a town email asking for volunteers for light brush cutting and "weed eating" on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2017.

Future Agenda Items - *Any current member of the Board, in good standing, may add one agenda item to the agenda of a future meeting specified by that Alderman. No agenda item added by an Alderman may be removed, altered or modified without the written consent of the Alderman adding the agenda item unless the language or content of the agenda item conflicts with state or local laws.* Nothing was added.

**Discussion Items**

1. *Discussion on bridge maintenance.* - GL Alderman Lowder reported that everyone was already aware of the rail that has been damaged on North San Roman Bridge for 15 years and luckily Alderman Deason was able to get a donation of a rail. He also reported that in the last meeting he was asked to ascertain what materials would be required in order to make this installation. He continued by reporting that he sent out an email on November 30, 2016 but did not get any response and that he was under the understanding from the last meeting that this additional list of materials would be

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addressed by Alderman Deason to Victor to get some of those materials. He stated that he recently received a response from Alderman Deason stating to go ahead and do it myself. Alderman Lowder also said that he would appreciate it in the future that if someone takes the helm on something, to follow through with it and if they need assistance with that, there is a lot of us that could help to make these things happen. He continued that he has done some research on the cost of the materials not only in the state of Texas but also Tennessee and California. The cost is not \$30, as stated by Alderman Deason. They are in excess of \$200 and he will bring all bids to the Board for a decision on it.

Alderman Deason responded by saying "first of all you are the head of bridge maintenance, not me. And what I said on the email was that instead of going to Mr. Hernandez and asking him to give us these things which are trivial, in comparison to what we might go to him and get \$20,000 to \$30,000 worth of chip seal gravel. I think we save our good will for something like that instead of going back to him. I think another thing here is that the Town should send him or call him and thank him for giving us the rail and the mosquito bits that we put out to cut down mosquito control instead of trying to go back to him and say give us something else that cost \$200. If it costs \$200, there is 2 posts, 2 bricks, and some bolts. If this costs \$200 then fine, bring those quotes to the Board and let them decide what they want to do." Mayor Steenbock responded, "That's fine. I think that maybe I was under the impression Alderman Deason that you were happy being the person to talk to Mr. Hernandez and facilitate those things for the Town. And I appreciate the fact that you got us the rail and all that. Now, if you feel like that we have used up our good will to the point that we should not use anymore, I don't have any problem with that." Alderman Deason responded, "That's what I was trying to put out." Mayor Steenbock continued, "But I think the part of the email that says 'you're in charge you should be doing this' in pretty strong language. Took me a little bit back. We can move forward on this. We can get this accomplished." Alderman Deason said "if it was \$2,000, that is one thing, but if it's \$200 or less I don't see worrying about him. He had to go to Raymondville and pick up that rail, bring it back down and he delivered it here to the office." Mayor Steenbock responded, "I just think it was unnecessary to take the jab at Alderman Lowder that he was not doing his job. That's all I'm saying. May I say that we have a budget that covers these types of things and I'm happy to keep the Board informed of what we are doing, but we don't have to come in here and vote on spending \$200 to buy the pieces to fix the bridge. We have a fund designed for these things and I'm happy to keep the Board informed of what we are doing." Alderman Lowder stated "Let's just, in the future, when we start something, let's plan it, assign somebody to do it, and they're going to follow through with it. For some reason, if they cannot accomplish the task, then we assign it to somebody else. That's all I'm asking."

2. *Update on the FM2480 final inspection.* - SS/LD Nothing new.

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3. *Emergency management update.* – GP/JLL Alderman Lewis reported that “there will be a sudden temperature drop, so please remember your pets. It’s going to drop about 40 degree by Sunday at 2:00 p.m. It’s going to go from 85/70 to 55/45 so please tend to your pets. Also, the wind will be gusting; it’s called *The Valley Wind Machine*. Wind will be gusting at 35 from the South so watch out for fires and burning. Also, now, Brownsville is a yellow cautionary area for Zika. We have 5 confirmed cases of Zika that is local, not travel related, but locally born. So, be careful with mosquitoes. Wear long pants. Cover your arms and wherever there is standing water, they have mosquito bits on Amazon or maybe Home Depot. You can get 30 ounces for \$17/\$18 and you sprinkle a teaspoon for 25 square feet which will kill the larvae, not the mosquitoes themselves, but the larvae.” Mayor Steenbock stated that if you’re working outside, they recommend using something with DEET.
4. *Report from the Building and Standards Commission.* - MM Alderman Mullendore reported that nothing has come up. There will be a meeting on December 27<sup>th</sup> to vote in a new chairperson. He also reported there are no new positions up this year.
5. *Discussion on disposition of records scheduled for disposal.* - RAS Mayor Steenbock reported, “Last month we talked a little bit about this and both Carmen and I have read quite a bit. I know what was told to us in the meeting, but I don’t agree with what was told to us. There is nothing that says we have to destroy anything. What it says is that it’s a minimum retention period. Now, with that being said, I think it’s silly to keep in perpetuity innocuous records, like payroll records and financial reports out of QuickBooks. This stuff just piles up. Now, I don’t propose destroying a box of anything without going through it paper by paper because Carmen went through the boxes and found some things that should be kept. So, we are not going to say this box is scheduled for destruction and it goes. But, I think saving a Staples receipt from a 8 years ago is a little over the top. So, how does everybody else feel about it?” Alderman Deason responded, “In reason, I agree with you 100%. Things like that don’t need to be thrown away, but as we’ve noted here in the past, things come up from many years ago, like Mr. Sommerfruct’s deal over there. If we didn’t have that, we would have been stuck with \$800.” Mayor Steenbock responded, “I think anything that has to do with Building and Standards Commission, annexations, disannexations, and anything you would call an official act should be kept.”

**Complaints, Compliments, Concerns or Comments**

Thank you Los Fresnos Volunteer Fire Department for mowing the Bayview Station grounds and the Town Office.

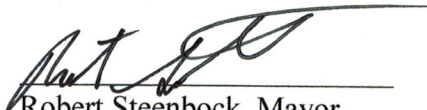
- a. Please consider attending our “Meet and Greet” January 14, 2017, 08:30 – 10:30. Organized by Tina Weiser and Carmen Amaya.

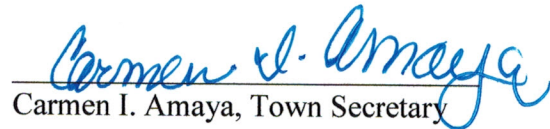
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- b. Notice of Deadline to File Application for Place on Ballot will be posted by December 19, 2016. First day to file is January 18, 2017 and last day is February 6, 2017. Election Day is May 6, 2017.

**Adjourn**

At 7:03 p.m., a motion was made by Alderman Deason to adjourn. Second: Alderman Mullendore. All in Favor. Motion carried.

  
Robert Steenbock, Mayor

  
Carmen I. Amaya, Town Secretary