

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TOWN OF BAYVIEW, TEXAS  
104 S. San Roman, Bayview, Texas  
May 18, 2017**

**Elected officials present:** Mayor Paris, Alderman Steenbock, Alderman Lewis, Alderman Heinz and Alderman Najera.

**Elected Officials Not Present:** Alderman Mark Mullendore.

**Regular Meeting**

**General**

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen was called to order by Mayor Paris at 6:30 p.m.
2. Mayor Paris led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Mayor Paris began by thanking former Mayor Bob Steenbock and presented to him on behalf of the town a Certificate of Appreciation for all his work. Now an alderman, Mr. Steenbock stated "Wonderful, thank you, I had a wonderful group of people to work with and I appreciate everybody's patience with some of the times we went through. Thank you very much Gary." Mayor Paris continued by thanking the Los Fresnos Volunteer Fire Department for mowing the town hall grounds. Mayor Gary Paris, presiding over his first meeting, introduced himself saying that he's been in Bayview for about 2 ½ years and then stated, "I did want to talk about my vision as Mayor. What I want to do with Bayview is keep Bayview, Bayview. Now what do I mean by that? 'Preservation' and 'Conservation' are two key words." He then specified, "our resacas, our citrus, our eclectic mix of homes, and the rural nature of our community." And that the priorities that he would like to set up as Mayor for the Board are these: "Life safety in terms of what happens to the community if there's a hurricane, if we have a water shortage, or whatever it might be. In other words, life comes first and preserving it. Second thing, is make sure we have sound financial management. That's crucial to this little town. Next one, customer service. I want myself and the Board to make sure that we're responding to the residents' needs. Even though we are residents also, I want to make sure that we respond to your needs and your requirements. Open Communications, the one thing I want to make sure people know is that you can talk to me anytime you need to. In fact, I'm going to give you my phone number," (210) 632-5253. And then he stated, "Finally, strategic planning. One of the things that we want to make sure that we do as a Town is plan." And that, "Things are going to change, we just have to make sure we can manage that change."
4. *Public comments and announcements:* Mayor Paris 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.

Mayor Paris asked Alderman Heinz to speak as citizen regarding the low resaca levels.

Ron Heinz: I attended a meeting last night at the Bayview Irrigation District and got a commitment from the manager that he was coming over here but his Board didn't think it would do any good, so he is not here. I was authorized to speak based on what I heard last night regarding the level of water in the resacas. First thing is that the whole issue started about 2 ½ to 3 months ago or maybe even 7 months ago when it hadn't rained. When the farming cycle started, the farmers had to pre-water their fields before they could plant. They had to water their fields after they planted and continued to have to water. Similarly, orchards and pastures have the same requirements and with no rain that means it's all based on irrigation. We have a canal that feeds from Falcon Lake through Irrigation District 6 out to here. It has a finite capacity for flowing water. The demand for water, even though we started this season with pretty full resacas, has far exceeded the capacity for water to flow in. So the inbound canal has been running full for about 2 ½ months. The demand has exceeded that capacity so the resacas were drained down, but are slowly filling again at this time.

Garry Lowder: Expressed his concern about the resaca levels and stated that they haven't been this low in thirty years.

Charmaine Dreumont: Expressed her concern about the garbage cans being left out on the street past the collection date. Some are left out there week after week and not taken back to their homes. Also, since the speed humps have been put in, people are placing barriers so drivers can't go around. According to the Town restrictions, people are not allowed to keep weed, rubbish, brush, etc. to accumulate or remain, but there is a tree that is rotting and really looks ugly. I have a specific complaint about one home; first house as you cross the bridge on North San Roman, on the right-hand side, the white house. They have cut down several trees, but they are not small enough for the services to remove. She referenced the Bayview Article IX, items "i" and "j."

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

1. *Discussion and possible action on appointing a Mayor Pro Tem for a period of 1 calendar year.*  
-GP Alderman Heinz made the motion to nominate Alderman Mark Mullendore as Mayor Pro Tem. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. *Discussion and possible action approving or rejecting the April 20, 2017 Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting minutes.*-GP Alderman Heinz suggested to amend page 6, 7<sup>th</sup> line to remove "installing particular individuals." Alderman Steenbock made the motion to accept the April 20, 2017 Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting minutes as amended. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. *Discussion and possible action approving or rejecting current financial report*—CT Alderman Lewis and Alderman Heinz questioned the source of the sales tax revenue. Alderman Lewis was pleased that the costs were within budget and the revenues exceeded the budget and stated that, “we are looking financially exceptional this year.” Alderman Heinz had some questions regarding the balance statements that the Board agreed that the bookkeeper (not present) would best answer. Alderman Heinz requested that there be clarification next time. Alderman Heinz made the motion to approve the report as written. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. *Discussion and possible action approving or rejection of the Building Inspector’s Report including any payment due.*—DT Alderman Steenbock made the motion to approve the May 14, 2017 Building Inspector’s report including \$100 due to David Travis. Second: Alderman Najera. Aye: Aldermen Lewis. Abstain: Alderman Heinz. Motion carried.
5. *Discussion and possible action approving or rejecting Rentfro Law billing dated 05/10/2017 for \$2,313.75*—GP Alderman Heinz made the motion to approve the Rentfro Law bill in the amount of \$2,313.75. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. *Presentation for consideration and possible action to grant a variance for lot size to Mr. Benjamin Pena. Mr. Pena has requested a variance to construct a house on 2 lots located on Palma Lane.*—GP A presentation was made by Mr. Pena about the complications to re-plat his two lots. He stated that he spoke with his lending institution which advised him that they would approve the construction as long as the Town granted the variance. He handed each alderman a copy of his letter asking for the variance and an illustration of the location of the home. After a brief discussion, Alderman Najera made the motion to grant a variance to Mr. Benjamin Pena and Sonia Pena so that they can build a house on Blocks 61 and 62 of the Town of Bayview Citrus Grove Section 8 Unit 3. Second: Alderman Lewis. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. *Discussion and possible action on designating time and project for May 2017 “Bayview Beautification Day.”*— GP. Mayor Paris reported that the last weekend in May is the Memorial Day Holiday weekend so we will not have a Beautification Day this month.

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.

Alderman Steenbock stated that he would like to add to the next agenda forming a new Road Committee since, due to elections, most of the former Road Committee members are no longer on the Board. He recommended that the Board consider citizen involvement.

Alderman Heinz stated that he would like to add the Article X rewrite to the agenda and recommends that the Board appoint a citizen’s committee with one or two Board members.

## **Discussion Items**

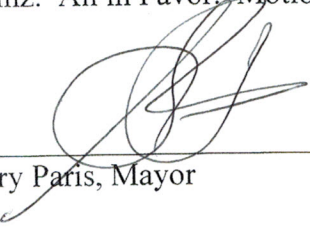
1. *Emergency management update-GP* Mayor Paris reported that, as mayor, he will now be the Emergency Management Director. Alderman Lewis will take over his place as Emergency Management Coordinator and her assistant will be Alderman Najera. Mayor Paris voiced a concern that the resacas right now are starting to grow algae from the stagnant water and in one of the classes he attended for Zika mosquitoes, this is exactly what they love. He mentioned that we may have to call the county to spray. Alderman Steenbock stated that we have mosquito pellets for small areas of concern. Mayor Paris also let everyone know that he would be attending a Hurricane Preparedness Seminar next week. Also, Alderman Lewis will be attending a Hurricane, Disaster and Recovery Seminar in June.

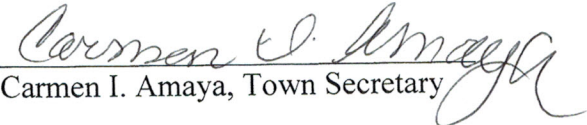
Alderman Lewis stated that she would like to start issuing a letter to people who want to participate during disaster recovery. She continued to explain that during a mandatory evacuation, if you leave, you are not allowed to return to the area without having a letter signed by the Mayor with your name. Each person returning in a vehicle must have his or her own letter. She will be drafting a letter for the Mayor to review which will list what our residents can participate in upon their return. She also stated that the emergency fund at this time only has \$13.00 however, in our budget, the Board had determined there would be a transfer of \$10,000.00 to the emergency fund and she would be asking for \$40,000.00 additional for next year. She reminded everyone that during Hurricane Dolly, the cost to the Town was over \$40,000.00 for debris removal from the streets. Mayor Paris stated that in the meetings he has attended for Cameron County Hurricane Preparedness, they advised all of the small towns like us and Rio Hondo that, if we have to use their services, they want the money upfront.

2. *Report from the Building and Standards Commission. – Roger Mantony* There was no activity to report. Mayor Paris stated that he would be resigning from the Building and Standards Commission, so there would be an opening and the town was looking for volunteers to take that position.
3. *Discussion on the ongoing conversation with Spectrum Time Warner for services.-JL* Alderman Lewis reported that about half of Bayview homes committed to having this service, however, right now it looks like the answer is “no” based on Spectrum’s cost analysis. She continued that it is not that Bayview is a large community to service, but that the homes are so deeply set and require so much cable and fiber optics. There are many residents willing to pay to run extra cables through their property, but there is still hesitancy from Spectrum. Right now it does not look good for us, however she is not giving up and is looking at other options.

#### **Adjourn**

At 7:30 p.m. a motion was made by Alderman Steenbock to adjourn the meeting. Second: Alderman Heinz. All in Favor. Motion carried.

  
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Gary Paris, Mayor

  
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Carmen I. Amaya, Town Secretary