

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2008
TOWN OF TALTY

The Town of Talty held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2008, at the Trinity Family Church in Talty, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, Todd W. Hutton.

- I. A quorum was announced. Aldermen present were: Frank Garrison, John Jackson, Larry Farthing, Carla Milligan, and Kevin Williams. Mr. Connie Goodwin, town administrator and Sherry Bagby, town secretary, were also present.
- II. Mayor Hutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Citizens Participation. The following citizens addressed the Board:
 - (1) Millie Brice speaking against Talty purchasing land near Winners Circle subdivision for a town hall. She felt that the price was too high, and that there is a better option.
 - (2) Pat Corder speaking against building a town hall near Winners Circle. She also felt the price was too high.
 - (3) Lee Lungford who works at Trinity Family Church, stated that no one had contacted the church to ask if they would be willing to share their parking lot with town hall. He stated that the water backs up and the proposed lot would have to be built up for there to be adequate drainage.
 - (4) JoAnn McKethan stated that she believes Talty does not need a big city hall with only four part-time employees. She thought the proposed site might be contaminated and the EPA should get involved. She also felt that with the down-turn in the economy, it was not the right time to purchase land.
 - (5) Trudy Williams stated that she is not opposed to building a town hall, she just felt it was the wrong time. She stated that the town should wait until its income increases.
 - (6) Alderman Carla Milligan signed in to speak. Ms. Milligan began to pass out materials for an apparent presentation on her opposition to the town hall. Mayor Hutton ruled that Ms. Milligan was out of order. When Milligan persisted, Mayor Hutton rejected the materials and refused to allow Ms. Milligan to speak about this matter stating that she is an Alderman, that the town hall matter was not posted on the agenda, and that Ms Milligan would not be allowed to circumvent the Texas Open Meetings Act via participation in the citizens comments portion of the meeting. Ms. Milligan finally yielded after Mayor Hutton threatened to adjourn the meeting.

- (7) Alderman Kevin Williams also signed in to speak. Mayor Hutton stated that the same rules apply as he too is an Alderman. Mr. Williams obliged but insisted that the record reflect his opposition to the town hall project.
- (8) Chad Chaney signed in to speak, but declined.
- (9) Earl Carter addressed the Board and stated that he felt it was a good idea to purchase the land and build town hall in the town's limits. He stated that the cost to build a town hall will only increase and get more expensive as time goes on.

IV. Action Items:

1. The Board reviewed the Minutes of November 18, 2008. Carla Milligan had one addition to make regarding her letter communication from Anthony Williams, a former reserve officer, related to his F-5 report. A motion was made by John Jackson to approve the Minutes of November 18, 2008 with the F-5 language being added as requested.
Seconded: Frank Garrison
Vote: 5-0; all in favor, motion carried.
2. The Board reviewed the November, 2008 financial report. A motion was made by Frank Garrison to approve the November, 2008 financials.
Seconded: John Jackson
Vote: 5-0; all in favor, motion carried.

V. Discussion Items:

1. Updates on development. Mr. Goodwin stated that there has not been any activity regarding development in and around Talty. Carla Milligan again tried to make a presentation on her opposition to the town hall. Mayor Hutton again admonished her conduct as violative of Texas law and refused to allow her to proceed as the item was not posted for further deliberation. In order to clarify for the citizens the current status of the development of the new town hall, Mayor Hutton stated that, as an existing factual matter, the Board of Aldermen had already approved the purchase of the proposed site for \$50,000.00 – not the \$60,000.00 figure as had been stated by some during citizens participation. The land purchase was approved at the November meeting. Mayor Hutton stated that negotiations on that purchase were ongoing. Mayor Hutton also reminded the citizens that development of the town hall and related land issues had been on the agendas for several months and openly debated, even having been preliminarily approved as part of the new budget. Mayor Hutton noted that the citizens were apparently being misled on the issues and that they should beware of misinformation such as the recent anonymous notice in the Forney Messenger.

2. Police Report. Police Chief Michael Hoskins passed out his monthly police report. He reminded citizens to keep their garage doors closed. Larry Farthing stated that he appreciates Chief Hoskins being available on mornings with bad weather because of accidents that may happen. Millie Brice also stated that she was pleased that Chief Hoskins was on duty and seen in the neighborhoods patrolling.

3. Site Plan. A site plan for St. Martin's Catholic Church was not received in the office. A motion was made by John Jackson to table the review of a site plan until it is received.

Seconded: Frank Garrison.

Vote: 5-0; all in favor, item tabled.

VI. Adjourn

A motion was made by John Jackson to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Larry Farthing

Vote: 5-0; all in favor, meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Approved: _____

Mayor, Todd W. Hutton

Town Secretary, Sherry Bagby