

**MINUTES
CITY OF VON ORMY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2009**

1) CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Art Martinez de Vara called the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Von Ormy to order at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th day of February, 2009, in the Parish Hall of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 13466 IH 35 South, Von Ormy, Texas. All Present.

THOSE PRESENT INCLUDED: Mayor Art Martinez de Vara, Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla, Councilmember James Sweeney, Councilmember Sammy Martinez, Councilmember Leonardo Ruiz and Councilmember Verna Hernandez.

2) INVOCATION: Invocation made by Mayor Art Martinez de Vara.

3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Art Martinez de Vara led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR PRIOR MEETINGS: Motion was made by Councilman James Sweeney, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla, to approve the January 21st, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 5 to 0.
Motion was made by Councilman Sammy Martinez, seconded by Councilman Leonard Ruiz to approve the January 28th, 2009 Special City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 5 to 0.

5) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MAYOR'S NOMINATION FOR CITY ENGINEER: GONZALEZ – DE LA GARZA & ASSOCIATES Motion made by Councilman Sammy Martinez, seconded by Councilman James Sweeney to approve Mayor's nomination for City Engineer, Gonzalez – De La Garza & Associates. Motion carried 5 to 0.

6) PRESENTATION BY UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD REGARDING RAILROAD CROSSINGS AND RELATED SAFETY ISSUES AND DISCUSSION THEREOF: Presentation made for Union Pacific Railroad by Joseph A. Garcia Public Projects Engineering and Operation Lifesaver Presenter Buck Russel. Union Pacific Railroad presented options for the closure or improvements of railroad crossings along Quintana Road.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: Eight (8) citizens were heard.

7) DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS: TRASH CLEAN UP AND DIABETES WALK: At this time James Barnes President of South Bexar Republicans volunteered his service to organize the Community Service events.

8) BUDGET WORKSHOP OF CITY OF VON ORMY FISCAL YEAR 2008-09 BUDGET: Council concluded that a Budget for fiscal year 2008-09 will be adopted at next Regular Council Meeting on February 18, 2009.

9) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ORDINANCE REGARDING AD VALOREM TAXATION AUTHORITY AND DELINQUENT TAXES PROCEDURES:

Motion made by Councilman James Sweeney and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla to accept Ordinance Regarding Ad Valorem Taxation Authority. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla and seconded by Councilwomen Verna Hernandez to approve the 2008 Tax Calendar with penalty and interest rates. Motion carried 5 to 0.

10) DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ORDINANCE REGARDING DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION FIRM:

Motion made by Councilman James Sweeney seconded by Councilman Leonard Ruiz to pass an ordinance to retain Carri Baker Wells Director of Operations for Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP to conduct collection of delinquent taxes. Motion carried 5 to 0.

11) DISCUSS AND ACTION ON LOCAL SALES TAXES, INCLUDING SALES AND USE TAX FOR GENERAL FUND, STREET MAINTENANCE, 4A, AND 4B: No action.

12) TASK FORCE REPORTS:

a. Infrastructure – Councilman Sweeney, Chair, reported that more fire hydrants have been installed in the city.

Council also decided at this time, that Councilman James Sweeney and Mayor Art Martinez de Vara will meet with S A W S on Thursday, February 5, 2009 at S A W S Headquarters.

Councilman Sammy Martinez reported that he contacted Bexar County Flood Control Project Office and explained to Council the Flood Control Project on Benton City Road at Live Oak Slough. Councilman Sammy Martinez also reported that Tex Dot has submitted a work order to install a cable at Exit 141 on IH 35 South.

i. Certificates of Occupancy – Councilwomen Verna Hernandez will report at next council meeting the progress she has made concerning this task. Councilwomen Verna Hernandez did report that she has made progress on her Health Inspection task and will report at next council meeting.

13) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MUNICIPAL TRAFFIC LAWS:

a. speed limit sign on Rife Lane

Council will need to get more information on this issue before action can be taken.

b. Creation of Traffic Task Force

Motion made by Councilman Leonard Ruiz and seconded by Councilman James Sweeney to nominate Councilman Sammy Martinez to head the Traffic Task Force.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

14) DISCUSSION OF FIRE ORDINANCE AND FIREWORK SALES AND USE:

Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla volunteered to investigate this issue in order to resolve and present an ordinance suitable for all concerned.

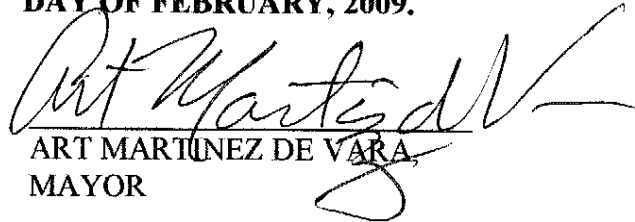
15) DISCUSSION OF TRASH ON BENTON CITY ROAD AND VON ORMY ROAD:

No action just discussion.

16) ADJOURN:

Motion made by Councilman Sammy Martinez and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alex Quintanilla to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 5 to 0.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 18th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2009.


ART MARTINEZ DE VARA
MAYOR

ATTEST:


JULIA ANN HERNANDEZ,
CITY CLERK