The City Council of the City of Alvord, Texas met in regular session on **Thursday,**

**March 18, 2021** in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order at

6:03 p.m. and a quorum was present. Mayor Enochs was present and presiding with Council Members Hatzenbihler, Sherwood, Raney, Redder and Caviness. Also in attendance were City Attorney Jim Shepherd, City Administrator Clint Mercer, Public Works Director Doug Baker, City Secretary Pam Gregg, and City Engineer Mark Hill. There were five people in attendance from the public.

Jim Shepherd gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

**IV. CITIZENS FORUM**

No one requested to speak during this time.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was opened at 6:04 p.m. to hear comments for or against a request for a zoning change to place a takeout restaurant business on the property located at 403 West Franklin Street. The applicant is Jeremy Hart.

The applicant distributed copies of the concept plan for the restaurant business which included his ideas for parking, trash receptacles and a picnic area in the fenced yard.

There was some discussion about the possible specifics of the Planned Development classification, future dining areas, city codes, restrooms, parking, designated delivery areas, and zoning of the surrounding property.

With no one from the public requesting to speak, the hearing closed at 6:23 p.m.

Council Member Redder made a motion to change the zoning of the property at 403 West Franklin Street from Single Family Residential to Planned Development. Council Member Raney seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**VII. NEW ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**a. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the minutes from the special meeting on February 24, 2021**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting on February 24, 2021. Council Member Raney seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**b. Consider and take appropriate action to approve an election agreement with Wise County Elections**

Council Member Caviness made a motion to approve the election agreement with Wise County Elections. Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**c. Consider and take appropriate action on submitted bids for the water line project**

Sealed bids for the project were opened on March 16th with three contractors submitting bids. The lowest bids totaled $1,266,021.00 which was much higher than the estimated cost from 2019 of $669,000.00. City Administrator Clint Mercer explained that the difference was due to the economy and also the significant rise in steel prices over the past year and a half.

Clint discussed with Council several options to cover the difference but also stated he didn’t feel like a decision needed to be made at this meeting. Repeating the bidding process was discussed but decided it probably wouldn’t change anything and could possibly result in an even higher bid.

It was decided that Clint would do some investigating and work with the City Attorney and the City Engineer on getting a handful of options and realistic timelines before the next meeting. The possibility of a special meeting was discussed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood made a motion to table this item. Council Member Redder seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**d. Consider and take appropriate action on submitted bids for the elevated storage tank project**

This agenda item was tabled.

**e. Consider and take appropriate action for the approval of withdrawing a Fire Department CD for the antique engine restoration**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood made a motion to withdraw Fire Department CD ending in 6011 in the approximate amount of $16,887.01 and deposit the funds into Fire Department Legend Bank Account #011931 for the purpose of restoring the antique engine. Council Member Redder seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**f. Consider and take appropriate action for authorization to create an account for the TxCDBG grant with signatures**

Council Member Redder made a motion to create a separate operating account for the TxCDBG grant with authorized signers being the City Secretary, currently sitting Pam Gregg; the Mayor, currently sitting Jim Enochs; and the Mayor Pro-Tem, currently sitting Dewayne Sherwood. Council Member Caviness seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**g. Consider and take appropriate action to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Wise County for use of an emergency mass notification system**

The CivicReady system used by Wise County is a text, phone and email notification system not just limited to emergencies like the City’s previous Code Red system. It can be used for other things like street closings, parks and recreation, election reminders, City Council meetings, City events and could possibly replace the door to door notifications for boil water notices. Participation in the system will also allow Alvord to tie into the County and be included in severe weather alerts. Council Member Hatzenbihler made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Wise County for use of the emergency mass notification system. Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood seconded the motion. All votes were yes. The motion carried.

**VIII. STAFF REPORTS**

Since there were no water disconnects due to the severe weather and outages, City Secretary Pam Gregg gave a report of permits issued since the last meeting.

Public Works Director Doug Baker gave a brief report of equipment being repaired due to the storm.

City Administrator Clint Mercer gave a quick rundown of storm damage numbers and insurance coverage.

Council Member Redder gave a report for the EDC that included:

* Multi-use facility/Library Committee had their first meeting
* Bids received for community garden at the park will be voted on at the next EDC meeting

**X. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council Member Redder made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Alvord City Council at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2021. Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood seconded the motion. The Council voted five (5) in favor and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

These minutes were approved on the 15th day of April, 2021.

APPROVED: ATTEST:

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Jim Enochs, Mayor Pam Gregg, TRMC, City Secretary