

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
M I N U T E S
July 14th, 2009**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS]
THE COUNTY OF POLK]
THE CITY OF ONALASKA]**

The City Council of the City of Onalaska, Texas, met in the chamber room of City Hall for the regular monthly meeting on July 14th, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called and the following were present:

Lew Vail	]	Mayor
Tom Edwards	]	Mayor ProTem
Carl Cruse]	
Shirley Gilmore	]	Council members
Patsy Goins]	
Brandon Smith]	
Angela Stutts	]	City Secretary
Ron Gilbert	]	Chief of Police
Barbara Hupp	]	Court Clerk

And the following visitors:

Sgt. Lee Parrish	]	Lynn Brown
Sgt. Troy Binford	]	Jeanne Ann Smith Byrd
Commissioner Ronnie Vincent	]	Debra Inglerock
Gary Evan	]	Clyde Stewart

Quorum being present, the Mayor continued with the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to hear from the public, approve the consent agenda (minutes, voucher list and accept the financial report), hear reports from the departments, review and take action on ordinance no. 317 – restricting smoking in public places, review and take action regarding burn ban and announce any upcoming events.

PLEDGE & PRAYER

Tom Edwards opened the meeting with the prayer; Lew Vail led the pledge to the American and Texas Flags.

PUBLIC FORUM

Clyde Stewart presented a donation for the Fireworks Committee on behalf of Bridgeview Subdivision.

Clyde Stewart addressed council asking them to vote for Ordinance 317, an ordinance creating a prohibition against smoking in eating establishments. He asked everyone to think of others not just themselves.

Police Chief Ron Gilbert addressed council thanking them for their support regarding our 1st ever Wrestling Event, and invited them to come and see the renovations that had been made in the Police Department.

Jeanne Anne Byrd addressed council with concerns regarding Ordinance 317, advising council of future plans of building a screened in deck for smokers, however, referenced a business in Tyler where they spend approx. \$20,000 on smoke eaters then smoking was banned and that money was spent in vein. She did not want to end up in this situation. Ms. Byrd also addressed council regarding enforcement. Last, Ms. Byrd reminded council that this ordinance affects her solely, except Stubby's.

Tom Edwards respectfully responded to all his feelings that in his opinion the owner should have the ability to make a business decision whether or not to allow smoking.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Shirley Gilmore and a second was made by Patsy Goins to accept and approve items listed on the consent agenda as presented.

VOTE: For – All; Against – None. Motion carried.

REPORTS – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Ron Gilbert reported that the department traveled 5214.7 miles during June; responded to 607 non-dispatched calls; 123 dispatched calls; 19 officers assists, and assisted the fire department 3 times. Besides all of this, 95 citations, 39 warnings and 62 warrants were issued (cleared 32 warrants), 18 misdemeanor arrests and 1 felony arrest was made.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lew Vail reported that the Fire Department responded to 72 calls for assistance during June 2009. 33 medical calls, 5 structure fires, 13 grass fires, 1 vehicle fires, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 3 lake rescues, 5 landing zones, 6 assists and 0 mutual aides, totaling 186 volunteer man hours.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Lew Vail reported that during June 2009, 6 permits were issued which increased the Value by \$15,600.00 for a YTD total of \$1,578,710.00.

LIBRARY

Patsy Goins reported that during June there are 1724 current borrowers, added 44 books. Library was open 18 days, book circulation 643, patrons 853

and computer usage 285. Monetary collections totaled \$112.10. Donations \$0.90.

June 2009 narrative:

We ordered 19 replacement books via amazon.com. We were able to spend only \$160.00 for these books and that includes shipping. These were books that were lost or never returned by patrons. Most of them have been paid for in the past. We have a list of other books which we are considering replacing. The library ceiling has been done and looks nice. Also the bathroom has had a second door placed in it that opens in from the Police Dept. The thermostat has been removed from the library and the previous door to the Police Department has been boarded up. Most patrons are reluctant to use the bathroom because there is not a way of securing the door to the Police Department from within the bathroom. They are afraid that someone will walk in on them. Some mornings we have had to send people over to the City Hall to use the restrooms there because they cannot get into the bathroom because our bathroom door is locked and no one is in the Police Dept. Other complaints have arisen due to the thermostat being moved. Patrons, volunteers and staff complain of the freezing temperatures when the thermostat is set too low (below 69). We have no way of going into the Police Department and changing the temperature as the doors are usually locked from the bathroom to the Police Department and we are reluctant to go over there and do that because they will probably change the temperature after we leave. I have also been told that the Library will have to have another phone so that we can answer the City Hall phones when we are not busy.

REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON ORDINANCE NO. 317 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ONALASKA, TEXAS, CREATING A PROHIBITION AGAINST SMOKING IN EATING ESTABLISHMENTS; CREATING A MAXIMUM PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

It was moved by Carl Cruse and a second was made by Brandon Smith to approve ordinance no. 317 creating a prohibition against smoking in eating establishments; creating a maximum penalties for violation, providing for a severability, and providing an effective date thereof.

VOTE: For – Carl Cruse, Brandon Smith; Against – Patsy Goins, Shirley Gilmore and Tom Edwards. Motion failed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lew Vail advised that we will have a new receptionist, Linda Conn, who is with the Experienced Works program.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 7:44 p.m., it was moved by Shirley Gilmore and a second was made by Brandon Smith to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: For – All; Against – None. Motion carried.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

LEW VAIL, Mayor

ANGELA STUTTS, City Secretary

DATE: August 11th, 2009