

**Special Meeting of the Board of Alderman
For the City of Valley View, Texas 10/01/2020**

Call meeting to order – Mayor Pro Tem Fortenberry called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Alderman Bewley was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation Mayor Pro Tem Fortenberry led the pledge, asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Jimmy Prescher and then led prayer.

Mayor Comments

None.

Item 4 Public Comments

None.

Item 5 Discuss filling Seat 3, Mayor, possible action

Alderman Holder made a motion to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Fortenberry as Mayor, Seat 3. Alderman Spears seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

Item 6 Discuss filling empty Alderman seat, possible action.

Lynn Hillis, City Secretary, stated that since Mayor Fortenberry moved from Seat 6 to Seat 3, Seat 6 is the seat being filled. Joe Wilkerson and Mike Chalk expressed interest in filling the empty seat.

Mr. Wilkerson introduced himself to the Board stating that he has lived in Valley View most of his life and has worked for the county for 27 years. He stated that he also owns a business, but is flexible enough to make sure he has coverage for attendance needs.

Alderman Spears asked Mr. Wilkerson what he does. Mr. Wilkerson stated he is a paramedic.

Alderman Holder asked Mr. Wilkerson what his vision was for Valley View. Mr. Wilkerson stated that Valley View is going to grow and we can't fight it or the City will be behind. He said that money has to be raised for infrastructure, as the streets and sewer system are a mess. Mr. Wilkerson said he is familiar with budgets and has to work within them with the County. He added that I-35 is essential and that businesses should be open along it to help with the tax base. He said that previously Alan Ritchey had talked about moving their business and that would have been a disaster to the City. He added that the mill is on his street and they work almost 24 hours a day, so there is business here, just need more.

Mike Chalk (Raymon) stated that he has lived in Valley View for 7 years and had previously ran for the Board, being beaten most recently by Mr. Fortenberry. Mr. Chalk stated he was building a new home across the street from City Hall. He said he is from Durant which was also a smaller, farming community. He said he had worked with the schools in Durant as well as on panels for the state of Oklahoma. Mr. Chalk added that he was a federal contractor under Clinton and Gore and met budgets with all of those positions. He stated he helped Tribal Governments for 30 years as well. Mr. Chalk said he worked with Congress to create a trade zone in Durant that brought in business and jobs.

Mr. Chalk agreed that there needed to be a bigger tax base. He suggested creating abatements and talking to the state for possible development grants. He said he was for growth. He added that all first responders need access to cross training and the equipment necessary to do so.

Alderman Spears asked what he did for the Department of Interior. Mr. Chalk stated he manufactured irrigation systems for federal buildings.

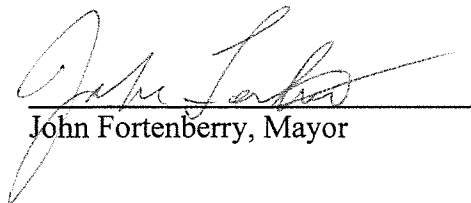
Mr. Chalk said his grandson is a first grader in Valley View, his son Richard works for Wilhite Land Surveying, his wife is in healthcare and his uncle Clay works for the County.

Alderman Scoggin made a motion to appoint Joe Wilkerson to Seat 6. Alderman Spears seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Mayor Fortenberry encouraged Mr. Chalk to attend future meetings and run in the May election.

Item 7 Adjourn.

Alderman Holder made a motion to adjourn at 5:23 pm. Alderman Spears seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Minutes of the Board of Aldermen were approved this 15th day of October 2020.



John Fortenberry, Mayor