

## **Horseshoe Bay Council Comments**

**By Council Member Elaine Waddill**

The City of Horseshoe Bay City Council meeting was held Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor Cynthia Clinesmith called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Invocation was given by Reverend Dr. Malcolm McQueen, followed by pledges to the American Flag and State of Texas flag.

Mayor Clinesmith presented a Proclamation declaring May 1-7, 2022 as “Municipal Clerks Week”, and thanked Horseshoe Bay’s Municipal Clerk (City Secretary), Kerri Craig, for providing outstanding legislative and legal services to the city. Mayor Clinesmith then recognized Janet Stehling, the city’s Records and Information Manager, by declaring April 2022 as “Records and Information Management Month”. Management of records and information is critical for ensuring public records are protected, available for efficient use, and the promotion of transparency in public service. Technologies are increasing the volume of information, and globalization is expanding the complexity of information, therefore the proper management of information as an asset is essential.

An additional Proclamation Declaring May 1-7, as “Public Service Recognition Week” honoring the city employees who serve our community was presented. Public service workers serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees. During this week throughout the country, public officials issue proclamations, host award ceremonies and special tribute events honoring public servants. Horseshoe Bay appreciates the wonderful work done by all of our public servants who serve faithfully with high standards of performance.

Mayor Clinesmith also presented a Proclamation declaring the week of May 1 – 7 as “Drinking Water Week”. This proclamation recognizes “Water” as one of our most precious and valuable resources that we must ensure is protected from pollution and wasteful use. Without clean and adequate water our lakeside community would not flourish and be the beautiful community we love. As good stewards of our water resource we are putting the spotlight on the importance of “Protecting the Source” and all thanked our citizens for good conservation efforts.

Assistant Chief of Police, Jason Graham, presented a Proclamation citing May 15 – 21, 2022 as “National Police Week”. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. From January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 the FBI reported that one hundred fifty-seven local, county, state, and federal law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty. The Bureau further reported that an additional three hundred-one officers died from complications of Covid-19 contracted while performing their duties. That brings the total number of law enforcement officers lost in the line of duty for 2021 to four hundred fifty-eight.

A Proclamation declaring April 2022 as “National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month” was also presented. The Mayor highlighted the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of children and families. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies/activities and commit to reporting any suspected abuse to officials.

Assistant Police Chief, Jason Graham, presented a 5 Year Service Award to Telecommunications Officer Michelle Davis. Officer Davis previously worked with Lampasas County Sheriff’s Office and had previous service with both Williamson and Burnet Counties. She has more than 21 years of experience as a telecommunication officer and 911 operation. Michele holds a Master Telecommunication Officer license from TCOLE, the state agency who oversees law enforcement training and regulations for all LE agencies across the state. Michele has two grown sons, Brandon and Brodie who both live in Victoria. She also has grandsons and one granddaughter. When not working, Michelle enjoys spending time with her Dad in San Saba or filling her role as a grandmother.

Horseshoe Bay was well represented in the Hill Country 100 Club Award category. Lt. Cole Reasor and Officer Jeramy Gristy each received a Meritorious Service Award. Officer Reasor received an award for saving the life of a heart attack victim while he was off duty. He previously received the Department Life Saving Award in 2021 which was presented at the February 2021 regular council meeting. Officer Gristy received an Award for his contribution in developing a computer program used to capture data required for racial profiling reports required by the State. He previously received the Department Chiefs Citation in 2021 that was presented at the February 2021. Officer Martin Younger was recognized

as the Horseshoe Bay Police Officer of the Year. He received the award for his dedication to service and unwavering support throughout the year given to his co-workers, supervisors, and the community.

Horseshoe Bay Firefighter Jonathan Morrison was also recognized as a Hill Country 100 Club Award Recipient. Firefighter Morrison was named as Firefighter of the Year. He was chosen as this year's recipient for his strong work ethic, desire to serve and his willingness to go the extra mile.

A Community Services Award was given to Jeff Koska, City Manager and Ray Garcia, Code Enforcement Officer and Council Member Frank Hosea for outstanding work and collaboration with the Horseshoe Bay Property Owners Association. The awards were given during the annual Horseshoe Bay Property Owners Association meeting at Quail Point.

Mike Kolar, Horseshoe Bay resident, shared concerns with the Mayor and City Council regarding the current rate and volume of growth at this time in our city. He asked that out-of-the-box thinking be considered to better control both issues. As a member of the Long Range Planning Committee, he suggested that the development/impact fee for all new development be increased to \$5,000 to \$10,000 during this rapid growth period. The additional funds could be used to implement some of the items recommended in the Long Range plan without putting pressure on current residents to fund them.

Jeff Koska, City Manager, provided a second quarter financial report. He indicated that most of the property tax monies for this year have been collected. All other accounts are on target for fifty percent of the year. He also indicated that total revenue is at about eighty percent and that expenses are primarily below the fifty percent mark with total expenses around forty-five percent. Jeff also discussed the issues related to inflation but stated that despite increases in expenses, the city is working to hold the line on expenditures.

The Council discussed a request to extend the temporary moratorium for any development related to Zone 13 Caprock and Tract BBB-2A of Horseshoe Bay West Plat No. W15.67 until February 2024. The Council discussed the request and voted to approve the request.

Development Service Director, Sally McFeron presented an amended fee schedule reflecting increased pricing for various fees to include an increase in the building permit fee. The proposed increase is based on an analysis of 16 Central Texas "like" city's building permit fees and expenditure recovery rates that was conducted in early 2022. Developmental Services staff recommended an increase in building permit fees to .70 per sq. ft. to achieve a 79% Development Services expense recovery rate. Additionally, staff is proposing an irrigation base permit fee increase from \$50.00 to \$100.00 per in-house plan review. The increase is to cover staff review time costs and processing. The deposit fee from which inspections and re-inspections are deducted will increase from \$150.00 to \$225.00. Lastly, there is a proposed increase of \$25.00 (\$75.00 to \$100.00) to cover increased plan review costs associated with remodels, accessory structures, and additions. Additional minor proposed changes include to simplify language for better understanding and move "Casitas" from the category of remodels, accessory structures, and additions to the category of New Construction.

Mayor Clinesmith and the City Center Committee updated the Council on the progress being made toward developing a new facility that will meet both current and future growth needs of the city. The building site provides adequate space for immediate and future growth. The new facility plans are still in the developmental phase and will continue to be adjusted to ensure it will serve the needs of a growing city.

Council Member Hosea provided an update on the issue of internet services in Horseshoe Bay. He indicated that he would continue conversations with contractors, but most recent bids reflected a thirty-five percent increase in pricing. New conversations have focused on various other types of technologies that perhaps have potential for Horseshoe Bay users. He also indicated that before the end of June all individuals involved will meet to discuss the future opportunities and impact for Horseshoe Bay.

Busy times are ahead as we change seasons. As you enjoy the beautiful warm sunny days don't forget to mark your calendars for upcoming events. We have a meeting with Realtors on May 10 at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall and a Town Hall meeting May 18 at 3:00 p.m. at the HSB Resort Yacht Club Ballroom. We look forward to seeing you at our next regular Horseshoe Bay City Council meeting May 24, at 3:00 p.m. so mark your calendar and join us.