

City of Horseshoe Bay City Council Comments
February 21, 2023

By Dan Herron, Communications Director

The City of Horseshoe Bay City Council meeting was held on February 21, 2023, at 3 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor Clinesmith called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. The invocation was given by Father Ruben Patino from Saint Paul the Apostle Church, followed by pledges to the American flag and the State of Texas flag.

Mayor Clinesmith swore in new Council Member Jeff Jones, who was selected by Council in January to fulfill Randy Rives remaining Council term after Rives resigned and moved from HSB in late 2022.

Prior to becoming a full-time resident, Jones practiced law. Having attended Baylor University and graduated with a Business/Management degree in 1980, he went to Baylor Law School and graduated with a J.D. in 1983. Initially beginning his personal injury practice representing employers of injured workers, he saw a need for the injured to have an effective voice. He decided to become the founding member of his law firm in 1987 and has remained in that position to this day and has managed cases statewide in Texas.

Jones is committed to the HSB community and has two grown sons who reside in Austin and Lampasas. He is a member of the Church at Horseshoe Bay, is a Bible Study teacher, and serves on various church committees. He is a fan of Baylor Bear sports but realizes he is vastly outnumbered in HSB.

Mayor Clinesmith read a proclamation declaring support for the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. The annual recommitment ensures protection of our environment is a priority. The Mayor's Monarch Pledge is a national effort by the National Wildlife Federation to preserve the Monarch butterfly, which has suffered a sharp decline in population numbers during the last 25 years. By taking the pledge the City promises to take part in activities which will promote the Monarch's survival. These include education of residents, milkweed and nectar plant seed giveaways, altered mowing schedules to protect breeding habitat, and the promotion of Monarch-friendly gardens being planted in our City.

The Mayors' Monarch Pledge serves as a key component of the City's work to enhance the environment. Other examples are the Dark Skies Community Certification, Scenic City Gold Certification, support of the HSB Nature Park and efforts by the Utility Department to move honeybee hives which turn up in our water meter boxes.

City Manager Jeff Koska introduced Chris Thomas, the new Finance Director. Thomas

is a 10-year veteran of the Cities of Manvel and Angleton financial departments. Chris is a graduate of UT and has degrees in finance and mathematics.

Development Services Director Sally McFeron introduced Steven Cook, a Senior Planner with Dunaway Associates, who presented the details of the draft ordinance for the Image Corridor.

The purpose of the Image Corridor Overlay District is to exercise greater control of the aesthetic, functional, and safety characteristics of the development along RM 2147 and SH 71 through the City. These regulations and guidelines can effectively enhance the city's image as a desirable place to live, work and conduct business. This emphasis on how uses are designed and developed is the focus of the standards in this district.

The draft ordinance under consideration will provide for:

- Setbacks (paving, fence and building structure setback distances) calculated from the Public Right-of-Way.
- Architectural Standards for Commercial and Retail Development (Building articulation using offsets, change in material, pilasters, and similar architectural features.)
- Variety of building materials, offsets and recesses are to be used to break up long facades.
- Landscaping to mitigate surface parking and to provide flexibility for developers to meet unique site conditions.
- Screening requirements along corridors and Mutual Access Easements (landscaping edges and berms).
- Access Management to provide interconnectivity between developments, reduce the number of drive approaches onto the highway.
- Side paths and Sidewalks (Shared Use Paths) – Design guidelines and standards.
- Fencing and Signage design guidelines and standards.

A public hearing and possible recommendation regarding the draft ordinance by the Planning and Zoning Commission will be held on Feb. 28. The City Council will hold a public hearing and possible approval of the ordinance at the March 21 meeting.

City Finance Director Chris Thomas introduced A. Jon Watson of the auditing firm Brooks Watson & Co., PLLC who presented the Audited Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2022. The city received an unmodified opinion, the highest level of assurance from the independent audit report. The council voted unanimously to approve the Audit.

Public Works Director Tim Foran made a presentation to award a contract for the Street Seal Coating Project. A request for bid was published in the Highlander on

December 23, 2022 and again on December 27, 2022 for an approximately 8 mile seal coating project. Project bids were opened and reviewed. Project was awarded to Alpha Paving Industries in the amount of \$749,347.62, just slightly under the approved budget with the stipulation that the city attorney approves the contract language.

City Manager Jeff Koska proposed an agreement to employ Dean Sharp, of Sharp Consulting Services, LLC, as the City's Project Manager to provide oversight during the design and construction of the City Center and Fire Station #2 Projects. Both projects began in October 2022 and are to be completed by December 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council passed Resolution 2023-08 Authorizing the Construction Manager at Risk Method of Construction for Building the New City Center and Expansion of Fire Station #2. This action defined the construction delivery method the City will utilize for construction. The method will provide the City with greater time flexibility and cost savings through early collaboration of the Staff, Architect, Engineering and Construction Manager. The motion carried unanimously.

Legends Communities requested four building permit extensions in Tuscan Village. Council approved re-permits for 428 Mayapple, 118 Lucia, 100 Lucia Ct., and 403 Mayapple.

City Manager Koska reported the City is began working to restructure the City's website to be more user friendly and effective at providing intuitive access to information. The process is expected to take approximately 6 months to complete.

The City finally received FAA approval for all three wireless towers and installation is to begin week of February 28 over a two-week period. City will provide messaging to inform citizens of tower construction and who to contact for wireless internet service. City is not an internet provider, however, seeks to improve service for citizens by providing tower access to internet vendors which will allow for better service. Project funded by ARPA funding.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2023, at 3 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. To find out more about the City Services, meetings and events go to the City's website at horseshoe-bay-tx.gov. We hope you will join us for the meeting.