



City of Horseshoe Bay

1 Community Drive, Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657

CONTACT: Dan Herron, Dir. of Communications

830-598-8741 ext. 264 | dherron@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov | www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov

City of Horseshoe Bay City Council Comments

September 19, 2023

By Dan Herron, Communications Director

The City of Horseshoe Bay City Council meeting was held on September 19, 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 from St. Paul the Apostle Church, followed by pledges to the American flag and the State of Texas flag.

Proclamations

Mayor Clinesmith highlighted two proclamations declaring the week of September 24-30, 2023 as "Source Water Protection Week," presented by City Manager Jeff Koska, who said that the City's safe, high-quality drinking water is a precious resource and we all need to do our part to help conserve the watersheds that are the source of our water, protect our shared water resources from pollution, practice water conservation, become involved in local water issues, and plan to protect water for future community health and economic vitality.

The week of October 8-14, 2023 as "Fire Prevention Week," presented by Interim Fire Chief Rhea Cooper who highlighted a list of fire prevention measures for cooking safety.

Announcements and Staff Recognition

Legislative Services Director Kerri Craig said applications are being accepted for City Boards, Commissions, and Committees for appointments to be made in Dec 2023 - Deadline to apply is Nov 1, 2023.

Code Enforcement Supervisor Ray Garcia introduced new Development Services Team Member Alex Ocasio, a Code Compliance Officer. Mr. Ocasio comes to the City well experienced. He is a US Army Veteran with 11 years of service and has 20 years' experience as a land surveyor.

No Public Comment was received.

Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Ordinance 2023-38:

Finance Director Chris Thomas presented the ordinance to adopt the budget for the upcoming fiscal year that sets line-item expense and supportive revenue projections throughout the City's Departments. The Council voted and the motion was carried unanimously.



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During Public Hearing Items:

Finance Director Chris Thomas presented the Proposed 2023 (Fiscal Year 2024) Ad Valorem Tax Rate, which State law requires each entity to have a public hearing on the tax rate to hear input from citizens before the rate is adopted by City Council vote. No public comment was received during the public hearing.

Business

A. Finance Director Chris Thomas presented Ordinance 2023-39: Levying Ad Valorem Taxes for the Use and Support of the Municipal Government of the City of Horseshoe Bay, Texas, and providing for the Interest and Sinking Fund for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The motion was to approve a tax rate of \$0.026775 / \$100 of valuation. This is slightly lower than the 2022 rate of \$0.27/\$100. The Council voted and the motion was carried unanimously.

B. Finance Director Chris Thomas requested the council Ratify the Property Tax Revenue Increase Reflected in the Adopted Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. State law requires any entity that collects more total property tax revenue than the previous year to have a separate vote which ratifies/recognizes the increase. The Council voted and the motion was carried unanimously.

C. This item was removed for consideration. Request for an Eighth Building Permit Extension for the Property Located at 100 Lighthouse Drive, Randy Cate, Applicant.

D. City Manager Jeff Koska presented Ordinance 2023-40 Amending the City's Appendix A; Fee Schedule of the City of Horseshoe Bay's Code of Ordinances. Changes included amending the Water and Sewer Rates to increase by 2.0% required to accommodate increased inflationary and capital improvement costs for FY 2023-2024. This is the first increase in utility customer usage rates since the 2020.

Additional increased fees for new build water and sewer tap connections and new grinder pump purchases due to vendor increases in costs related to inflationary/supply chain expenses. Alternate vendors were sourced that helped keep the increase lower than otherwise. Garbage rates reflected an 11% increase from Waste Management. This increase is due to fuel and labor costs realized in 2022 and 2023, but not increased until this fiscal year.

Total effect of the rate increases for the HSB resident using an average of 5,000 gallons per month or less will be less than \$40 annually. For the city average household usage of 10,000 gallons per month the increase will be less than \$50 annually.



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E. The Council voted on item Resolution 2023-15: Nominating Individuals for the Burnet Central Appraisal District Board of Directors for the Years 2024-2025. A discussion followed with the nomination of the current Board Members being nominated to continue their service on the Board. The Council voted and the motion was carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The Council voted and all Consent Agenda items were approved.

A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes: August 29, 2023 Workshop

B. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes: August 29, 2023 Regular Meeting

C. Approval of Personnel Policy Revisions: Article V. The Compensation Plan, Section 3 and Article XIII Appendix B: Salary Table and Incentive Pay – Supporting the changes to the adopted FY2023-2024 budget.

Monthly Reports

Plant Operations Supervisor Joel Green provided a presentation on the water plant operations. He stated that the state of the river basin is no longer going down but slowly growing due to recent rains; however, we are still in an exceptional drought. We are expecting a wet, cool winter which will help to increase the basin, but conservation is key to ensuring an adequate supply for all communities until the basin is in a better position.

Public Works Director Tim Foran reported that the road project is moving along as planned and contractors are ahead of schedule. They are projecting to start on the West side of the City in December or January.

Interim Fire Chief Ray Cooper said that due to the exceptional drought, Fire Service strike teams from around the country including Horseshoe Bay, have been stationed in Marble Falls for the past couple of months due to a high risk of wildfire danger. As of this week they have returned home as the recent rains have reduced the danger. Chief Cooper told a heartfelt story how Mr. John Stevenson, who has a cabin off 307 and Hwy 71, approached the Fire Department table at the Town Hall Meeting last week and told how he looked out his window and all he could see were flames, then he heard the aircraft overhead dump fire retardant on the flames saving his house and his life. He thanked the Horseshoe Bay Fire Dept. for helping to save him and his property. Chief Cooper was thankful for the mutual aid we have with our local communities and for the other fire task forces in place and adding Mr. Stephenson's situation is a good example of why they are necessary.



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The next Council meeting is scheduled for Oct. 17, 2023, at 3 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

To find out more about the Council meeting and view the Council Meeting packet go to the City's website at <https://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov/agendacenter> We hope you will join us for the meeting and have a safe and relaxing weekend.

PHOTO



From L to R - Alex Ocasio, new Code Enforcement Officer, Code Enforcement Supervisor Ray Garcia.