

Council Comments.....

Good Morning Horseshoe Bay! It is a beautiful winter morning. Yes, even though the trees are budding, the grass is greening and the temp may reach 80, it is still the dead of winter. We are truly blessed in the Bay.

Yesterday was a long day. Church Trustee meeting at nine, streets workshop at 10:30 and our monthly Council meeting at three. Oh well, as they say, it's why I make the big bucks. As our Council meeting lasted less than 45 minutes, filler will be noticeable.

The streets workshop was informative and productive, Allen Keller, our streets contractor, continues to do a really good job. The final product looks good and neighborhood disruption is being held to the minimum. Fairways' construction is on schedule and phase 2 bid packages will go out by the end of May. Following The Fairways will be Lighthouse Drive, due to its close proximity. HSB South will be next followed by the remainder of HSB Proper north of 2147. Construction trucks roll first in HSB West on Faultline and adjoining streets. The only delay to original plans currently foreseen is Clayton Nolen. This will be a work in progress for years to come, but so far, so good.

The ground breaking for the new Ferguson Power Plant is scheduled for late April with construction to begin shortly thereafter. Based on the LCRA's manpower curve, major construction will run about 18 months, from 10/2012 through 3/2014. This will be the time of big trucks and construction worker traffic. The highly respected Fluor company will manage the project. The construction workday will run from 6:30 to 5:00. The start time, due to the Bay's normal "rise and shine" time should go relatively unnoticed, but due to a 5:00 quitting time, most residents would be encouraged to leave the roads, especially Ferguson and 2147 to the homeward bound workers from 4:30 to 5:30. Including dismantling the old plant, this is a 4 year project, but for only 18 months will workers exceed 100. The LCRA has been a good neighbor and discussions of City concerns have been productive. More to come.

On to the Council meeting. We pledged and prayed. Reverend Johnny and the Mayor had a brief discussion of the correct time since it first appeared the Rev had arrived 2 minutes late. Reverend Johnny's position was that the clock on the wall was a wee bit fast. For fairly obvious reasons, I'm going with Johnny.

Nelda Pope, Horseshoe Bay resident and Chairman of the Llano County Library Board explained the financial difficulties currently experienced by the library. Due to elimination of state funding and reduction in County support, their 2012 budget shortfall is nearly \$20,000. After a brief discussion, a contribution by the City of \$5,000 was approved 5-0. A discussion was held during and after the

meeting concerning the library's free internet download capability (to your Kindle or Nook of e-books) was discussed. Check with the library folks, 325-247-5248, for more details.

A discussion of the potential demolishing of three abandoned or dilapidated properties (manufactured homes) in South was held. In one case the owner was present and asked for nine months to improve his property. A review of progress will be made at 30 day intervals. A decision to demolish will be based on progress. The other two properties will be demolished in 30 and 60 days.

Neither the HSB POA nor the City currently has regulations concerning garage sales. An ordinance, passed 5-0, outlines rules concerning permitting, locations, frequency and time of day. The ordinance is similar to that used by other resort communities.

The Council Chamber was graced by our four candidates for County Commissioner. Since I have now visited with all four, I can safely say, we are once again blessed with good folks to fill the jobs managing our local government business. They do seem to move about as a foursome. We do appreciate their interest in the business of the Bay.

Following some platting, replatting and zoning, none of which was controversial, we adjourned.

They're throwing dirt at the new hospital site, stocking shelves at the new grocery store, the street improvement continues and the Bay West bridge arches will soon arrive, an excellent sidewalk engineering opportunity for those that are interested. So all is good and getting "gooder" in the Bay.

Your scribe,

Jeff Robinson