

Horseshoe Bay City Council Comments

October 15, 2013

Prepared by Tom Schmersahl, Mayor Pro-Tem

As has become the long established practice, Mayor Bob Lambert called the October 15, 2013 City Council Meeting to order promptly at 3:00 P.M. He has reminded us numerous times that we can start late but we cannot start before the posted time.

Reverend Larry Sherwood of the Church at Horseshoe Bay led us in prayer and asked for guidance as the community selects our future leaders on November 5. We pledged our allegiance to both our Country and State.

Tom Schmersahl, Mayor Pro-Tem was the only speaker to take the podium during the public comment period. Befittingly, today was Mayor Lamberts last official Council Meeting as his nearly eight year service as mayor comes to a close. Tom rose to thank Mayor Bob for his dedication and tireless leadership of our City. He said that he had tried to find a way to quantify Bob's service by the number of meetings he had led on behalf our citizens. But while the number may be over 300, the community's thanks should be directed toward his commitment and unwavering support of all that is Horseshoe Bay. We owe Mayor Bob Lambert our lifelong thanks for all that he has done for all of us. The audience gave him a standing ovation.

The remainder of the meeting is just normal City Business but here goes.

The Council awarded a contract to Nelson Lewis, Inc. for the \$282,151.00 replacement and expansion of sewer mains in Western Bit, including Round Up, Sugar Foot, Ox Bow, Fallow and Fawn. The contract should begin around November 1 and be completed within 90 days so that the Street Improvement Plans for the area can proceed. The total budget for the project is \$400,000 including engineering and rock removal.

Next the council adopted an Impact Fee ordinance for water and wastewater services to development outside the current city limits but within our ETJ. The adoption of this ordinance by the Council completes a project which began back on June 25, 2013 with the seating of an Impact Fee Committee composed by Norm Long, Jerry Gray, Sharon Hull and G.A. Smith. Working with HDR Engineering and staff they assisted in the development of the fees through a series of meeting and public hearings. These impact fees will not be assessed to building lots already within the City Limits.

Your Council approved a resolution that will be sent to TxDOT requesting that the speed limit within HSB be lowered to a consistent 45 Miles per hour on RR2147 within the City limits. In other action the Council approved trapping 300 deer between now and Thanksgiving. The 10 items on the consent agenda were approved without objection. One of those item involved establishing a Fox House advisory committee composed of Francie Dix, Carrie Foran, Michael Widler and Donna Bateman.

City Manager Stan Farmer discussed several items during the Departmental Data reports section of the agenda. These include an update on the second mowing of ROW, the Cedar and Dead Tree removal program has removed over 5,750 dead trees and smaller cedars over the past two years. Additionally, the Council received an update on the search for a solution to water lost in the system with percentage loss improved from 14 % in August to 11% in September. Mayor Pro-Tem Schmersahl requested a status update on the FEMA Flood Plain revisions. Currently the HSB submissions are in the hands of a federal contractor named URS which has 90 days to complete their review beginning on October 2. Stay tuned.

Fire Chief Jim Fiero reported that Firefighter Jeff Walker is making great progress but has a lot of work to get back to full strength. A fund raiser is planned for November 3 to help offset considerable medical bills. Watch the paper for more details.

The Council handled several items related to the street improvement plan. First, we voted to improve Fire Rock in Applehead Subdivision as part of the plan. The improvements include repairing several past utility cuts, sealing cracks and sealing the entire street. This work is estimated to cost \$27,000 and will serve as a test case for other Applehead streets. We also received a status report on the Hi Circle South project. Finally, under streets the Council voted to include 15TH Green Drive to the Hi Circle South project. This \$62,656 project will rebuild the street, realigning it to the proper right-of-way and adding a turn lane at RR2147.

Finally, the Council handled several property matters. First we approved a sign variance for the Dominion Building at Hi Circle North and RR2147. Second we approved issuing a contractor more than 2 speculative building permits at Summit Rock. Third, we approved three variances for 706 Red Sail, 300 Lucy Lane and 1105 Hi Fault. Fourth, we amended our building ordinance Chapter 14 making changes to the setback tables in the Trails.

We adjourned at 4:22 P.M. Our next Council Meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, November 19. Put this date on your calendars and come watch your new Mayor in action for his first Council meeting.

Thanks again and sleep well Mayor Lambert.