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The Horseshoe Bay City Council met on Tuesday, February 18. Mayor Steve Jordan welcomed the full house of citizens and encouraged them to keep attending. The Council discussed and took final action on the following key matters:

- Implementation of Stage Three of the Drought Contingency Plan:

Jeff Koska, Utilities Director, reported on the recent LCRA action requiring all firm water customers to implement watering restrictions that limit the irrigation of ornamental landscape areas to no more than once a week if the current combined volume of Lakes Buchanan and Travis remain below a level that is 58% full as of March 1, 2014. At this time, it appears very likely that this will be the case. As a firm LCRA water customer, HSB must comply with this mandate. In order to do so, the Council passed both a Resolution to Implement Stage Three of the Drought Contingency Plan effective March 17, 2014 and an Ordinance Amendment to Revise Drought Contingency Plan Stage Three Irrigation Schedule. One of the changes is the new irrigation schedule based on the last digit of your address:

1. Commercial and multifamily – Tuesday
2. Residential addresses ending in an odd number – Saturday
3. Residential addresses ending in an even number - Thursday

More details of the Stage Three Plan will be communicated through the City web-site and articles in the newspapers.

- Decision regarding oak tree at intersection of Out Yonder and Hi Stirrup:

Several residents appeared and spoke against the Council decision made last month to close off Out Yonder Street and create a cul-de-sac at its intersection with Hi Stirrup. Concerns were voiced about safety issues caused by the elimination of one of the two existing exits and about the inconvenience caused by the loss of the shortest route to locations to the west. Mayor Jordan presented a third alternative that would leave Out Yonder open and keep the tree through removing the existing culvert, re-designing the trim around the tree, and prohibiting left turns off Hi Stirrup onto Out Yonder, under the tree. Additional options that might provide for adequate space for large fire and delivery trucks to travel around the tree were considered and dismissed. Council members stated their primary duty was to provide for citizens' safety and well-being and took action to rescind the January resolution closing off Out Yonder. A motion was made and passed to leave Out Yonder as it is and to proceed with the elimination of the tree in order to have the adequate open space on Hi Stirrup for a roadway free of a natural hazard.

- New request for more information on HSB FEMA Flood Plan Study:

Zach Brown of Willis Engineering, the firm hired by the City to develop and prepare the HSB FEMA Flood Plan Study, reported that a request was received last Thursday and that our response with all requested technical information has been forwarded to the FEMA reviewing engineer for initial review. Mr. Brown reported that he and this reviewer with the engineering firm representing FEMA, URS are working together on a bit of a side channel to help the process proceed as fast as possible. There have been no indications of trouble with the findings in the Study. Brown is hopeful that the new information may allow for a faster decision and avoid further delay. The Council discussed possible other options to facilitate a decision as soon as possible if this does not occur. A resolution was passed to develop an information packet concerning the purpose, history and chronology of this study and to deliver this information to the offices of our local U.S. Representative and Senator. This information will include the need for a speedy resolution to resolve the current negative impact on our real estate market, planned development, and owner's property values.

Other agenda items include the following:

1. Presented Staff Recognition Awards to Kyle Schmidt, who was named HSB Fire Fighter of the Year, and to Jason Graham, who was named the HSB Police Department Investigator of the Year, during the Hill Country 100 Awards Dinner held in January. Mayor Jordan also recognized Mayor Pro Tem Craig Haydon for his work as the President of the Hill Country 100 during the last year.
2. Mayor Jordan reported that the first meeting of the HSB Advisory Council was constructive and useful. Dialogue is continuing and the next meeting is scheduled for March 26th. Mayor Jordan announced the first meeting of the POA's Presidents Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 3 o'clock in the Training Room of the Police Department Headquarters. Representatives of the area's smaller property owners associations have been invited to discuss matters of common concern and interest.
4. Fire Chief Jim Fiero reported on the successful start-up of the CPR and AED training program for citizens. Both four- hour and eight- hour sessions are being offered.
5. Action taken to contribute \$5000 to the Llano county library System as has been similarly provided to The Friends of the Marble Falls Library Organization.
6. Appointed Lois Strasburg to serve on the Street Sign Design Committee.
7. Approved seal-coating a small high traffic zone on portions of Hi Circle North, Short Circuit and Free Rein that were left out of the paving project because of lack of need for major improvement.
8. Larry Anderson, Director of Finance, presented an overview of financial factors including a cash-flow and debt-issuance analysis that affects the financial strategy for funding the street and utility projects. He also presented two scenarios for debt issuance for initial consideration by the Council. The matter will be on the agenda for the March Council Meeting for discussion and possible action.
10. Granted a permanent variance to allow continuation of a storage building placed at 2208 Lamplighter based on the compliance by owner with all issues.
11. Passed an ordinance extending the existing Moratoriums Agreements for two more years on property located across from the Marriot and property near the Cap Rock Club area parking lot. The effect of the Ordinance is to prevent any development on these properties until such time as the city, developers, and land owners agree on appropriate zoning requirements.
12. Passed a resolution to direct the City Prosecutor to file a petition with the Municipal Court for the demolition and /or removal of a substandard structure located at 801 Grassy Knoll.
13. Held the first review and reading of the proposed City Council Rules of Procedures. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the March meeting for possible action.