

Council Comments....

Good Evening Horseshoe Bay –

After a relatively short Council meeting today, the council adjourned. Perhaps the most significant and enjoyable event of the day was the recognition of two of our outstanding public safety officers. As a Board Member of the Hill Country 100 Club, it was my pleasure to introduce Asst. Chief Stephanie Black as Horseshoe Bay's Firefighter of the Year and Sgt. Barry Moore as Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. They were honored last Thursday night at the HC 100 Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet in Marble Falls. They are both great examples of the folks who make our lives safe and secure. Naturally, I made a pitch to any meeting attendees who might not have joined our HC 100 Club. Call me if you need info or an application.

Reverend Pete prayed for our deliberations and the new folks taking the oath in D.C. The recently completed City of Horseshoe Bay Home Rule Charter was accepted by a 5 – 0 Council vote and set for voter approval in a May election. Thanks again to the Charter Committee.

City Manager Stan Farmer discussed this year's City Employee Health Care and Dental Benefits Plan. After reviewing several options, the choice was an offer from incumbent provider Blue Cross/Blue Shield that includes an 8 % decrease in medical plan premiums and no increase in dental benefits. WOW – and gas is down below \$1.70.

Stan then spent some time on the several new home builder issues brought to our attention by Dale Rodman at our December meeting. Although unsightly in several instances (potties and dumpsters seem to frequently be messy), several of the housing sites were within our code. Others were red-tagged and asked to clean up their act. As builder/developer dollars dry up, this problem may be somewhat more prevalent in the near term. Projects may take longer to complete. As a result of Dale's concerns and City Manager Stan and Development Manager Eric Winter's investigation, an amendment to our Building Permit Ordinance was proposed and passed by a 5 – 0 vote. New fines will be levied for not complying with Building Inspection Procedures and deductions from Building Permit deposits will be required if P-O-P and dumpsters are not removed following issuance of a stop work order. Dumpsters

and potties are becoming an all too frequent discussion item in our Council deliberations. Again – good government at work!

Finally – good news/bad news on HSB POA roads. Good – we didn't have to talk about them again. Bad – Issue remains unresolved as POA seeks new legal aid. Oh good – another lawyer to stir the pot. No offense to Councilman Jim or HSB POA Pres. Fred or City Lawyer Monte – but – I am recycling contracts at an alarming rate. The trees may soon propose a recall election.

As you can see, I have run out of anything useful or informative to write about. So, I, like so many of my fellow citizens, will adjourn to the cocktail hour and another wonderful evening in our beautiful Bay. Have a good one!

Your Scribe,
Jeff Robinson