

Council Comments....

Good Afternoon Horseshoe Bay –

I'm going to be brief today as I am hitting the road as soon as I complete this labor of love to join my bride in St. Louis. Since I don't get paid by the word, my brevity will not be income affecting. Of course, I don't get paid at all – but that's consistent with everything I do. I digress –

This morning's roads workshop was quite productive and provides hope for completion of the necessary agreement with the HSB POA, the Resort and the Declarant. All necessary for a final transfer of the roads to City ownership.

We seem to have an agreement in concept with the POA on all outstanding issues. A final draft agreement with the Resort is in the works. Possible signing of all necessary documents could take place in April. This would bring this necessary but tedious process to a much desired conclusion.

At the regularly scheduled Council meeting, we prayed and pledged, received recognition of the Fire Department by Pedernales Electric along with a check for \$1,000.

We resolutely support of the upgrade of Highway 281 in the Falls, proclaimed for the National Day of Prayer on May 7, 2009, and approved an Energy Reduction Proposal for the City. WOW – lots of good stuff.

Much discussion was held concerning the ETJ swap with Granite Shoals. There will be more discussion of this issue in the coming months. This proposal by Granite Shoals has caused much consternation to our friends in Wilderness Cove, who would like to remain in our ETJ.

Several at&t employees attended the meeting and described all the new and improved technologies that could come with the new cell tower on the ridge above the Bay. They are anxious to begin this project that would bring us not only their techno improvements but also those from ERF Internet. Hopefully, the City, Resort and HSB POA will be able to provide a site location to bring these much desired improvements to the Bay.

On a similar topic, Senator Troy and yours truly were recently contacted by one of Verizon's head honchos. They are proposing to spend some big bucks to improve telephone, internet and data transfer services in the Hill Country. I have asked their Regional President Carl Erhart to attend the April Council meeting to outline their much anticipated plans.

The combination of these two upgrades should also provide increased competition leading to better pricing for these services. We're not there yet, but could have several new and improved options by year end.

A discussion was held concerning a Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention ordinance that may be considered by the Council in April. This is a health and public safety issue protecting the City's public water supply. These devices prevent your sprinkler system, swimming pool, spa, etc. from sending contaminated water back into the City's water supply. For most residents, an every three year maintenance check would cost about seventy-five bucks. There will be a future article in the Beacon with the specifics.

City Manager Stan presented two programs that increase efficiencies and cost savings in our City government. The programs involve Energy Reduction and the Texas Procurement Card Program. In addition, Chief Lane increased the job responsibilities of several of his officers. Each of these improvements will improve the operations of your City government.

A brief discussion was held concerning the Village Square project. Hopefully, the grocery and restaurants are right around the corner. Final approval of the Planned Development ordinance will hopefully be in April.

Okay folks – I'm out of here – oh, and how about that precip.

Your scribe,
Jeff Robinson