

## **Council Comments.....**

Greetings, Citizens of the Bay, today's City Council meeting, held on the Ides of May, was short, congenial and productive. If I slip into the Latin language of ancient Rome, please excuse me. I just finished a 450 page novel covering 1000 years of Roman history. I did learn that the term "City Council" may have originated in those ancient times. Oh well, on to more current happenings.

We prayed, pledged and proceeded with the Business of the Bay. The first and only item of business on which we had public input was the proposed Parking Ordinance. Local builders, Jim McCarty and Bob Rowan, were in attendance to add their comments and concerns related to construction parking for residential homes. After discussion of the Ordinance and its enforcement, all agreed that as long as common sense was used by all involved a win-win result could easily be attained among builders, neighbors and the local gendarmes. Maybe that's a win-win-win.

The Parking Ordinance passed 4 – 0. Discussion was also held concerning the Antenna, Illumination (street lighting), Signage/Billboards, Outdoor Burning and Health/Sanitation/Trash/Litter. That's called "garbage" most places. Each of these Ordinances is available for viewing on the City website. If you have concerns or input, they will likely be discussed and voted on at the June Council Meeting.

Our General Manager, Mike Thuss, reported that he had signed an agreement with the LCRA to kill those darned old aquatic weeds. The treatment will occur sometime in late summer.

Jay Middleton, our outstanding Plant Operations Supervisor, reported that the final tally on the construction of our new Water Treatment Plant resulted in a savings of \$94,000. The savings were primarily due to our folks managing the building of the Administration Building. Jay's crew also received high marks from the TCEQ (state water guys) on their annual inspection of our water treatment plants. Way to go H2O folks!!!

OK, on to the recent "smelly water" issue. Several of you good folks have noticed a bit of odor in the water during the last week. Not to worry – all is well. The technical reason for the odor is – as the ground heats up – so do the pipes and ammonia is released = smelly water. It de-nitrifies or something like that. We are using free chlorine to "burn the system" and eliminate the problem. Next year, we'll do that before the ground heats up. Wow! No questions, please. Bottom line – safe to drink.

On to something I know more about – speed limits. You will receive an e-mail from City Hall if you have signed up to get emails from the City. You can go to the City website [www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov) to provide us your input. There will be a multiple choice question (my personal favorite) concerning your opinion on 4 options related to speed limits. Please respond with your opinion. Only one response per computer - I don't know how it knows, but it does. Let us know what you think.

An extensive discussion was held on the city budgets. Due to the heavy rains the Bay received early this year, water revenues were down. Now that the monsoon is over, expectations are that usage will return to normal levels. The good news is that budgeted General Fund (taxes) revenues will exceed budgeted expense and the Utility Fund will meet budget. These results, along with passage of the two sales tax votes will give the City the opportunity to consider Ad Valorem Tax reduction in the coming year. It's always good to save the best for last.

Well, that's it. Until June rolls around – enjoy the Bay.

Your Scribe,  
Jeff Robinson