

Council Comments.....

Good Morning Horseshoe Bay!!!

It's actually Tuesday evening, but I just like "Good Morning" better.

Today's meeting was short, enlightening and productive. These are all good things. The meeting began with prayers and pledges following the swearing in of Mayor Lambert, and Alderman John Bird for another two year term. But, more important Alderlady Claudia Haydon was sworn in for her first term. Congrats, Claudia!

The Mayor began the meeting by explaining certain issues concerning the Hi Circle South/2147 rezoning proposal. After a brief history, he explained that this month's removal from the Council agenda was brought about by issues raised by a nearby homeowner's lawyer. The developer's request was not complete and thus was removed from the agenda. It can be re-submitted if the developer chooses.

Yours' truly tried, perhaps unsuccessfully, to explain that without a city government, discussions such as this would have no forum for citizen input. In addition, since population growth and a need for commercial services have already arrived in the Bay, the role of the Horseshoe Bay City Council is to manage that growth.

For those of you driving down 2147 and looking at the Skywater property and seeing the big picture frame located west of the post office. That is there to provide an example of the type of sign Skywater would like to use to advertise their project. Comments appreciated.

John Bird then asked for suggestions that will enable better communications to all concerning issues that arise concerning re-zoning or re-platting. During the meeting, several city initiated changes and recommendations from citizens were discussed. More to come on future improvements.

Mike Thuss, our General Manager, reported that 2007 budgets are in the black and should result in a good fiscal year for your City. Also Mike reported that the LCRA will lower the Lake by 5 feet on January 2. All you lakeside dwellers – get ready for maintenance and renovations.

Dan Robbins and Marley Porter, developers of the proposed Village Square project reported on Monday night's Town Hall Meeting at the Marriott and led a brief (15 minute) discussion of the project. Cornerstone of the project will be a 10,800 square

foot gourmet grocery. Additionally, a hardware store, a real estate row, a restaurant row complete with pond side decks will be included in the project.

A final word on “developers” – folks like those developing Village Square, Skywater, Escondido and the proposed HSB Boulevard Project are demonstrating that “Developer” does not have to be a bad word. They also demonstrated how - with resident input, City Government and “Developers” can improve the lifestyle in our community.

The City will contract with Water-Oldani Executive Recruitment to aid in finding and hiring a City Manager.

Although the crowd had dwindled by now, a brief discussion was held on the results of the Council’s 1:00 workshop on a resolution to direct First Southwest Company to proceed to issue Refunding Bonds. The Jeff (simple) version of this is as follows: The City as of December 31 will have indebtedness of \$7.5 million previously used to pay for water facilities. The current payoff would be completed over the next 8 years. Instead, we will refinance over the next 20 years at an interest rate near or lower than the current rate – resulting in a savings to the City of \$1 million yearly for the next 5 years, but also an increase of \$2.1 million in interest over the 20 year term of the bonds. The net present value of the \$2.1 million increase over 20 years is approximately \$70,000. In addition, all those folks moving to The Bay during the next 20 years will join us in repaying this indebtedness. The \$1 million reduction in bond repayment will allow for another review of taxes and utility rates in the coming years. Our Mayor, Bob Lambert, has worked on this project for the past 6 months. It is probably the most significant financial decision, yet made, by your city government. Way to go Mayor!!

Adjournment followed closely on the heels of this discussion—4:30 and we’re out of here.

Well its dinner time, so I’ll mosey over and see if I can help.

Your recently Re-appointed CIO
Jeff Robinson