

Council Comments.....

Good morning to the folks of the Bay...

No need to once again praise the beauty of sunrise over the power plant, but how about a delightfully “cool” morning in the Bay. Fall has arrived, football season is proceeding nicely, for some of us, and the Council had another productive day.

The day began with a four and a half hour “roads” workshop. After much discussion, a proposal presented by the Horseshoe Bay POA was approved by a vote of 3-2 to be the basis for a contractual road agreement that will allow for the transfer of roads from the HSB POA to the City. The only contentious issue was whether or not the 39.5% (about \$365,000 annually) of POA maintenance fees was adequate as their contribution to future road maintenance. Following approval of the basics, the Council went into Executive session to discuss other legal requirements necessary to the contracts. Always an exciting way to spend two hours for non-legal minds.

The afternoon’s Council meeting began with a prayer by Reverend Pete from the Church at Horseshoe Bay. We were then informed by Mayor Bob and City lawyer Monte that there would be no more Mayor comments or Council comments on the agenda in the future. For those of you not having had the good fortune to attend a Council meeting in the past, these agenda items allowed each Council member and the Mayor to comment on any issue they deemed appropriate and informative. No, no – never again, the Texas Attorney General says that’s not legal unless the topic is a specific agenda item. Since none of your elected alderfolks are interested in a fine, or a week in the hoosegow or picking up plastic bottles in the ditches, we will comply. Just another example of a good idea, open meetings, gone too far.

We then spent about 15-20 minutes recognizing many good folks for their service to the Bay. Royce Graeter and Juan Aguilera for 5 years service, firefighters Stephanie Black promoted to Assistant Fire Chief and Brad Casey promoted to Lieutenant and then a big Horseshoe Bay welcome to new police officers Billy Jividen and Chip Leake were the highlights.

Dennis Hill, Superintendent of Llano Independent School District, was then introduced and recognized for his outstanding work during his five year tenure. The Mayor presented Dennis with a proclamation recognizing not only his good work but also his recent award as one of the five finalists as Superintendent of the Year for the entire state of Texas – way to go Dennis! During Dennis’ remarks, he mentioned that the \$14.3 million bond package recently approved was hard at work building a new wing at Packsaddle Elementary, a new cafeteria at Llano Elementary and many other worthwhile projects. He also mentioned that the District had a new “interim” high speed internet solution connecting each school. I

highlight “interim” because Verizon has still not stepped up to the plate with a reliable, economical solution as envisioned by the Legislature 15 years ago. More to come.

Significant among the many replat, variance and ordinance discussions were:

1. Approval by consecutive 5-0 votes of the annexation and a Planned Development ordinance for Mike Walsh’s 5.44 acre Horseshoe Bay Center (Space Center Property) on 2147. It only took nine months to work through TxDOT and other requirements, but the deal is on. Patience and perseverance.

2. Approval by a 5-0 vote of an amendment to the current Accessory Building and Structures Ordinance that adds clarification to definitions and requirements for such structures as walls, swimming pools, decks, etc. Check it out if you’re planning for these items.

3. The Shoppes at Hi Circle will be back on the agenda next month for a vote. Discussion of this project began a year ago and survived much discussion between the developer and the neighbors to reach an agreement on what the details of this project would be. Jerry Gray, representing the neighbors and Marley Porter, the architect sang Kum Ba Ya and blessed this project for all involved. Seriously, this is exactly how your City government likes to see such controversies resolved. Win-wins are good for everyone, especially those of us asked to grant approval. Thanks to all involved for your patience and perseverance!

4. A lengthy discussion of the airport, hangars and runways, which I quite frankly don’t fully understand, followed. This will affect folks in Zone 15 near the airport. Good news is there will be more discussion and I will strive to “get it”.

Oh, I almost forgot (imagine), at the beginning of the meeting, we recognized Alderman Dick Rantzow for his two years of service to our community. Dick is moving on to more serious activities like reducing the deer population in Tennessee and such. We are trading an accountant (Dick) for an engineer (Steve Spence). Is that a good thing? I don’t know. At least it’s not a lawyer. Just kidding – Jim. Gook luck and Happy Trails to Dick.

Dick then moved to adjourn – we did!!

Your scribe –

Jeff Robinson