

Merry Christmas Neighbors!

Amid the hustle and bustle of the season, YOUR city council met to continue work toward the safety, fiscal security, and focus on high standard quality of life for HSBay. New Councilman, Reagan Lambert, was sworn in and immediately went to work. Public comments included a SAVE the DATE April 26-29 sharing by Commissioner Jones, noting the Judges/Commissioner conference for western Texas which includes 190 counties will be hosted by Llano County in HSBay at the resort in April. This provides many opportunities for promotion/communication about our city.

Updates on the work of the city were provided by Stan R. Farmer, City Manager. The annexation process continues with initial public notice letters having been mailed to property owners to share public hearing dates and information for agriculture exemptions properties. Public notices will begin to appear in the newspaper and on the City's website about the Public Hearings to be held on January 12<sup>th</sup> (9 am) and January 19<sup>th</sup> (3 pm). The January 12<sup>th</sup> council workshop will include members from the Planning and Zoning and Long Range Planning (LRP) committees. While the Long Range Plan is still in development, the annexation is a part of the broader plans for securing the city boundaries. At the Jan 12<sup>th</sup> workshop, costs will be reviewed as well as clarity on impact for the city and annexed property owners. At that time, the annexation would allow the City to have control of developments along our existing community borders, especially along Hwy 71. The afternoon council workshop beginning at 1 PM will be a joint meeting with the LRP committee to focus on other LRP committee developments.

Other updates included the upgrades ongoing at the Texan Mart expected to be completed in January. Also, the POA and Resort shared their efforts to renovate the entrance ponds and surrounding area on the south side of RR 2147 and Clayton Nolan....so that the south side will mirror the quality of the north side to include new landscaping, hopefully completed by spring. Also, the HSB POA had re-landscaped the Highlands entrance, too, after the removal of the older tower. The City improved the entrance with a new entry and road leveling for safety. Now if TxDOT and the Texas Parks and Wildlife will send final approvals, the walk trail and trail grant can move forward in developing the hiking/walking area expanding the lifestyle options.

Lots of volunteer efforts abounding! The Deer Study Group (4 HSB citizens and 4 experts) will begin after the first of the year as promised to review the deer management practices. Mayor Jordan noted how blessed we were to have so many highly qualified citizens offering to serve on varied committees. Final decisions came down to finding a balance of skillsets with the incumbent members to fill committee positions for the coming year to include: Planning & Zoning (Norm Long and Neil Andrew-incumbents, Pat Bouchard, Lynette Morrison, Wayne Anderson); Parks (Michael Widler and Carrie Foran-incumbents, Charlie Suggs-POA designee, Brian Pokluda, Patti Woolard); Fuchs' House (Francie Dix-incumbent, Virginia Roberts). Mayor Jordan commented that with so many qualified citizens willing to serve, the council will review the selection processes to ensure committees continue to represent the varied communities, interests, and skills of the City.

The request to construct a gate on Red Sail by Ken Landry was withdrawn. Additional signage provided by the City will be installed and the issue could be revisited at a later date.

Major efforts continue across the whole community to complete facelifts for safety/security/visual standards, alongside active work by all toward a long-range plan to guide future decisions of the city. It is always a good day to live in Horseshoe Bay! (The next City Council meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm)

Wishing you each a safe and joyful holiday season. Merry Christmas from all the City staff.

Cynthia Clinesmith, council member/chief information officer