

Hello Neighbors!

After the invocation and pledges, this week's City Council meeting began with an open invitation by **Diana Gonzales** of PEC to participate in the June 18 events in Dripping Springs. She encouraged all to check out the website for information on planned activities and voting for new Board of Directors. Celebrations continued with the recognition of **Keith Payne** for his 15 years of service to the MUD/City of Horseshoe Bay Fire Department. We also welcomed a new employee, **Stephani Wright**, who joins our Finance Department bringing 18 years of experience in City Secretary and finance positions.

The Mayor issued a Proclamation for the City of Horseshoe Bay to join surrounding cities (Burnet, Marble Falls, Johnson City, and others) in supporting the **Gateway to the Hill Country Citizen Beautification Effort**. The goal to cover the clover leaf intersection at Hwy 71 and Hwy 281 with wildflowers and xeriscaping will be a prominent topic for citizen involvement in the coming year.

City staff updated on April/May activities, including evidence of continued financial integrity, **Jeff Koska** reminders of the Saturday Hazardous Waste Materials pickup on Saturday (details on the HSBay website), and **Tim Foran** sharing the progress/completion of this phase of proactive street maintenance through scheduled resealing – delayed somewhat by the rains, but on track. The team was acknowledged for efforts at communication to alert homeowners of potential inconvenience. For the road resealing alone, citizens received notification through newspaper ads, emails from the POA, posting at the post office, personal door to door posting of flyers, and the City's NOTIFY ME notification system. If you want to know what is going on in your city – there are multiple access points! Most importantly, get registered for the NOTIFY ME system which will give you immediate notification of city activities directly impacting you. For help in signing up, call city hall or simply go to the website and **SIGN UP for NOTIFY ME**.

Matthew Weatherly, Public Sector Personnel Consultants, presented the current review of the City of HSBay salary standings in comparison with surrounding municipalities. It is important to maintain comparable salary/benefits to remain competitive in acquiring high quality staff. This analysis will be used by the Council when the budget process begins for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Much of the over 3 hour meeting was focused on the development of Hidden Coves on Fault Line Drive. Mr. Boyd, the developer/owner, shared his efforts to comply with all city requirements and to meet the concerns of neighbors. Several community members/neighbors spoke to the council concerning the project. All felt it was a quality project benefitting the area, but expressed reservations about one aspect – specifically a bank of free standing boat slips in the cove area. Concerns focused on potential safety, as well as aesthetic concerns. Mr. Boyd presented an architectural rendering of the covered boat slips and was able to address all concerns except those who objected to free standing boat houses. This provided an opportunity for the city to recognize gaps in the city code which currently does not restrict or provide standards for such free standing boat houses. Although the HSB POA Architectural Control Committee had already reviewed and approved Mr. Boyd's renderings mentioned above. Since Mr. Boyd met all current guidelines, including the filing of all standards expectations, the council approved both the rezoning from commercial to residential/mixed use AND the development plan. While there

was not concern about the quality of the Hidden Coves boat house design itself, the council agreed that immediate attention will be given to structuring guidance for any future projects to assure a standard is in place.

Finally, the council members discussed their on-going efforts to communicate with the citizens. The resealing project gave an opportunity to identify the more than 8 avenues of communication (newspaper, POA email, block captains, post office posting, city website, and NOTIFY ME emails). Still, the council wants to continually step back and see if there are other venues to get 100% informed. Phone alerts and direct mail instructions for NOTIFY ME were discussed. Most shared that neighbors/friends indicate they feel they are getting good notice if they engage and access the many options. This is our city/community and we always want all voices included in the dialogue.

It was great to share the time with the many interested neighbors/friends in attendance as we make decisions about our City. As always, it is a great day to live in Horseshoe Bay.

Cynthia Clinesmith, City Councilmember
Public Information Officer