

Hello Neighbors!

YOUR City Council met today after a wonderful morning 'field trip' to the recently acquired Fuchs' ("Fox") house. The Fuchs' House Advisory Committee members provided tours and plans for the future to the group of 20+ attendees. All were invited to join the city-wide Town Hall on Oct. 5th @3 pm (City Hall) to learn more about the project and how those interested may get involved.

The council meeting began by reading a proclamation in support of Hunger Awareness Month. All were encouraged to assist those in need through donations to the varied local food banks, volunteering with Meals on Wheels, and/or direct donations to fund lunch for those in our counties identified in need.

Ron Mitchell provided an update of the work progressing on HSB Resort facility upgrades. He gave extensive detail about the Slick Rock clubhouse progress, spa/salon at 75% completion, marina at 50% boat management remodel, work at the hotel (including the new tent pavilion and upgrades to the Paseo Suites), and plans for White Water to convert to a sports bar, game room with the grill stations re-opening for casual dining access. He discussed short and long term plans for the airport (eventually a new terminal and master plan for private hangers), and renovations to the Ram and Apple Rock golf courses (with Apple converting to bent grass like all other courses). Renovations to the Yacht Club with Phase I targeting much needed restroom upgrades and internal updating, as well as pool area adjustments such as a new 50+ seated bar, expected to be complete by spring. Phase II of improvements at the Yacht Club will require closure for major infrastructure improvements of this "old lady" – and will wait until the Marina Restaurant opens in Spring/Summer of 2018 to provide alternative eating venue. Additional information specific to the \$50+ million dollar investment were provided, noting that the two largest/most anticipated developments of the CapRock and Summit Rock Club houses would be provided at the October Council meeting (awaiting final engineering plans).

The city adopted the 2017-18 budget without comment, maintaining the same tax rate as prior year. Clarification was made that because of new construction and increased values the same tax rate will generate additional funds. Thus, the state requires the city report this as an "increase" while the actual tax rate remains the same. Additional funds will go to support new citizenry and expanded services.

Much discussion centered on the request by John Davis with The Trails to conduct a limited, monitored 'bow hunt' across specifically identified open land during the hunting season. The POA representative underscored the desire to manage their more wooded community by culling an explosive deer population. All would be limited to harvesting doe (weakened) and no bucks with check points for licensure and safety requirements. The request passed (4-1) pending a sub-committee review of detailed guidelines being developed through the City Attorney.

Even more concerned discussion focused on the recent revelations that land just south of the Hwy 71/Hwy 281 corridor (near the hospital and new residential developments) has received a permit through the TCEQ (Texas Commission for Environmental Quality) for an expansive rock crushing plant. The recognition that this will create high noise levels, air quality concerns, truck traffic potential for 24 hours a day, and impact on future development was expressed. While this area is outside the HSB's ETJ, it will impact our neighbors. A resolution was passed to support the City of Marble Falls in its opposition

to this within their ETJ borders. It is not optimistic that the permit will be removed – all efforts to express opposition are important. This underscores the value of the City of Horseshoe Bay recently annexing land that borders our city or establishing ‘development agreements’ with large land owners that will specifically prevent such developments along our city boundaries.

Finally – the Mayor encourages ALL citizens to come to the October 10th Open Forum at Quail Point (3 pm). Similarly to forums held with specific groups such as realtors, builders, etc. – this is for all interested community members to have a chance to ask questions/offer suggestions/get clarification about YOUR city at work.

The meeting ended with all headed out – ready for the upcoming Autumn Equinox (beginning of Fall) this week - and counting our blessings as we were reminded it is always a great day to live in HSBay.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Council Member/Public Information Officer