

## **Horseshoe Bay Council Comments** *by Council Member Elaine Waddill*

The Horseshoe Bay City Council monthly meeting was held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 3:00p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Pro Tem Elsie Thurman welcomed those in attendance and Father Ruben Patino, of Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, shared a special poem and invocation. Those in attendance recited the pledges to the American Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

City of Horseshoe Bay City Secretary, Kerri Craig, updated the Council and reminded residents of Horseshoe Bay that new appointments to several Boards, Commissions, and Committees will be made in December. There are various vacancies that will become available at the end of this year and those groups that will have vacancies will be announced at the October 12 Council Meeting. The City will be requesting applications from citizens by advertising in the HSB Beacon and on the City's website. Applications are available on the City's website and from the City Secretary's office. The citizen committees are Planning and Zoning Commission; the Board of Adjustment; The Fuchs' House Advisory Committee, and the Parks Advisory Committee. Citizens who are interested in serving must submit an application to the City Secretary no later than November 1, 2021 by 5:00 pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Thurman presented a Proclamation Declaring September 26 – October 2, 2021 as "Source Water Protection Week". The Proclamation states the health, prosperity, and quality of life of Horseshoe Bay's citizens and community depend on a reliable supply of safe, high quality drinking water. Additionally, it states that protecting our drinking water is essential to preserve our own health and economy and that of future generations. We should strive to build opportunities and work together to ensure a clean, safe water source for all. The Mayor and Council calls on each of our citizens to recognize their responsibility to not pollute and to ensure preservation of our drinking water source.

Public Comments were made by Ted Durdel regarding the need to address mowing issues related to overgrown weeds in the community. He also expressed concerns regarding the need for appropriately placed cart paths for residents' use. Dana Rushing shared that the new Little Free Library that has been provided for children within the community is now in place at The Fox Park in Horseshoe Bay South. A second location has been provided at the Police Department, and will be installed in the near future for adult reading selections. At this time an additional location is being planned and will be ready soon. Candidate Marcus Cantu introduced himself to the Council and announced that he is running for the office of Justice of the Peace in the upcoming election.

A Public Hearing was held to discuss and take possible action on changes resulting in the 2021 Texas Legislative Session. Development Services Director, Sally McFeron provided updated information regarding a 2019 Texas legislature H.B. 2439 action. The House Bill created a new chapter of the Government Code restricting a city's ability to adopt rules limiting the use of building materials in construction. Passage of the Bill resulted in the need to rewrite Horseshoe Bay restrictions to reflect changes in the law.

In 2021, the Texas legislature passed S.B. 1090 carving out a new exception to the restrictions on city regulations of building materials. Horseshoe Bay staff reviewed the new Zoning Ordinances and updated them to reflect legislative changes. Additional revisions were reviewed and brought up to current codes. A summary of these revisions may be found on the City of Horseshoe Bay website. The Council reviewed the changes and voted to approve the updates.

Director McFeron presented an application requesting to rezone 6.39 acres from C-2 General Commercial to R-1 Single Family Residential in Zone 3 West. The applicant intends to use the property for single family and equestrian use. The property is located in the 11000 block of FM 2147 near the intersection with Hwy 71. After a Public Hearing was held, the Council reviewed the information and voted to approve the request.

Public Hearing was also held to discuss changes in Amendments to Chapter 10 regarding Subdivision Regulations. The public hearing and action on the item was continued to the October 12, 2021 City Council meeting.

Finance Director Margie Cardenas provided information for a Public Hearing on the Adoption of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget for the City of Horseshoe Bay. State Law requires the governing body to hold a public hearing before adopting the annual budget. The purpose of the hearing is to allow the public to express their opinions regarding the proposed budget prior to its adoption. Upon completion of the hearing the Budget was presented to the Council to consider for adoption for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

The Council voted unanimously to accept the budget. Additionally, the Council ratified the Property Tax Revenue increase reflected in the Adopted Annual Budget for 2021 – 2022.

Upon vote and acceptance of the 2021-2022 Budget, the Finance Director Cardenas presented an ordinance to adopt the tax rate for the 2021 tax year reflecting a rate of \$.27000/\$100 of assessed valuation with a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.22897 and an interest and sinking tax rate of \$.04103. The \$.27/\$100 is the same tax rate as last year. The Council voted to adopt the proposed ordinance.

Additionally, the Five-Year Capital Plan was discussed. At each of the previous budget workshops, the Council reviewed a draft of the FY 2022-2026 Five Year Capital Plan. The Plan includes Capital Improvement Projects for the General Fund, Utility Fund, and Capital Projects Fund. The Plan is presented as a planning document only, that does not bind future Councils to projects or timelines. The Council voted unanimously to adopt the Five-Year Capital Plan.

The City Council discussed departmental information presented in the monthly departmental reports. The reports are very informative and provide an opportunity to discuss issues and request clarifications of the day-to-day activities of the City. The reports can be found on the city's website in the agenda packet for each City Council meeting dates.

Council Member Randy Rives provided information regarding growth of the 10-county area surrounding Austin based on recently released Government 2020 Census Information from the CAPCOG organization of Central Texas.

The past month has been a very busy one for our Horseshoe Bay families. Many are enjoying those end of summer opportunities by gathering family and friends at the lake. As we move into Fall, we look forward to the holidays and cooler weather. Be sure to take a moment to slow down and remember the important things. As you make that list of important things to do, be sure to add our next City Council meeting being held on October 12, 2021 at Horseshoe Bay City Hall.