

**LETTER TO LEON VALLEY CITIZENS**  
**From Mayor Chris Riley**  
**September 22, 2023**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING –SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

The following are highlights of council actions from the September 19th council regular meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.:

**PRESENTATIONS**

**2023 Solid Waste Survey** – A draft solid waste survey was presented to City Council by Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director. The seven year contract with Tiger Sanitation is ending in January, 2025. This survey, once finalized by Council, will be sent to all residents and businesses to evaluate citizens' satisfaction level and preferences on garbage, recycling, bulk brush pickup, and other services such as hazardous waste and electronics. Once the survey is finalized, the results will be tabulated on what the citizens/businesses of Leon Valley would like to see in a future contract. Whether to negotiate a multi-year contract with Tiger Sanitation or request proposals from competing waste companies will then be determined.

**Consideration on Partnering with Bexar County on Addressing the Homeless issue** – On June 6th, the Council adopted a strict homeless encampment ordinance, prohibiting any homeless individual from camping or lodging in any public place or on any private property without the permission of the property owner. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, metro area leaders and stakeholders held a meeting to discuss funding opportunities for federal and state grants, encampment identification in our city, and how we could work with the County and non-profit organizations who serve the homeless in our region. **Bexar County has selected the City of Leon Valley as a pilot program.** The program would include shared costs for outreach coordinators from Haven for Hope. The County has asked for our city to share a portion of this cost (\$150,000) over three years with regular reports to the City on their progress. Council majority was generally in favor of working with the County, but had questions on cost, length of agreement and other specific responsibilities of the parties. Council directed the

Mayor and City Manager to set a meeting with Bexar County officials and come back with a proposal.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

**Approved and Adopted the Tax Rate For Year 2023 of \$0.4847 per \$100 valuation.** This was a second read from the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. There were no changes made to this proposed tax rate as reported in my September 8th letter to the citizens. Council voted four ayes and one nay by a roll call vote to approve this rate.

**Granted a Two-Year Extension for a Planned Development District at 6758 Poss Road near Bandera.** The developer, Mr. Samir Chehade, reported to council over the last two years he was unable to develop this property, into a mixed-use development due to another property he is developing in Leon Valley at Seneca and Evers. The zoning code allows for a one-time two year extension to develop this property; the new date is September, 2025. If the developer does not develop the property within this new time frame, the property will revert back to its base zoning, which is B-3.

**Discussion on Repealing the City's Juvenile Curfew Ordinance –** Due to action taken by the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature and signed by Governor Abbott, municipalities are prohibited from enacting or enforcing juvenile curfew ordinances, effective September 1, 2023. At the October 17<sup>th</sup> council meeting the council will approve repealing this ordinance as reflected by the new state law. (Several major Texas cities are challenging the new state law).

### **Discussion Authorizing adding two sections to the Property**

**Maintenance Code:** 1) Add that any multi-family, residential and nonresidential structures, including apartments, hotels, motels, suites, inns, rooming or boarding houses where the Police Department has responded to 60 or more calls in a span of three months will be required to have a licensed Police Officer on duty 7 days a week during the hours of 8 pm and 6 am for a period of one year; 2) Add to appeals and variances that any appeal denied by the City Manager may be heard and overturned by the governing body. Those amendments to the Property Maintenance Code will be voted on by Council at the October 17<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

**Discussion on Amending the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances Appendix A Fee Schedule.** The amended ordinance will reflect the increased costs associated with temporary food licenses, building and trade permit fees and inspections and removing sections that no longer have relevance, i.e., the Newsletter Advertising section and the Rental Registration fees, which were deleted and are no longer in use. This amendment will be voted on by Council at the October 17<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

*Our next regular city council meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6:30 p.m.** at city hall. If there is an executive session, the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.* The October 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting has been cancelled due to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager attending the Texas Municipal League Conference in Dallas.

### **JUST A REMINDER**

**The Forest Oaks Swimming Pool is open for two more weekends: September 23 & 24 and September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.** Time: 10 am to 6 pm. It was 98 degrees today.

**Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> – Youth Voter Fest, a non-partisan event, from 11am to 2 pm at UTSA Downtown Campus.** This is open to high school and college students along with their families. Get your free election identification certificate and practice voting with election simulation stations. Sign up for an October 7<sup>th</sup> tour of Bexar County Elections Department. Sponsored by UTSA, City of San Antonio, Bexar County and the League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Areas.

**October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 is the last day to register to vote for or against the November 7<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendments.**

The cool front never materialized nor did the rain. We are drier than we were during the 1950's.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any councilmember if we can be of assistance. We are here to serve you.

Sincerely, Chris  
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