

# LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY

11/19/2021

## NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Brief highlights of the City Council action from this meeting:

- Special thanks to Boy Scouts Pack 20 members and their troop leader, Liz Pollock, for leading the council, citizens, staff and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance. The pack is working on their Citizenship in the Community badge. It is very rewarding to support our youth and future leaders.
- Approved an amended ordinance re-establishing the Leon Valley Citizens Police Advisory Committee. Committee membership is capped at 13, with the council appointing two members each and the Mayor three. Appointments will be made at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact one of your council members.
- Congratulated Regina Reed, Leon Valley librarian, for applying and receiving a \$25,000 grant from The Hancher Library Foundation to improve and increase access to power within the library.
- Approved a Resolution to adopt the Texas Attorney General's Global Opioid Settlement, the Texas Term Sheet and Allocation schedule. The City of Leon Valley is eligible to receive \$28,389.22.
- Gave direction to Staff regarding an Ordinance amending residential fences (to allow 8 foot fences) and to establish procedures for special exceptions for additional fence height in residential areas.
- Held a public hearing on an Ordinance amending the city code allowing accessory dwelling units (ADU's) to be permitted by right with no specific use permit on 0.5 acre lots or greater in the R-1 or RE zoning districts. An ADU is defined as a "residential dwelling unit (not a mobile home), located on the same lot as a primary single-family dwelling unit – either within the same building as the single-family dwelling unit or in a detached building-

complete with living facilities and designed in a manner in which it is capable of functioning without the use of the primary dwelling unit.”

- Voted to move the January 4, 2022 city council meeting to January 11, 2022 due to the holiday schedule and to move the July 5, 2022 city council meeting to July 12<sup>th</sup> due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.
- Authorized the City Manager to negotiate a settlement with the Aquarium for final approval of the lawsuit (pending since 2017).

For more information on this council meeting, go to [leonvalleytexas.gov/](http://leonvalleytexas.gov/) Mayor & Council meeting agendas and view the video.

### **COVID 19 UPDATE**

This week the positivity rate after dropping to a new low of 1.5%, increased to 1.8% , a slight uptick from the week before. This was the first increase in the positivity rate in six weeks. With Thanksgiving around the corner and more people gathering, especially indoors, it is important to continue to follow good common sense in order to stay safe. Some of the literature is suggesting for people who want added safety to use rapid tests on the day of the event, especially if some guests are unvaccinated. Open windows or bring air filtration machines into rooms or better yet stay outdoors!

Thinking back to a year ago to Thanksgiving, 2020, we have made great strides with vaccinating approximately 65% of Bexar County eligible citizens (2 doses), returning in-person to school and work, travelling more

and overall trying to get back to a “normal” life. Unfortunately, the virus is still with us, claiming 4,945 lives lost and 325,477 cases since March 2020. The county is at a low risk, with 157 new cases, 152 people in the hospital, 54 patients in ICU and 23 on ventilators. The Center for Disease Control are now allowing booster shots to anyone 18 years and older who have been fully vaccinated and six months have passed since their last shot. Let’s hope and pray we can get through the next six weeks without a huge increase in our numbers. Thanks to everyone for doing your part. Please get vaccinated and continue to follow the protocols, i.e., wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart from a non-family member, and stay home if you are sick to continue to bring this virus down.

Hope to see you at the **Leon Valley Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm** in the Community/Conference Center area by the Library. Hot chocolate and candy canes will be given out. After the tree lighting ceremony, the *Leon Valley Elementary Choir* and *Pat Neff Middle School Band* will perform inside the Community Center. At 7:15 pm, the *Beethoven Concert Band* will end the night with music that will put you in the holiday spirit. There is no charge. **THANK YOU** to the Leon Valley Public Works employees who

have decorated this area and city hall for the holidays. The lights will be spectacular!

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. We truly have so much to be thankful for. Please contact me or any of your council members if you have a question or concern.

Sincerely, Chris  
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