

LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY

03/18/2022

LEON VALLEY CITY COUNCIL 12TH ANNUAL TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, March 26, 2022, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

8:30 am – Light Refreshments will be served

In-person at the Community Center OR go on-line to Facebook or You-Tube if you prefer to participate Virtually.

All citizens of Leon Valley are invited to attend the 12th annual Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, March 26th to give your feedback to City Council on the 8 Topics below. Additionally, you'll have an opportunity to address council at Citizens to Be Heard at the end of the meeting on other topics not on the agenda. No action can be taken on issues discussed during Citizens to Be Heard, but action to place a topic on a future agenda can occur.

The 8 Presentations are as follows:

- 9:00 – 9:11 - **Welcome**, Procedures and 2021 Town Hall Review
- 9:12 – 9:29 – Bandera Road Project Update (TXDOT & City of San Antonio)
- 9:30 – 9:45 – Update on Red-Light Camera Initiative & Citizen Input on Safety Uses of Red-Light Camera funds (\$600,000 this year)
- 9:50 – 10:20- Update on Capital Improvement Projects (Public Works building, pools and library annex)
- 10:25 –10:35 Time Capsule (70th Anniversary)
- 10:40 – 10:50 Poll of Citizens on city-sponsored events
- 10:55 – 11:15 Home Rule Charter – Proposed Amendments
- 11:20 – 11:35 Update on Hike & Bike Trails 1 & 2
- 11:40 – 11:50 American Rescue Plan funds (\$2.2 Million) – how to allocate
- 11:55- 12:25 Citizens to Be Heard
- 12:30 PM Adjournment

How do you get connected to the virtual meeting? There will be a special ENEWS edition with log in information, as well as a link provided on our city's website (www.leonvalleytexas.gov) early next week (March

28th). **Please have your cell phone handy so you can participate in answering the polling questions through logging onto Mentimeter.** Hope to see you there! Any questions, please call Dr. Caldera (210) 812-3319.

MARCH 15th CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Some brief highlights of the City Council action from March 15th:

- Update on the **John Marshall Traffic Management Plan**. The Interim plan addresses the front of the school by creating a two-way street extension to John Marshal Blvd. Traffic would enter from Eckert onto Robin, take a right turn onto Lobo Ln, then left into the on-site parking lot and exiting right onto Lobo Ln proceeding to Bluebird to exit onto Eckert. Citizens who live in Monte Robles are concerned about traffic turning right onto Lobo Ln and continuing through the neighborhood on Thunderbird. Citizen's were encouraged to work with NISD and City of Leon Valley for a win-win solution. Making streets one-way were discussed as a possible solution.
 - Discussion on the **2022 City Swimming Pool Fees** to help cover the SA Pool Management fees to operate the two pools (Forest Oaks and LV Community). Pools will be open from Memorial Day through Labor Day with Forest Oaks pool open every weekend through September. The fee schedule, including an affordability rate, was approved, with **no increases** from last year. The council moved to allow **free** swim days on every First Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day, as well as the slowest day of the week, which has been Wednesdays in the past. Anyone can sign up online or in person at City Hall for this summer's swim pass.
 - Fire Chief Michael Naughton presented on the **2009 114' Bronto Platform firetruck** which has been out of service 70% of the time over the last 3 ½ years, requiring \$75 K in repairs over this time span with no improvement in its reliability. We currently owe \$523,000 on the bond for this firetruck with a maturity date of 2031. The estimate value of this vehicle, in complete working order is between \$200-\$250,000. Council was given three options and chose to sell and replace, rather than repair the vehicle or do nothing. Chief Naughton is recommending replacing the aerial truck with an engine truck for half the cost and financing it for 10 years on a lease-purchase.
 - A **4th of July presentation** was given by Crystal Miranda, Community

Relations Director, on the theme, Grand Marshall, and cost of the event. Council chose the theme of *Freedom & Fireworks* and recommended inviting *Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff* (retiring from Commissioner's Court after 21 years of service) as *Grand Marshall*. The Council voted to eliminate paying the \$25 K cost of the carnival and doodle train.

The schedule will remain the same from last year with food trucks/vendors from 6:30 – 9:30 pm, parade at 7 pm. A concert with the **SPAZMATICS** will begin at 8 pm and stop playing when the fireworks display begins at 9:45 pm. The Spazmatics will continue to play after the fireworks with the event ending at 10:30 p.m. The City will mail postcards to residents with all the details of the event. Ms. Miranda is continuing to seek \$35,000 in sponsorships for the event to help with the overall cost to the City of Leon Valley, which has budgeted \$50,000.

- Council approved updates to the **Leon Valley Public Library Policy manual**.
- Council amended the **credit card processing fees** from 5% on court related fees, fines and court costs to 2% on all transactions that are by credit card, debit card and other electronic means, except for utility payments paid by ACH and auto pay.
- Approved the **City Manager's appointment of the Law Firm of Messer, Fort and McDonald** to provide legal services as City Attorney and City Prosecutor.

For more information on council meetings, go to leonvalleytexas.gov/ Mayor & Council meeting agendas and view the video. The next City Council meeting is Tuesday, April 5th, 2022 at City Hall, 6:00 p.m. and on-line at www.leonvalleytexas.gov

COVID UPDATE

Since my last weekly letter on March 4th, the positivity rate fell again on March 2, 2022, to 3.5%, but rose to 5.9% as of March 11th. With this rate fairly low compared to a high rate of 39.4% in January, more businesses, schools and large stores are making mask-wearing optional. We are continuing to adapt to the reality that it looks like this virus will not

go away and need to adjust our behavior accordingly. It is still recommended by health officials to get vaccinated for protection. For more information on COVID, visit www.covid19.sanantonio.gov. Thanks to everyone for continuing to do your part in stopping the spread of the virus. There are still people in our community getting sick.

See you at the Town Hall meeting! Any questions or concerns, please contact me or any of your council members.

Sincerely, Chris
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