

LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY

11/18/22

CITY COUNCIL MEETING –NOVEMBER 15TH

The following are highlights of council actions from the November 15th council meeting:

We started with an executive session for another update of the **Vista Del Rey Apartment lawsuit** filed by the City of Leon Valley to address and correct various code enforcement issues.

After the executive session, the council heard five presentations:

1. **Leon Valley Texas America Recycles Day** – A proclamation was presented to the Earthwise Living Committee encouraging citizens to recycle and to visit the Leon Valley Library to view the recycling exhibit which shows what and how to recycle.

2. **The Earthwise Living Committee** gave Council a summary of their activities, including the date of the 33rd annual Earthwise Living Day scheduled on March 4, 2023 at the Community Center. The theme of the event is “Combating Climate Change One Household at a Time” The Committee asked for council’s support in their efforts to increase citizen awareness to improve sustainability in Leon Valley.

3. **4th of July Celebration Recap and Direction for 2023 Event** – This year’s celebration included a 5k walk-run, evening parade, concert and fireworks display. Council decided to keep the same program for the 2023 event. This year’s event cost \$115,147. It attracted approximately 15,000 attendees, many of whom came to hear The Spazmatics. For the 2023 event, Council has budgeted \$80,000 with additional sponsors and vendors needed to help with additional costs. Part of the money to fund this event comes from the economic/community development sales tax. Council directed staff to again secure a top band to draw a large crowd to the event. Feedback from this year’s event was to add more security, volunteers, EMS/Fire staff/equipment, vendors, and amusements for the kids. Theme for the 2023 4th of July Parade and Concert is: Land That I Love.

4. **Leon Valley Jazz Music Festival** – *Date: March 25, 2023 from*

Noon – 6:30 pm at Raymond Rimkus Park. City Council received suggestions at the Town Hall meeting in March to replace the Soap Box Derby with another event. Staff presented an initial blueprint for the event, a Jazz Festival. The budget estimate is \$22,000 which includes bringing local and regional jazz bands to perform. Sponsorships will be available as well as food vendors. More information will follow.

5. Discussion on No Parking Areas in Residential Zones – Several residents have inquired whether there is a limit to the number of cars parked on a residential street. The Zoning Code calls for 2 off-street parking spaces per residential home. Restrictions for on-street parking only exist in specified areas as shown by no-parking signs. Other existing restrictions: no vehicle shall be parked in a manner which blocks sidewalks, driveways, alleys, or public rights of way in the city. No vehicle can be parked on the grass. Parking of trailers and campers on public streets is restricted to no more than 48 hours. Council did not take any action on this item but encouraged residents to call ON-IT (210) 684-8897) to report any above violations.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discussion to Amend the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances to Dissolve the Tree Advisory Board and Assign those duties to the Park Commission. This agenda item was requested by Councilman Bradshaw to consider consolidating these committees to reduce staff time and to help establish a quorum for action by these committees. Since the Tree Advisory Board had not been made aware of this agenda item, council will discuss at the December 6th agenda with representatives from the Tree Advisory present.

2. Discussion on an Ordinance Authorizing a Budget Adjustment in the amount of \$832,498.50 and Award a Bid to J3 Construction for the Construction of the Seneca West Drainage Project. There was consensus from Council to proceed with this staff recommendation and it will be approved on the December 6th agenda. This money will be withdrawn from the stormwater fund so the construction project can begin in a timely manner.

3. The Canvassing of the November 8th 2022 Special Election and the Declaring the 2022 Charter Amendments Adopted (all 13 Amendments passed) was postponed. *A Special City Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 21st at 7:30 a.m. at City Hall to re-address these two agenda items.* The Bexar County Elections office had not

finished tabulating the election results by the time our November 15th meeting was held. The law requires canvassing be completed no later than November 22nd, 2022.

Our next regular city council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th, 6:30 p.m. at city hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Annual Breakfast with Santa** – will be held on **Saturday December 3rd** at the Leon Valley Community Center, sponsored by the Friends of the Library and Leon Valley Public Library. Time 8:00 am – 10:30 am. Food for sale, silent auction, visit with Santa and other fun activities for the entire family are scheduled.

- **Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Monday, December 5th at 5:30 pm** at the Community and Conference Centers. The Leon Valley Elementary Choir and Pat Neff Middle School band will perform. Special thanks to the Public Works Department for hanging up thousands of lights to turn this area into a Winter Wonderland. Please join us to help bring in the holiday season!

- Mark your calendars for the **2023 Town Hall Meeting (January 28th) and Quarterly Coffees with the Mayor & Council: April 22, July 22nd and October 28th.**

On behalf of the City Council and staff, we wish everyone a Happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday. Enjoy your time with family and friends.

We on the Council thank you for the trust you have placed in us as your elected officials. Know you can call on us if you have a city issue.

Sincerely, Chris
(210) [618-2092](tel:618-2092)
mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov