

LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY

05/20/2022

MAY 17TH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Brief highlights of the City Council actions of May 17th :

- The City Council **canvassed the returns from the May 7th city election**. A resolution was passed declaring the winners in the elections of Mayor, Place 2 and Place 4. Councilmen-elect Josh Stevens and Rey Orozco and I will be sworn in on June 7th at 6 pm in the city council chambers.
- Approved a **2.5% rate increase for Tiger Sanitation** as per their contract, effective July 1, 2022. The 65 gallon cart will increase .41 cents from \$16.75 to \$17.16 per month. The 95 gallon cart will increase .43 cents from \$17.00 to \$17.43 per month.
- The **April Financial Report** was reviewed by Finance Director Kevin Rule. So far, sales tax receipts are up about 25% for 2022 compared to 2021. The impound lot revenues have not covered expenditures, but there are at least two more auctions that will rectify this deficit. The Community and Conference center rentals are up 406% and 197% over what was budgeted for the year. All other funds are tracking in line with the budget.

The following matters were tentatively approved by the city council:

- Assistant Public Works Director David Dimiline recommended awarding a bid to R.L. Jones LP in the amount of \$546,449, with \$75,667 contingency for the **Blacksmith Lane water and sewer main replacement project** was presented by Additionally, a CDBG grant in the amount of \$143,639 will be received after the project is completed, which adjusts the total cost for the city to \$478,077.
- Eric Burnside, Assistant Fire Chief, presented two agenda items:
 - 1) Considered approval of an Ordinance authorizing a **budget adjustment of \$42,115 from the Stormwater Fund for the purpose of upgrading the current flood warning system** to an autonomous high water detection software system. This change will also consolidate and integrate established high-water sensors into a single unified system.

Citizens along the floodway will be able to receive text messages regarding water levels during flood events.

2) Considered approval of an Ordinance for the **implementation of a Charity Care policy and amending the Emergicon agreement** (the city's EMS billing provider). This will allow the city to apply for grants offered through the state and/or federal government to assist with the reimbursement of unpaid or underpaid emergency medical services expenses.

- Moved to postpone appointments and re-appointments of 8 City Committees to the June 21st meeting. This was to align the committee appointments to be coterminous with the Mayor's term and to allow more time for interested citizens to apply.
- **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS – Please consider giving back 1-2 hours per month of your time, talent and expertise to a city committee.** Please call City Secretary Passailaigue at (210) 812-3316 to ask her to send you an updated volunteer form. Deadline is June 10th . THANK YOU!

The next city council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7th beginning at 6:00 p.m. In addition to the swearing in of the city council members elected on May 7th, the agenda will include an update of the Fourth of July city event, a zoning case and a licensing fee code amendment.

WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW.....

***MAY 24, 2022 JOINT REPUBLICAN and DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTIONS:** Early Voting ENDS Friday, May 20th at the Leon Valley Conference Center. Call (210) 335-8683 to check the time polls close on Friday. On Tuesday, May 24th , the polls will be open from 7 am to 7pm. All registered voters can vote at any polling site. You can only cast a ballot in the same party primary you voted in on March 1st. You can vote in either primary if you didn't vote on March 1st.

***NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:** One Leon Valley police officer has been assigned to each of the 19 neighborhoods in our city. The map and officer assignment is found on the city's website www.leonvalleytexas.gov >Quick Links>Neighborhood Watch or in today's

ENEWS. If you have a non-emergency issue, please make contact with your assigned police officer.

***POOLS OPEN ON MAY 28TH!** The city operates two pools, the Forest Oaks Pool, located at 6620 Evers Road and the Leon Valley Community Pool at 6600 Strawflower. **New this year: Free SWIM DAYS (both pools)** – Every First Friday, Holidays (Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day) and every Tuesday at Forest Oaks pool and every Wednesday at the Community Pool. Pool Hours are Noon -8 p.m. An Aquatic Fitness Class (Water Aerobics) is forming and there will be a \$5 charge for each hour long class, which will be held at the Community Pool . For more information visit

https://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/departments/public_works/leon_valley_pools.php or call (210) 681-1232 (Public Works)

***COVID UPDATE:** On May 6th I reported the positivity rate for COVID was 5.2%. As of May 13th, the positivity rate for COVID increased to 9.7%. Metro Health officials report that this number could be much higher since the at home tests are not included in this number.

Please continue to do what you need to do in order to keep you and your family safe. Metro Health recommends a second booster after six months from the first booster for anyone who is immune compromised or who is over 65.

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND. Thank you to all our veterans who have served our country. A Flag Day ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 14th at 6:30 pm at the Flagpole in Veteran's Park, 6427 Evers Road. This is sponsored by the American Legion, Audie L. Murphy Post No. 336.

Please contact me or any of your council members if you have a question or concern. We are here to serve you.

Sincerely, Chris
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