

Hello Neighbors!

Another beautiful day in wildflower heaven brought YOUR City Council together. Pastor Malcolm McQueen opened the session with our shared desire for guidance in making good decisions on behalf of the community. All welcomed two new police officers: Mike Kelly comes after retiring from the Houston Police Department after 26 years of service in various divisions as Lieutenant and on the staff of the Chief of Police, Air National Guard Reserve service, with a Master Degree in Criminal Justice Management, and recognition by the Houston 100 Club as Officer of the Year; Richard Cioffi joins us after service in the Army from 2002-2005 where he was assigned to combat operations in Iraq in a Bradley Fighting Vehicle. He received a Purple Heart along with other commendations and has a Bachelor's degree in Biology, and prior service in Johnson City.

The Mayor made several proclamations, first declaring Friday, April 22nd HSBay "Earth Day". Sam Morrison, new POA president, and Elaine Waddill were on hand to give details of the events planned. COME OUT and support quality living in HSBay at Quail Point (10:00 am start) for informative sessions on Green Building/Conservation, 22 earth friendly vendors, hot dogs/drinks, and shared focus on proactive beautification. The second proclamation, the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, encouraged all to join other cities across Texas in supportive action for the Monarch Butterfly whose migrating population has been reduced by over 50%. Bill Teeter spoke of actions to emulate the city, such as planting of Milkweed (butterfly food AND hatchery), not mowing these food sources in the spring, and planting of other nectar producing landscaping. They also love to munch on dill/parsley/etc., so don't kill those lovely caterpillars...just plant enough herbs to share! Finally, the Mayor encouraged all to join Granite Shoals on Saturday as they celebrate their 50th anniversary at their Municipal Center.

Staff updates included a quarterly report on a healthy fiscal accounting, while the utility team shared plans for expanding and upgrading the West Water Treatment Plant. All are continually impressed with the high standards of water maintained (with over 300 varied tests ongoing daily). The Police and Fire Department made similarly positive reports of the status of safety/security – with the Fire Department receiving final approval to move forward on the purchase of two new firetrucks to serve HSBay for the foreseeable future.

HSBay continues to expand on existing lots to add quality lifestyle options. Sam Boyd presented his plan and received approval for the Hidden Coves development of Garden Homes, improved cove access, and single family homes along Fault Line Dr. The zoning for commercial development will be removed. The Trails' request to replat some of their lots to increase size of homesites and better utilize common space was approved after it was clear all landowners had approved of the plan. Finally, the Grove sought temporary approval for limited signage demarking the Model Home/Design Center to assist in wayfinding. The council approved a temporary action – with plans to review the sign ordinance for the City specific to master planned communities overall.

Stan Farmer, the City Manager shared that the surveys for future goals of our city have been completed (with over 1300 responses) and reminded us two Town Halls (May 3 6-8 pm and May 11 3-5 pm) will give all an opportunity to hear results and engage in the 'next step' discussions. COME lend your voice.

As always, it is a great day to live in Horseshoe Bay. Blessings abound.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Councilmember and Public Information Officer