



Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) Charter

Adopted by City Council on February 18, 2020

The Commission's role is to serve as an advisory body to the City Council, but does not have any final decision-making authority. The Commission has all the rights, powers, privileges and authority authorized and granted by the City Council and from the State of Texas in Chapters 211 and 212 of the Texas Local Government Code regarding cities regulation of zoning and subdivisions.

Responsibilities

- To make recommendations to the City Council regarding the approval of the preliminary and final plats of subdivisions and requests for text amendments to the subdivision regulations.
- To make recommendations to the City Council regarding the approval of rezoning requests, including planned developments and regarding requests for text amendments to the zoning regulations.
- To review and make recommendations on the zoning of land for newly annexed areas.
- To make recommendations regarding the comprehensive plan and amendments to the comprehensive plan.

Qualifications of Applicants

- Registered voter of the City of Horseshoe Bay;
- Must have resided in the City for at least 12 months prior to appointment;
- Must not be in arrears in the payment of any taxes or other liability due to the City;
- Must have an active application on file with the City Secretary;
- Must meet any certain requirements as set out in city ordinance or state statute; and
- May not hold any other public office, except that of a Notary Public or as a member of the Armed Services or National Guard.

Required Member Skills

Commission members should possess the following skills, knowledge, experience and other attributes:

General

- The ability and willingness to work in a team environment.
- Good understanding and support of the City of Horseshoe Bay's Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Leadership Philosophy, and Values.
- General communication and team facilitation skills.
- Must be open-minded and able to work collaboratively with others.
- Exhibit a positive and constructive attitude.

Technical

There should be a balance of skills and experience in the membership which includes, but is not limited to, the following fields of expertise: Planning and Zoning, Engineering, Real Estate, Attorney, Architecture, and General Business.

Ultimately, City Council will be mindful of the professional background of each current and potential member when making the final appointments.

Membership

- Commission members will be appointed by the City Council.
- There will be a maximum of 5 members, including the Chair.
- City Council will appoint the Chair. The members shall appoint a Vice Chair and may appoint a Secretary.
- To the greatest extent possible, members will be past graduates of a Citizens' Academy.
- Members will serve two-year terms. Three of the five members shall have terms expiring December 31st of odd-numbered years and the other two members shall have terms expiring December 31st of even-numbered years. There shall be a limit of two consecutive terms (four years total) that a member may serve. A partial term to which a member is appointed shall not be counted as a full two-year term for the purpose of this limit.
- Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term via appointment by a simple majority vote of the City Council for the remainder of the term.
- Members may be removed from office at any time by a simple majority vote of the City Council.

Meeting Schedule and Attendance

The Commission shall meet a minimum of once per month, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled City Council meeting. If there have been no applications filed for review by the PZC, the Development Services Director shall notify the Chair and no meeting shall be required for that month.

A member's position is automatically considered vacant if the member is absent for:

- 1) Three consecutive, regular meetings; or
- 2) Four meetings (cumulative) during the preceding twelve-month period.

Exceptions may be granted if the member has first obtained a written leave of absence from the Chair and absences are due to unusual circumstances beyond the member's control.

Conduct of the Members

Members will act in a professional and confidential manner as representatives of the City. Each member will actively participate in deliberations, reviews and approvals. Members will respect the process, this Charter, and one another by considering all ideas expressed, being thoroughly prepared for each meeting, maintaining the confidentiality agreed upon and sharing equally in the responsibility to reach consensus successfully. Members will treat citizens who attend the meetings with respect and fairness. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

A member shall not vote or participate in any deliberations regarding a matter if the member has any personal financial interest in or any property within five hundred feet of the property in question, whether such interest is direct, indirect, financial or otherwise. A member may disqualify themselves, and in any case where the question of a member's interest is raised, the Chair shall rule on whether the member shall be disqualified.