



THE ROCK

The Newsletter Of Granite Shoals, Texas

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2019

Word from Mayor Carl Brugger - Council Looks to the Future

Infrastructure improvements for Water System a priority

I wish each of you a happy and healthy new year. Your council concluded at its January 8th council meeting that it wanted to change the format and improve the frequency of information from City Hall by issuing a newsletter on a regular basis. We would like your feedback and suggestions for improvements.

The council's top priority for this fiscal year is making improvements to our water system. City staff is currently preparing an application for a \$275,000 grant for improvements to our water treatment controls. Also, the City Council has directed staff to prepare a \$5,000,000 bond proposal for citizens to consider in November. To assist in preparing this proposal, City staff was directed to use the resources of TRC, our new engineering firm of record, and RBC Capital Markets, our new financial advisor of record.

Exactly what will be included in the bond proposal has yet to be decided, but meeting Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requirements for additional water storage capacity will be a priority, along with improvements to our water distribution system. Council requested the bond proposal be based on a draft prepared by RBC Capital Markets that the bonds could be paid for by using both funds from retiring debt and monthly water fees, neither of which would be increased above current rates. Please recognize, that if citizens approve this proposal, it is only one of many methods that may be needed to address all of the improvements. This is the beginning of a process and we will keep you posted as the City water projects involve.

Police Sergeant John Ortis is recognized as a local favorite.

The Picayune newspaper readers recently voted John Ortis as a favorite in the 'Locals Love Us' section of the newspaper. Sgt. Ortis is an excellent example of the fine first responders in Granite Shoals.



Sergeant John Ortis

SAVE THESE DATES!

January 15, 2019 – Planning and Zoning Commission meets at City Hall at 6:30 PM.

January 16, 2019 – First Day to apply to run for City Council in May 4, 2019 election.

January 16, 2019 – Charter Review Committee meets at City Hall at 6 PM.

January 18, 2019 – Bulk Pick Up Friday

January 21, 2019 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a holiday

January 22-25, 2019 – 1st Round of Brush Pick Up of flood debris placed at the curb.

January 22, 2018 – City Council Regular Meeting.

February 2, 2019 – Coffee With Council

Charter Review Committee

Last month, the City Council appointed ten citizens to a special blue ribbon committee to review the City's Charter. The Charter was originally adopted in 2006. It can be found on the City website. The Committee's purpose is to review the Charter and propose any updates, corrections, or improvements that might be desired. Proposed changes are presented to the city's voters. A Charter Amendment Election is expected to be held November 2019. Charter Review Committee meetings are open to the public. The first meeting will be held at City Hall, upstairs in the Council Chamber, at 6 PM on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

Code Compliance Notices are in the mail

The Code Compliance department is currently checking each property on a street-by-street basis for code violations. If violations are found, the property owner will receive a notice by mail. If you receive a letter, we need to hear from you within ten (10) days. Call the department if you receive a letter, or if you just have a question about code violations here in Granite Shoals. The phone number for the department is 830-598-2424 x301 for Preston Williams and x302 for Bryan Wendt. We look forward to working with you to improve our city!

The Arterial Road Infrastructure Project Update:

North Phillips Ranch Road (PRR) is now considered substantially completed. There were some construction issues by Christ Redeemer Church and around the curve. As you know, the high volume of traffic down PRR includes heavy trucks that are hard on new and old roads. However, we are confident that we will have a nice road for quite a while. The rest of PRR is scheduled for repairs and construction on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 depending on the weather conditions.

The City is considering placing flashing radar speed signs on Valley View, Prairie Creek and Phillips Ranch Road. We hope the signs remind folks of their speed and help to keep everyone safe. Valley View and Prairie Creek will also receive the white safety striping lines on the sides of the roads. These really help for driving at night and we know the citizens like it.

The wet weather has certainly taken its toll on other city streets; we monitor the street conditions and will be working hard to make the repairs that we can. Please remember that we have about 90 miles of streets and a small street crew of 5 men.

Drainage is also an issue that we will begin to address this year, it has been a problem and needs our attention.

Deer Management continues

Deer Management continues in the City. On Thursday evenings at dark, any available deer are distributed on a 'first-come, first served' basis on the City Hall campus at the storage shed. Follow the signs. Animal is field-dressed but not processed. With questions about the Deer Management or the venison, call City Hall.

City Manager's Thoughts:

We have a very good City Council dedicated to moving the City forward; they do their jobs without pay and often take the load of citizens concerns. I hope that you will take the time to thank them for their service.

Christmas by the Highway was a huge success this year and the volunteers worked very hard to provide some joy for the holiday season. They are always looking for volunteers, so please call City Hall if you are interested.

Lake lowering is going to continue to the end of February, please be sure to read the Important Information Item on our social media sites for more information or call City Hall.

Newsletter 'The Rock' replaces 'City Secretary's Informal Meeting Review Summary' on Social Media

This newsletter, planned for release after each Regular City Council meeting (twice per month), will have information on Council activities as well as news from the various City Departments. Council also plans to continue the 'Coffee With Council' events on a regular basis; the next one being February 2nd.

To communicate via email with the Mayor and Council members, citycouncil@graniteshoals.org is a group list which will reach Council, City Manager Jeff Looney and City Secretary Elaine Simpson.

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city website.....www.graniteshoals.org

city Facebook page

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NOTE: Please check the back of your monthly utility bill. There is information there related to upcoming events, special notices and other date-sensitive information.