



## City Manager Report

February 2025

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I am pleased to present the City Manager's Report for the month of February 2025. In addition to the departmental reports regarding finance, fire, streets and parks, police and utilities, this report provides an overview of key activities, committees, projects, events, and updates Citywide.

**BIG NEWS!** Granite Shoals is proud to celebrate our very own Judge Frank Reilly, who has been appointed as Burnet County's Justice of the Peace for Precinct 4! This is an exciting milestone as Judge Reilly becomes the first County JP to hail from Granite Shoals.

We are grateful for his continued service to the City of Granite Shoals and look forward to his impact at the County level. Congratulations, Judge Reilly!



### Wirtz Dam Rd. – Update



At a recent Burnet County Commissioners' Court meeting, Commissioner Dockery was unanimously appointed to represent the Burnet County Commissioners' Court in matters related to the Wirtz Dam Bridge project. The Wirtz Dam Bridge is intended to improve regional connectivity by creating a new crossing over Lake Marble Falls, linking

Ranch-to-Market Road (RM) 1431 on the north side of the lake to RM 2147 on the south side. This connection will provide an alternative to the heavily traveled U.S. Highway 281, the Wirtz Dam Bridge aims to reduce traffic congestion, improve mobility, and enhance emergency response times throughout the region. a direct route between Granite Shoals and Cottonwood Shores, enhancing accessibility for residents businesses in the area.

**Hill Country Humane Society** The City will be participating in a Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) clinic scheduled for March 20, 2025. Thanks to a generous grant from Hill Country Cats, approximately 30 spots in the clinic have been reserved for Granite Shoals cats.

We are grateful for the ongoing partnership with the Hill Country Humane Society, which continues to play a vital role in securing additional funding and veterinary support to expand TNR efforts and host more clinics in the future.

## Committees and Workgroups

Planning and Zoning Committee: The Planning and Zoning Commission will be moving their meetings from the 3rd Tuesday to the 1st Tuesday beginning March 4th.

Wildlife Committee: The Wildlife Committee had an engaging meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The next meeting will be held March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Board of Adjustments: The Board of Adjustments (BOA) will be meeting on February 26, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Airport Committee: The Airport committee met on February 6<sup>th</sup>. They set a workday for February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The next meeting will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM.

Parks Committee: The Parks Committee met on February 13<sup>th</sup> and discussed updates related to Timberhill Park, budget, and future park workdays. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

## Administration

Website Redesign: City staff are actively working with CivicPlus, a leading municipal website development company, to redesign the City's website. The goal is to create a user-friendly, visually appealing, and feature-rich platform that enhances accessibility and engagement. The transition is expected to be completed within the next four to six months. In addition, the City is preparing to launch a new agenda management program to improve efficiency in meeting documentation and public access. The rollout is scheduled for March 11, 2025.

Election: The filing period for the upcoming mayor and council election officially closed on February 14, 2025. Along with all incumbents who filed early, the City also received one additional application for the mayoral position.

## Finance

Audit: The auditors have received all requested documentation and remain on track to deliver the audit on schedule this year. The City has partnered with the same auditing firm for several years, and upon completion of this year's audit, we will begin a competitive bid process to explore potential new audit service providers. This ensures that we continue to receive high-quality financial oversight while evaluating opportunities for enhanced services and efficiency.

**Fee Schedule:** The Finance Department is collaborating with department heads to evaluate and update the City's fee schedule. Some fees have remained unchanged for an extended period, and adjustments are necessary to ensure they accurately reflect current costs. Maintaining an up-to-date and fair fee structure is a responsible financial practice that promotes the City's long-term sustainability and helps support essential services.

### Building Department

**Online permit payments:** The City is excited to announce the upcoming rollout of online permit payments, further enhancing the convenience and efficiency of the permitting process for residents, builders, and businesses. This new feature will allow users to submit payments securely online, reducing the need for in-person visits and streamlining transactions. As part of our commitment to modernizing services, the City utilizes iWorQ, a digital platform that enables online application submittals and inspection scheduling. Integrating online payments into this system will provide a seamless, user-friendly experience for applicants.

The system is nearly ready, and we look forward to launching it soon to improve customer service, accessibility, and overall efficiency. Stay tuned for more details!

### Fire

The burn ban for the City of Granite Shoals has been lifted. Residents may now resume outdoor burning activities in accordance with local regulations. While the ban is no longer in effect, we encourage everyone to practice fire safety and remain cautious when burning outdoors. Please ensure that all fires are properly controlled and monitored to help prevent wildfire risks.

We will continue to monitor conditions and provide updates as needed. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Granite Shoals safe!



### Parks and Streets

In alignment with the FY24/25 budgetary focus on major improvements to streets, culverts, and water systems throughout the City, the Street Department is excited to announce that its new high-pressure jet machine is HERE! This advanced equipment is designed to enhance culvert clearing and improve drainage, ensuring more efficient water flow and reducing the risk of flooding. If you see the streets crew out and about cleaning culverts, be sure to stop and check out the newest piece of equipment!



## Parks and Streets



The Streets Team has been actively soliciting bids for crack filling and repair on the three major thoroughfares funded by the 2018 street bond: Phillips Ranch, Valley View, and Prairie Creek. These repairs are part of regular maintenance efforts and are essential to preserving and extending the lifespan of the City's major thoroughfares. Keeping these roads in good condition ensures safer travel for residents and helps protect the City's long-term infrastructure investments.

## Utilities

The Utility department will be going out to bid shortly on a line upgrade project at N Shorewood/W Greencastle to address significantly undersized lines that have created pressure issues and a myriad of breaks.

## Event Recap

City staff have been working hard in preparation for an exciting lineup of events over the next few months. Below is a summary of some of the upcoming City events:

We look forward to bringing the community together and hope to see you there! Stay tuned for more details, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

### February

- 28 – Push-In ceremony for new Fire Tender – Fire Station 5:30PM
- 28 – Sunset Sips, Snacks and Social – City Hall patio 6:00 – 7:30PM

### March

- 76.- .National.Police.Week.(Proclamation)
- 71- .Police.Officer.Memorial.Day.- .Sunday.evening.at.the.Capitol
- 73- National.Public.works.week.(Proclamation)
- 22 – Granite Fest and Car Show [granitefest.com](http://granitefest.com)
- 29 - MFISD/PEC Touch a Truck
- 29 – Wildlife Town Hall - Fire Station 10 AM

### April

- 5 – Citywide Clean Up
- 12 – Airport Kite Day 10:00 AM -1:00 PM
- 19 – Easter Eggstravaganza at Quarry Park
- 25-26 - High School BBQ State Competition at Quarry Park

May

- 2 -3 Howdy Roo at Quarry Park
- 3 - Election day (Community Center closed 4/19-5/4)
- 0.- International.Firefighter.day.(Proclamation)

June

- 20-21 – Battle of the Badges BBQ at Quarry Park

\*\*We are also investigating park locations for a movie night ...stay tuned for dates and details.