

**From the Mayor's Desk  
July 2019**

**Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z)**

At the 6-13-19 regular Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, the Commission took the following actions:

**Recommended for Approval:**

Voted to recommend approval of the Elkhorn Ridge Unit 3 final plat. This subdivision is the fifth of ten planned units in the Elkhorn Ridge subdivision. Unit 3 consists of 15 residential lots on 4.62 acres. This final plat will advance to the June 20<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting for official action..

Conrad Fothergill has resigned from the Commission and we are actively taking applications for a replacement. Please visit the following link if you want to apply. <http://www.fairoaksranchtx.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=723>

Conrad has been a great addition to both the P&Z and our Stakeholder group that helped update our Comprehensive Plan. Conrad also served for years on City Council and the FORHA board and has acted as a mentor to many of us who have chosen to serve as elected officials. Well done Conrad!

**Plat Approvals – City Council**

- At the June 20<sup>th</sup> council meeting, we will be considering the final plat establishing Elkhorn Ridge, Unit 3.

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Reminding everyone that the five regular and two alternate ZBOA members selected were:

Shane Stolarczyk

Rich Nichols

Richard Morris

John Wall

Warren Needels

Craig Matson - Alternate

Chris Weigand – Alternate

We have sworn in all members of the ZBOA and our City Attorney's office delivered training to the members of the ZBOA. This group will meet in the future to select officers.

**Staff and Council Continue Work on Annual Budget**

Since the last time I wrote to you, our professional staff has begun working with council on the budget proposal for the 2019-20 fiscal year. You probably recall that

the budget is driven by our Strategic Planning process. As a reminder I am repeating below the five pillars of the strategic plan that we are addressing.

- Financial Integrity
- Responsible Growth Management
- Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure
- Public Health, Safety, and Welfare
- Operational Excellence

We completed a workshop on the Operating and Maintenance budget on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Our financial group has enhanced our processes this year with a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) tool that presents a color coded action plan showing the next five years including high level cost estimates in the out years.

This enhancement is moving us down the road to a more sophisticated approach to our planning. Our Finance staff is still building the modeling required to do this more detailed look. This will be an ongoing building block project for the next several years.

One additional enhancement has been standardizing the formats for the various departments. Lack of standardization was one of my concerns when I first began working on the city budget several years ago. While there is still work to do, our Finance folks have made great strides in getting estimates prepared in similar ways in all departments.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, Council and Staff reviewed the Enterprise Fund (Utility) Budget and Strategic Action Plan. The needs in this part of our budgeting are pretty staggering. We are going to have to address issues like developing an equitable water/wastewater rate structure, updating our impact fee study, beginning construction of an elevated water storage tank, and performing some stopgap measures on the existing wastewater plant like making improvements in our solids handling capabilities to reduce the amount of sludge hauling we are having to do. We will also be working on developing a plan for our long-term wastewater demand.

Many of the projects we are reviewing are multi-year efforts. This has placed even more emphasis on the need for a strategic action plan approach to our planning. Our staff and council recognized the need for an approach that looked several years down the road a couple of budget cycles ago. Unfortunately, the tools to support this type of planning cannot be constructed quickly and the changes in organizational processes are similarly demanding. For our city, these changes are major transformational efforts that are already beginning to show their value.

### **Elevated Storage Tank**

I will remind you that at the April 18<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting, the Council approved a Professional Service Agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

for engineering design services for an elevated storage tank and authorized the City Manager to sign the agreement. There are both regulatory and practical drivers for doing storage tanks. When you reach a certain number of connections on a water system, TCEQ requires that you provide elevated water storage. This facility is also important for maintaining proper pressure for firefighting.

We held our first community discussion about the elevated storage tank on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Spring Creek United Methodist Church on Dietz-Elkhorn road. We had a good turnout with engineers from Kimley-Horn giving a well-planned presentation and manning a couple of stations with our staffers to address ideas around location and design of the elevated water storage tank. The meeting was informal on purpose so we could promote a free exchange of ideas between our residents and our staffers and engineering consultants.

We anticipate the next meeting will be held around September 10<sup>th</sup>. By this point, the engineers will have done much more work and will be presenting recommendations regarding siting and design. We are expecting council to approve a final site in November of this year. Engineering design is expected to be completed by August 2020 with construction to begin around November 2020. Construction time for a project of this magnitude is about a year, so that would indicate completed construction around November 2021.

We appreciate Spring Creek United Methodist Church allowing us to use their facility. Our city is blessed to have several churches that help us with space for public meetings from time to time.

### **Boerne-Fair Oaks Ranch-Kendall County Transportation Planning Committee**

We were approached by Kendall County Commissioner Don Durden to be part of a regional approach to transportation planning. The goal is to develop short range and long range programs of transportation improvements and a program of recommended policies to guide the planning and design of the transportation/land use system within Kendall County.

The Steering Committee proposed for this effort is the Kendall County Judge and the mayors of Boerne and Fair Oaks Ranch. I spoke at the May 28<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Kendall County Commissioners Court to express our willingness to participate in this effort. I pointed out that future development of Ralph Fair Road was especially important to our city and asked that our recently developed Master Transportation Plan for our city be included in the deliberations. More to come on this topic.

### **Upcoming Events**

Bulk/Brush Pickup will begin in August. Watch for notifications.

Our annual street maintenance program will begin in late August or September. We will post more specific information about this work later in the summer.

### **Resident Volunteers/City Staffers at Work**

- Our city Facebook page is continuing to attract readers. We currently have 1,643 people following our page. We have had 1,458 likes and reached 1,946 members during the past month. For those of you who are Facebook fans you can find us at City of Fair Oaks Ranch, TX. Our page is used for sharing information about the city, but it is not a public forum. The page is monitored and objectionable or off topic material will be removed.
- We congratulate Municipal Court Clerk Debbie Landrum on attaining Level III certification in her vocation. In the entire state there are only 100 Court Clerks who have obtained this level of certification.

### **D-Day Observed in Fair Oaks Ranch**

Our June 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting fell on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day Landing. We celebrated with a moving proclamation written by our Assistant City Manager, Carole Vanzant, for this special event. Our City Hall grounds were decorated with American flags, courtesy of the First Lady of Fair Oaks Ranch. Thank you Dedie! The most special part of the observance was having World War II Marine Corps veteran Mac McWilliams lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mac enlisted Mayor Pro-Tem Havard's granddaughter, Maggie Bowles (age 10), to help with doing the pledge. Maggie was attending the council meeting with her mother, Air Force Major Sarah Bowles.

### **Memorial Day Activities**

Dedie and I went with some friends to see the Sentimental Journey Orchestra perform at the Cailloux Theater in Kerrville. The Andrews Sister tribute group, The Memphis Belles, also performed as part of this Big Band observance of Memorial Day. It was a great show.

A very special treat of this performance was that the brass section included the finest trumpet player in Fair Oaks Ranch, Mr. Jim Manzo. I have had the privilege of watching Jim perform many times at police and other patriotic observances. Jim is a great example of the Fair Oaks Ranch folks who share their talents to help others.

### **Independence Day Activity**

It is hard to imagine that we are closing in on Independence Day as I write this. We got so many request for an encore performance at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fireworks celebration that we have scheduled another fireworks event. For those of you who pick up this publication early from our Facebook page, here is the information:

Date: **July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

(Vendor was too swamped with engagements to do the 4<sup>th</sup>)

Location: Fair Oaks Ranch Country Club

Time: Open seating beginning at 7:00 pm

Fireworks Show: 9:15 pm to 9:30 pm (dusk)

Fireworks provided by "Magic in the Sky" who also did the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

I will remind everyone once again that you can get our police department to pay special attention to your home while you are on vacation. All it takes is a quick trip to the police building to fill out a request.

Stay cool and have a great summer.

Garry Manitzas  
Mayor – Fair Oaks Ranch