

Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, January 23, 2016
at the Conference Center –
8:30 am – 12:30 p.m.

“The City of Leon Valley’s elected and appointed officials, and most of all its citizens, are to be commended for their Town Hall tradition. This 6th Annual meeting was notable for the high level of public attendance and engagement, lack of rancor, and the generation of feasible and innovative ideas. This City occupies an enviable position as a model of genuine civic engagement, in which citizens are treated as partners whose opinions are solicited, valued, and heeded. The thoughtful feedback provided at this meeting forms a solid foundation for policy development through 2016 and beyond.” **Dr. Francine Romero, moderator from UTSA**

Many thanks to the 90 citizens who participated in the annual Town Hall Meeting! Summary and recommendations for each topic presented are as follows:

1. Asst. Fire Chief Billy Lawson talked on “Preparing for Emergencies in Our Community”, including information on CPR, smoke detectors, public shelters and “FERP”. Did you know that the fire department will install your homes’ smoke detectors? Call for an appointment!

FERP stands for Flood Emergency Response Plan. Our city’s FERP deals primarily with flooding along Huebner Creek (citizens can get text message alerts). We have local agreements with John Marshall High School and Church of Latter Day Saints to provide public shelters.

The Fire Department is continuing its education and outreach by holding monthly meetings at the Fire Department, 6:00 p.m. every 2nd Monday of the month. Also, check out the High Water Mark pole in Rimkus Park, provided by FEMA for public awareness of flood danger. Our fire department, with the support of city staff, continually focuses on how to keep us safe and be proactive. Check out what’s going on at the Fire Department’s Facebook page.

2. Partnership/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the non-profit Leon Valley Historical Society (LVHS). The idea is to facilitate restoration of the Huebner-Onion Homestead and Stagecoach Stop and the eventual opening of a Heritage Center at the site. The MOU outlines the responsibilities of both parties. For the LVHS, these include: identify significant sources of funding and grants by 12/31/16; provide easy public access to their Master Plan online; and advertise and conduct regular open meetings for public input on the future of the project. The Master Plan includes a pavilion, permeable parking area and restrooms on the Bandera Road frontage.

The City’s intent in the MOU is to maintain the grounds and facility of the 36 acre natural area and Huebner-Onion Homestead; provide a designated parking area for museum goers; and present a budget request to the City Council for consideration of matching funds, if necessary, for the project on future grant applications. The



council has requested quarterly updates to keep apprised of the progress going forward.

3. Police Enforcement and Presence, led by Chief Randall Wallace, focused on the top three concerns which emerged from the discussion: traffic hotspots and perceived lack of enforcement of violations, public relations, and the challenges of hiring and retaining qualified officers. One of the strong recommendations was to establish a Citizens Police Advisory Commission. Volunteer citizens would apply and be appointed by Council for 2 year terms to begin an open dialogue with the police department. The Commission would report to City Council on a regular basis. Another recommendation was to initiate a Citizens Police Academy to allow citizens the opportunity to see enforcement challenges first hand from the Department’s perspective.
4. Forest Oaks Pool dilemma was presented by Larry Proffitt. The pool, located in the Forest Oaks subdivision, cannot assess fees (no HOA) and instead charges for membership to use its pool. Since the city-owned pool on Poss Road eliminated its fees in 2014, Forest Oaks pool membership has dropped by 16%. Added to this is the lack of volunteers needed

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Mayor's Message

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to run and maintain the pool, which has been run by unpaid volunteers since 1972. Without city participation, the pool may be forced to close, which would become an eyesore and adversely affect property values. It was recommended that a Citizen Task Force be appointed by city council, which was done at the February 2, 2016 council meeting. The Task Force will come back with recommendations on how to get maximum benefit from both the Forest Oaks and Leon Valley Pools as important community assets. Special thanks to Tom and Lori Kelley who have agreed to manage the Forest Oaks pool for the upcoming summer season, so that this Task Force's recommendations can be acted upon for the fiscal year 2017.

5. Hike and Bike Trail – Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director, informed the participants about

the trail, funded by a grant, which will connect Crystal Hills park to Leon Valley's park system on Huebner Creek. Trail construction should begin sometime in 2017. Citizens discussed what types of recreational amenities they would like included along this trail. Recommendations included holding one or more educational tours to show options available; recruiting volunteers to serve on an advisory panel to provide input on future decisions; and possible formation of a non-profit "Friends of the Trail" organization that could be an "advocate for responsible stewardship" in the future.

COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Saturday, April 23rd, 9– 11 am at the Conference Center. Besides hearing your concerns, a presentation will be given on drainage studies affecting Forest Oaks, Seneca West, The Leon Valley Ridge, Grass Valley and Monte

Robles. Hope to see you there!

EVERS ROAD BRIDGE HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

The City's application to the Metropolitan Planning Organization to fund construction costs of a bridge and drainage improvements at Huebner Creek has been recommended for approval! More details will be forthcoming.

WELCOME BACK KRISTIE FLORES!

Kristie, former Community Development Director, will return on April 4th as Communications Director and in charge of the annual 4th of July Festival.

Please contact me if you would like to serve on any of the committees recommended at the Town Hall Meeting. Enjoy the spring weather and Happy Fiesta!

**Sincerely, Chris
Cell: (618-2092)**

Anniversary of Memorial Day Flooding

By Luis Valdez, Fire Chief

As we all know, heavy rainfall swept across Texas last May, leaving destruction and tragedy behind in Wimberley and other areas of Texas. In Leon Valley, there were numerous road closures, evacuations, and water rescues, with record rainfalls in the following months. City Staff began making much needed improvements to benefit our whole community. Below is a recap on what steps have been taken and what is needed moving forward.

As you are probably aware, Huebner Creek, with a watershed of 9.5 square miles, is our greatest flood threat. Without proper management of upstream runoff, this creek has the potential to create a "Wimberley" of our own. This past fall, the City was successful in petitioning a change to the Unified Development Code of the City of San Antonio to designate all areas upstream of Leon Valley and in our watershed as "Mandatory Detention". This work eliminated the option that was available to Developers to allow a fee-in-lieu-of (FILO) providing onsite storm water detention, (to be paid into a regional storm water fund). We also implemented a new Flood Emergency Response Plan (FERP)

that helps our whole team, including citizens, respond more affectively to flooding. The FERP can be found on the city website, http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/government/fire_and_ems/flood_warning.php, Remember to STAY ALERT & read your FERP! We have also been distributing refrigerator magnets that have a quick guide version of the FERP, especially to the homes that live in or near the floodplain/floodway. We have improved our education and community outreach by adding resources; including a floodplain map displayed in our Library, community classes held at the fire station, and the posting of a High Water Mark sign along the walking trail of our park. Our Public Works department has been very busy constructing detention ponds and improving our storm water infrastructure. Examples include the area behind the "Silo" property, and another behind the San Antonio Aquarium. The fire department has secured additional swift water rescue equipment and training through a grant, and improved the city's emergency shelter locations, which now include John Marshal High School and Pat Neff Middle School.

Moving forward, we are working to lower flood insurance premiums by earning a special rating from FEMA and the Insurance Services Office (ISO). Please keep in mind that it is the responsibility of each resident to be insured and, regardless of whether you live in or out of the floodplain, it is always recommended to be prepared and have insurance. Our work to improve our management of the floodplain will be graded by FEMA, and that translates to a rating that may work to lower flood insurance premiums.

Additional mitigation projects include the LC-17 project South of Bandera road. This project will widen Huebner Creek significantly and is projected to take all properties on El Verde Rd. and in the Shadow Mist subdivision out of the floodplain. This project is expected to take up to 18 months to complete.

As always we encourage everyone to learn more about how they can keep safe from the threat of flooding by visiting the city website, following us on Facebook, NextDoor.com, or by visiting <https://www.ready.gov/floods>.

City of Leon Valley Public Notice

On March 01, 2016, the City Council of the City of Leon Valley, Texas adopted Ordinance No. 16-010 declaring candidates in the May 07, 2016 General City Election, elected to office; canceling the election; and providing an effective date.

The General City Election was called for May 07, 2016, for the purpose of electing members to the City Council; and the city secretary has certified in writing that no person has made a declaration of write-in candidacy, and that each candidate on the ballot is unopposed for election to office; and under these circumstances, Subchapter C, Chapter 2, Election Code, authorizes the City Council to declare the candidates elected to office and cancel the election.

The deadline to file for a place on the ballot was 5:00 p.m. on February 19, 2016. The last day a write-in may declare candidacy is tomorrow, February 23, 2016. The candidates are unopposed and there were no write-ins. Therefore, on May 17, 2016 the candidates will be sworn in and received

their Statement of Elected Official and take their Oath of Office.

The following candidates, who are unopposed in the May 07, 2016 General City Election, are declared elected to office, and shall be issued certificates of election following the time the election would have been canvassed.

Chris Riley	-	Mayor
Belinda G. Ealy	-	Place 2
Benny Martinez	-	Place 4

The May 07, 2016 General City Election is canceled, and the city secretary is directed to cause a copy of this ordinance to be posted on election day at each polling place used or that would have been used in the election.

To view this ordinance in its entirety, please contact the City Secretary or visit our website at www.leonvalleytexas.gov

Sandra Passailaigue, TRMC
City Secretary, City of Leon Valley, Texas

Leon Valley Annual Pet Parade



Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Leon Valley Conference Center — 6421 Evers Road

We invite you to participate in this fun event which includes the Pet Parade, Low Cost Vaccinations, Leon Valley Pet Registration, and booths with Pet-Related Information and Products from Petco, Pet Barn and Hills Science Diet.

TIME: Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the parade begins at 10:00 a.m. You must be registered for the parade to enter the contest.

Four categories for the Costume Contest will be:
Most Creative, Most Patriotic, Best Fiesta Flair, and Best Matched Human and Dog.

To pre-register: Contact Animal Control at 210-684-1391 ext. 230. No registration fee required.

Also Available:

Low Cost Vaccinations and Micro-chipping provided by Vanguard Veterinary Associates.



Can Your Address Be Found In An Emergency?

Every second counts when you are waiting for a fire truck, ambulance or the police. Please help police and firefighters find your home or business quickly: make sure your address numbers are easy to read at night.

To test how readable your address numbers are, try reading them from your car at night. If you have to squint to see them: replace them with larger numbers that contrast sharply with your home's siding. Emergency vehicles will be able to find your home much quicker if they do not have to slow down and shine a spotlight to read small address numbers.

The City of Leon Valley's Code of Ordinances Chapter 3, Sec. 3.04.015 Address numbers required - For the purposes of this article, address numbers attached to the front plane of a building face and visible from the adjacent public right-of-way or private ingress/egress for the purpose of identifying the street address of the structure shall be considered a required sign. Such numbers shall be a minimum of four inches (4") in height, shall be of a color in distinct contrast to the color of the background, and shall be plainly visible from the adjacent public right-of-way or private ingress/egress.

SUMMER READING IS ON ITS WAY!

SUMMER READING is around the corner! Seems hard to believe, doesn't it? We are looking forward to a very active summer as our theme is all about fitness and wellness, **"On Your Mark, Get Set, READ!"**. Keep your eyes open for Summer Reading Registration Forms, available at your library in May 2016.

Mark your calendars NOW for Saturday, June 11th at 10:30 am. **JOE MCDERMOTT**, children's recording artist, will be our Summer Reading Kick Off Concert, on the green outside the library! Joe will have everyone moving and laughing and participating, this is a **DO NOT MISS!!**

To stay up-to-date on library happenings, pick up a calendar at the library or search for us on Facebook. We offer programs for children, teens and adults every month!

If you haven't been into the library lately, come over and **CHECK US OUT!**



Good Bye!

A successful team is a group of many hands but of one mind. This community was privileged to work with Code Compliance/Animal Control Officer Jerry Perales and he wished a happy retirement!



"Some people just know how to bring out the best in others and Jerry did this. He made our work environment much easier and more pleasant.

He made a difference in Leon Valley", said City Secretary Sandra Passailaigue.

"Officer Perales took the time to work with citizens of Leon Valley on interpreting city codes and he worked with citizens on many compliance issues. We are grateful for his efforts. Good bye and best of luck!", said City Manager Kelly Kuenstler.

Farewell Officer Perales. Wishing you nothing but the best!

Officer Perales' has submitted his resignation due to retirement. His last day with the City of Leon Valley is April 29th. Please stop by to wish him well.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



HOMESTEAD FIESTA UNDER THE STARS

Benefit for the Huebner-Onion Homestead & Stage Coach Stop Restoration & the Leon Valley Historical Society

Saturday • April 16, 2016 • 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

\$35/person (Non-refundable)
\$300/table of 8 (Non-refundable)

Huebner-Onion Homestead

6613 Bandera Rd., Leon Valley, TX 78238

Parking available at City Hall and Seneca Plaza, but please let's be good neighbors and not park in front of open business

Food • Beer • Wine • Live Music

Rain Date – April 23, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Help Us Restore the Homestead!

Tickets Available Online at www.LVHistoricalSociety.org

Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors



P.O. Box 380644, Leon Valley, Texas 78268-7644
www.lvhistoricalsociety.org • 210-595-8099 for more information

You're invited to join the Forest Oaks Pool

at 6620 Forest Grove St.

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, May 21st
from 1-6pm

FREE SWIM
Sunday, May 22nd
from 1-6pm

Discounted membership rates Available until 6pm, May 22nd

For more information about swim lessons, swim team, water aerobics and more go to www.forestoakspool.org

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

The Leon Valley Fire Department, Bexar County office of Emergency Management and Castle Hills Fire Department are partnering to conduct a CERT training class and we are searching for eager volunteers! CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team.

Using training learned in the classroom and during hands on exercises, CERT volunteers can assist others in their community following a disaster when professional

responders are not immediately available to help. CERT volunteers are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking an active role in emergency preparedness projects. Detailed information can be found on the web at: <http://www.fema.gov/community-emergency-response-teams>.

Class Dates: 5 consecutive Wednesday Evenings Beginning Apr 13 and concluding May 11th. Classes will alternate between

Castle Hills City Hall (209 Lemonwood) and the Leon Valley Fire Department (6300 El Verde).

Wed. 4/13/16 — At Castle Hills

Wed. 4/20/16 — At Leon Valley

Wed. 4/27/16 — At Castle Hills

Wed. 5/04/16 — At Leon Valley

Wed. 5/11/16 — At Castle Hills

Class times on Wednesdays are 6 -10 pm.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Assistant Chief Billy Lawson at:

E-mail: b.lawson@leonvalleytexas.gov • Station: (210) 684-3219 X-282

Provide your name, phone number & email address. Hope to see you there!

Leon Valley Public Works Department

Huebner Road Mill & Overlay Project

The City will be performing an Asphalt Mill and Overlay Project on Huebner Road, from Evers Road to the eastern city limits. This work is expected to start after the school year ends to avoid large traffic problems on that section of roadway. Along with the Overlay, we will be installing some traffic islands at the entrance to the Pavona Place subdivision. The work, expected to take about a month, is being performed to save the street, as this section started to fail during last year's intense rains.

Residential Winter Sewer Averaging Now Completed

Sewer charges for residential customers are based on the winter sewer average. The average water consumption used during the winter months of November 15th - February 15th each year determines each customer's monthly sewer charge for the next twelve months. The new winter average is applied to sewer bills with the March billing each year. If you had a water leak during this period, you may request a Sewer Adjustment Form from the Utility Billing Office by calling 210-684-1391 ext. 224 or by email at y.acuna@leonvalleytexas.gov. Sewer Adjustment application forms must be received no later than May 1st for consideration.

Leon Valley Water System Improvements

After a careful examination of the City's two Edwards Aquifer water wells, it was determined that the wells have reached their life expectancy and will have to be plugged. Two new wells are to be constructed at each of our water plant sites. Along with the

new wells, new electrical connections, and a new San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Interconnection will be installed, to assure an adequate supply of water is always available to our connected residents and businesses, should either of the two new wells experience an outage in the future.

The contractor will start at the Grass Hill well site with the SAWS Interconnection first, then the new well. The new well will have to be allowed to run for a period of 36 hours so plans are being made to discharge this water into the newly constructed detention pond, located behind the San Antonio Aquarium at 6320 Bandera Road.

After the water well is drilled, flushed, tested, and deemed acceptable to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the contractor will move on to the Huebner Road well site. The new Huebner well will also have to be flushed for 36 hours so plans are being made to use the detention pond that was constructed at that site last year. We hope to have the entire project completed by August of this year.

As a part of this project, water rates will be increasing, starting in October of 2016. The additional funds collected from this increase will go towards payments on the loan used to complete the project. Sewer rates have also been increased but these additional funds go to pay SAWS, due to their recent rate increase.

The new wells should last the City for approximately 50 years, which carries us well into the future, assuring we continue to have a superior water system.

City Hall Grand Opening

At last we are at the end of the 2012 Municipal Bond Program! The new Fire

Station was completed in February of 2015, at which time, the contractors started on the Police Station. That portion of the municipal Building was completed in June of 2015 and the Administrative portion was substantially completed the first week of March. A Grand Opening was held on April 2, with many local and state officials in attendance. If you haven't had a chance to tour the new facilities, please feel free to come by and check it out. Many thanks to our citizens who supported these efforts through their vote. The new buildings have been designed to last and to be easily updated as the years go by.

City-Wide Drainage Master Plan to be Developed!

At numerous Zoning Commission Master Plan meetings over the years, citizens have expressed their concerns regarding needed drainage improvements in various areas of the City. In response to these concerns, the City Council authorized drainage studies to be performed over the past six months. These studies have been completed and now a public meeting is to be held to discuss these studies and prioritize areas and plans for potential remediation. The public meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at the Leon Valley Conference Center, 6421 Evers Road, from 9 am to 11 am. We are hoping that resident with drainage concerns from each of the neighborhood areas will attend this meeting, to not only view the studies, exhibits, and potential plans, but to also voice any additional flooding concerns of which we may not be aware.



Leon Valley City Hall
6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, TX 78238

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CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor** Chris Riley
- Place 1** David Edwards
- Place 2** Carmen Sanchez
- Place 3** Monica Alcocer
- Place 4** Benny Martinez
- Place 5** David Jordan

LION'S ROAR

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The Lion's Roar

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CITY STAFF

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684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**
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684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**
Vickie Wallace, Director
684-1391 x 223
- Community Development**
Elizabeth Carol, Director
684-1391 x 227
- City Attorney**
Roxann Pais Cotroneo
684-1391 x 217
- LV Public Library**
Sandy Underwood, Director
684-0720
- Fire Department**
Luis Valdez, Fire Chief
684-3219
- Police Department**
Randall Wallace, Police Chief
684-3215
- Public Works**
Melinda Moritz, Director
681-1232

Communications Department

Kristie Flores, Director
684-1391 x 253

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise specified.

City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Board Of Adjustment

Meets as required

Coffee with the Mayor

Quarterly, 4th Saturday - 9-11 a.m.

Community Events Committee

3rd Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Earthwise Living Committee

2nd Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Public Works

Library Board

2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library

Park Commission

2nd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Stormwater Committee

Quarterly, 1st Monday - 7:00 p.m.

Tree Advisory Board

1st Monday - 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Commission

4th Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Community Advisory Group

Meets as required

Beautification Committee

3rd Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

CITY NUMBERS

Keep these numbers handy

Emergency Number for POLICE, FIRE and EMS 911

City Web Site Address

..... www.leonvalleytexas.gov

City Hall 684-1391

Animal Control & Code Compliance 251-1797
..... 204-9979

Fire 684-3219

Police 684-3215

CAT 684-ONIT (6648)

Human Resources 684-1391

Dead Animal Pickup 1- 800-800-5804

Public Works 681-1232

Library 684-0720

Waste Management 1- 800-800-5804

Community Center Rental 684-1391 ext. 225

Senior Citizen's Club 522-9966

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

