

LETTER TO LEON VALLEY CITIZENS
From Mayor Chris Riley
March 8, 2024

CITY COUNCIL MEETING –March 5, 2024

The following are highlights of council actions from the March 5th council meeting which began at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for FY 2023 -- was presented by Debbie Fraser, CPA with Armstrong, Vaughn & Associates, P.C. Overall, the city was in good financial condition as of September 30, 2023. A few highlights are the overall reserve fund increased \$2.9 million more than budgeted to \$5.9 million, primarily from grants and American Rescue funds. This increase grew the savings for monthly expenditures from 3.3 months to 5.7 months in our reserve fund. Best practices recommend an average of 6 months monthly expenditures in reserve. Sales tax revenue came in less than budgeted primarily due to the legislature removing personal items such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, baby formula, etc. from being taxed. To view the ACFR report, please go to the city's website under the Finance page, Truth and Taxation. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Goering, finance director (210) 684-1391.

REGULAR AGENDA

Discussion on Swimming pool fees to increase Non-Leon Valley resident pool membership fees only – Council considered increasing non-resident adult season pass from \$60 to \$100 and non-resident child season pass from \$40 to \$60. Council discussed removing the affordability rate for non-residents and increase the non-residential amount per family rate to \$400. Council will ratify this fee schedule at the March 19th council meeting. It was stated that 63% of the people who used the pool last summer were non-residents. **Please note: Council has voted to close the Community pool on Strawflower for the upcoming summer season and only keep the Forest Oaks pool open.**

Council Approved a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to provide a grant to Haven for Hope in the Amount not to Exceed \$40,000 for Street Outreach Personnel. The grant is for support of a street outreach person who will identify the homeless and their needs and resources available. The County will provide an additional \$140,000 for the service. The pilot program is for one year with quarterly reporting to Council. There is an exit clause of 30 days notice with or without cause. The Council voted unanimously to approve this resolution with one change. The Council authorized a budget adjustment to fund this agreement, which will be finalized at the March 19, 2024 council meeting.

Council Approved a Resolution Adopting a Revised Mission and Vision Statement for the City of Leon Valley – At a special council meeting on February 24th, the Council agreed to revise the mission and vision statement.

Original Mission Statement: The City of Leon Valley will provide our community with a superior quality of life balancing social equity, environmental stewardship and economic development.

Revised Mission Statement: The City of Leon Valley is committed to protecting the quality of life, safety, and liberty (of its citizens) while prioritizing fiscal responsibility, resiliency, sustainability and economic development.

Original Vision Statement: The City of Leon Valley will be a sustainable community by balancing Social Equity, Economic Development and Environmental Stewardship (S.E.E.)

Social Equity – The City will promote a superior quality of life by responding to its citizens in a fair and prompt manner, by providing outstanding public safety services, high quality educational, recreational, historical and cultural amenities and superb infrastructure. The City will encourage collaborative participation by its residents, businesses and stakeholders.

Economic Development – The City will provide a diverse and versatile business environment that supports a healthy economy. The City will exhibit a distinctive and welcoming identity at its boundaries and throughout the community. The City will attract, expand and retain viable businesses

to promote development and redevelopment, including a town-centered design, pedestrian friendly connections and world class public transit.

Environmental Stewardship – The City will become carbon-neutral by conserving and preserving natural resources and by expanding recycling initiatives and enhancing our environment with earth-friendly practices.

Revised Vision Statement: The City of Leon Valley strives to foster a community that is resilient to challenges, sustainable for future generations, and economically dynamic, ensuring a prosperous and harmonious future for all.

Our next city council meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 19th at 5:30 p.m.** at city hall. Council voted to continue working on updating the city's strategic plan, in particular adding core values and establishing goals and objectives.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Saturday, March 9th from 9 am to 2 pm – Northwest Seniors Trash and Treasure at the Community Center. Come browse and see what treasure you'd like to purchase from the many vendors present. There is also a bake sale.

Saturday, March 16th from 10 am to 1 pm – Harriet Onion's Birthday Party at the Huebner-Onion Homestead. Free Cake and Paletta while they last. Leon Valley Library will sponsor children's activities. Please park at city hall offices on El Verde.

REMEMBER: Sunday, March 10th to turn your clocks **forward** as Daylight Savings time begins. This means we all lose an hour of sleep!

Wishing everyone a safe and fun Spring Break next week!

If we can assist you with any issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or any councilmember.

Sincerely, Chris
(210) 618-2092