



Welcome to the first issue of the Bay Informer. There have been so many requests for a newsletter with information concerning Pelican Bay; I hope everyone will find the newsletter informative. (The Bay Informer is no way associated with the Pelican Brief. Comments are strictly those of the editor.)

EASTER hunt canceled

The volunteer firefighter had planned an Easter egg hunt, but was canceled at the last minute. I spoke with Firefighter Wayne Fox as to why it was canceled, he replied, “The firefighters, including the juniors decided to cancel and do not plan on doing anything for the city.”

So, I will apologize to the children of the Bay. This action was out of line when so many had looked forward to this event. If proper notice had been given, I’m Sure other volunteers would have stepped in to hold this event

Rumors are running that council had something to do with the cancellation of the Easter hunt, which is not true. Council heard of this action the way most citizens did; by the Azle news or word of mouth. Once again, I do apologize to our residents.

But, this is not the first time this department had planned & advertised an event, fundraiser or activity that did not happen.

Do these actions make you wonder if the problem is with poor leadership or poor management? It should.

But council has had nothing to do with any cancellation of an event planned by the PBVFD.

COUNCIL removes Officers From Fire Dept.

City Council removed Mike Mitchell as Fire Chief, Robert Norman as Asst. Chief, Wayne Fox as training instructor and Chris Freed as a firefighter.

Removed officers were placed back to firefighter status on the PBVFD. Capt Troy Diggs will command the department until new officers can be appointed.

Council was in executive session for 4 hours concerning the fire department. It is sad when council must remove officers from a city department, but when the best interest of the city and its citizens are in questions, actions must be taken.

Council members are working very hard to find qualified replacements as officers of the department. It is the full intention of the council to rebuild, restructure and restore the PBVFD back to its glory.

Recommendations for improving volunteer firefighter requirements, standards of operations, & a volunteer response program have been submitted to members of council.

Council asks that its citizens please be patient while they work on improving a city service that YOUR tax money pays for.

Have faith in your council members, they are working to ensure that the citizens of the Bay are protected in the best possible way.

When the previous police officers were terminated, there was a lot of bad talk as to the mistake council had made. The city now has the most professional & best qualified officers to protect our

city.

Decisions are not easy for council to make, and residents may not understand why actions are taken, but they are in the best interest of its citizens.

ELECTIONS will be held May 13, 2006 at City Hall.

It’s that time again, this time residents will vote on seats for Mayor, and Council places # 1 and # 2.

These are presently held by Marlyn Hawkins (Mayor), Regina Reed (seat #1), and Barbara Pruitt (seat #2). Those running for these positions are: Tom Reed (for mayor), Stacy Hubbard (for seat # 1) and Sandy Tolbert (for seat # 2).

You must be a registered voter. Bring your picture ID and voter registration card to be eligible to vote on Election Day.

POLICE ACTIONS

The city’s new police department has been very busy with 5 major drug busts within city limits. Drugs and drug dealers are being removed from our city, one by one.

Chief Frankum and his officers have done a great job in getting control of speeding, drunk drivers, uninsured drivers, and more patrols on the streets. You may have noticed more police cars throughout the city.

Chief Frankum has presented council with a proposal from Blue Mound PD for the city’s dispatch and jail service. Once the proposal passes councils from Blue Mound and Pelican Bay, residents will be notified of a new non-emergency dispatch number.



Last month, the department issued 92 citations.

The new police car has finally arrived. All patrol cars have been stripped with the new city police logo and have a very professional look. FINALLY>

Chief Frankum has submitted a Proposal for a new hiring process, which will ensure that all future officers will be hired by. I do believe the city has the best qualified officers it may have ever had. It may be possible for our city to be safe for our kids and residents once again.

LAGUNA BAY

The housing development coming into the city is still in negotiations with the city attorney and the Mayor. Several meetings have been held concerning zoning & annexation into the city. Laguna Bay will be a gated community, at the end of Power Squadron Rd. Homes are estimated to be around \$300,000 or more.

Developers hope to begin construction by summers end.

WATER WELL INCREASE

The city has received the \$250,000 grant to have two more wells drilled. Problem is, the company that has drilled our other wells is not available and bids have been received from another company. Most recent bid was for \$290,000. This exceeds the amount of the grant. The mayor will seek out other bids for the construction of the wells.

So it seems there may be another summer of water rationing.

Keep these in mind when doing your spring planting?

COUNCIL APPROVES ITEMS and PURCHASES

The fire engine that was leased last year was approved for the purchase of \$1.00. The city has done major repairs on the engine and hopes to put the engine into service.

The City gained a 3,000 gallon water tanker. The tanker will allow extra water for fire protection when on the scene in rural areas.

A new policy was approved for the PBVFD's policy & procedures manual concerning Emergency Radio Standard of Operations. Standard of Operations outlines proper use of radios, who is authorized to carry them, proper language and fines for those who violate these standards.

A policy was approved for the expenditures by the mayor. This action will limit the mayor's spending to items under \$500.00 with a purchase order. Items over the limit must be presented to council for approval prior to being purchased by department heads. The only exception to this policy would be in an emergency circumstance. Council will make budget amendments to account for the emergency expense.

BEACH PARK CLOSIER

The city is closer than ever to starting the Beach Park at Trails End. A committee is needed to help with the planning stages of development. If you would like to be on the committee, please see the city secretary. This is important in finalizing this project.

THANKS to all who donated to the Xmas Basket Program

I know this is late but I want to thank those who donated food, toys, cash, and those who wrapped gifts for the City's Christmas Basket Program. A BIG THANKS goes to the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Azle for stepping in and donating toys. They made a great impact on the gifts the children received. The Community Care Center helped with food basket, which allowed more toys to be purchased. Once again, we helped make 16 family's holiday a little brighter. Thank you, thank you, and thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

City Council meets the second Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm @ City Hall, 1300 Pelican Circle. All Citizens are encouraged to attend.

Comments from Editor;
I hope you have enjoyed this first issue of the BAY INFORMER.

This newsletter is meant to inform the citizens of the Bay with information on city actions, problems, developments & so on.

The BAY INFORMER will be issued every other month. Next issue due out by mid June '06.

If residents would like to have items or comments placed in the Bay Informer, send your request along with your name, address & phone number (so verification can be made) to R. McWhorter/ Bay Informer, PO Box 709, Azle, TX 76098. Items may be edited for language and contents.

Enjoy reading.

R. McWhorter