



Fire Departments United

The Volunteer Firefighters of Pelican Bay, Briar, Reno and LaJunta came together for a controlled burn on Sunday. The piles of brush located next to the boat dock were set ablaze around 8:30 am. Capt Diggs used the city's new water tanker to spray water on the area surrounding the brush before it was ignited.

When the smoke cleared, a lone tree limb was the only thing standing. The limb was in the shape of a cross. Could this be a sign?? This reporter thinks so.

The city and fire department had been working for 2 years to get the brush disposed of. But with burn bans being in effect, or other acts of nature prevented the disposal.

It could have cost the city thousands of dollars to have had the brush hauled away by a contractor.

The owner of the property may now proceed with any plans.

It is illegal to dump within the city and violators caught will be prosecuted

FREE SACK LUNCH

Azle ISD is once again supplying FREE Sack lunches from JUNE 5 - AUG 11, at City Hall from 12:15-12:45, Monday-Friday.

Sack lunch will contain a sandwich, chips, fruit, milk & dessert. Sack lunches are Free for all children under the age of 18.

FOOD PANTRY IS OPEN

Are you hungry? Know someone who is? The Eagle Mountain United Methodist Church is sponsoring a Food Pantry, every Monday, 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Just come to 7955 Reed Road (5 miles north of Azle on FM 730, 1/2 mile east on Reed Rd.)

The Food Pantry is OPEN to all who are in need of assistance.

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

June 13 was the first council meeting with the new mayor and council members.

Council approved the zoning change on the 50.59 tract of property, which will known as Laguna Bay. The zone change was from Agricultural to Single Family Residence.

A contract with H2M Utility Construction, L.L.P., for the TCP water wells, was tabled.

Alderman McWhorter presented a proposal for a 25th anniversary celebration for the city. Sgt O'Donley had discussed this in a staff meeting several weeks ago. McWhorter approached O'Donley to confirm his idea.

The proposal asked for a \$500.00 budget from the city and stated that donations would help promote the event. Alderman Nightingale motioned that this item be tabled until the June 20th budget meeting. He stated that \$500 could help pay for equipment for the fire department.

Phone/fax service has been approved for the fire department. With the new dispatch service, call forms need to be faxed between the agencies. A phone/fax/copier was donated to the department.

Alderman Sparks nominated Alderman Nightingale for another year as Mayor-Pro-tem. Before the vote was taken, the city secretary read from the local government code book concerning the duties of a mayor-pro-tem. Alderman McWhorter then made a statement against the nomination. Quote, "Nightingale has gone out of his way, in my opinion, to directly disrupt the duties of the mayor.." She also stated, " his experience should come to an end." Afterwards there was applause from the citizens. The vote passed, 3/for, 1/against. Sorry :):

POLICE REPORT

For the month of May, 110 Citation violations were issued. Arrests: 8 felonies, 15 misdemeanor; for a total in fines; \$22,824.00.

Two vehicles that were seized in drug bust have been awarded by the Tarrant County DA to the department. Plans are to auction them off and use the proceeds to purchase equipment. With 6 more seized vehicles, the department is awaiting judgments on.

Officer Jason Jarvis has been accepted as a reserve officer. He passed all qualifications for hire and was approved by the oral board. Officer Jarvis has been a reserve officer for the city prior. We welcome him back to the Bay....

FIRE DEPT UPDATES

Capt Diggs is still the officer in charge. Inventory of department equipment, radios, bunker gear, etc, is being conducted. Some items are missing and unaccountable for at this time.

Former Chief Mitchell, who has been placed on indefinite suspension, dropped off bunker gear during a Wednesday night training class. When Council member Hubbard was questioned concerning the gear, she confirmed that Mitchell had brought it in and she believed it had been donated "awhile back, and thinks he had them stored at a friends house." When counted, they gear consisted of 27 bunker coats, 20 bunker pants & 6 pair black boots.

While the department is in such a need for gear, why were these items held back??

There still exist tension between the city and this department. The mayor hopes to have all problems resolved soon.



Four new applications were approved by council for fire fighters. Joe Berry, Joey Taylor, Jason Frizzell, and James Sparks. This new crew will be the first to go through the new process for consideration. They all are on the 9 month probation. All existing fire members are also under this probation period until all new qualifications are met. One application was tabled.

ANIMAL CONTROL CODE ENFORCEMENT

Have you noticed certain properties that have cleaned up? Code Enforcement works when resident realize that the city has laws and ordinances to follow, and they are to protect everyone.

Residents are reminded to mow your lawns, follow the water rationing days with no water on weekends, permits are required for pools, BURN BAN is back in effect in Tarrant County, no outside fires, check before lighting that charcoal grill, new residents need to register your dogs/cats & only 3 per household without a special pet permit, check with city hall before starting a project, (EX; fences installed, sheds, barns, etc), all need permits.

The animal clinic is open on Saturday's from 3-5 PM at city hall. Donations and volunteers are always in need. Help out your animal shelter.

GOVERNMENT WORKSHOP

Alderman McWhorter and City Secretary Nold attended the TML workshop in Austin. Classes were held on Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act, along with guest speakers on other government issues.

Newly elected officers have 90 days after being sworn in, to take a class or watch a video to satisfy the requirements of Government Code, Section 551.005.

Learning the proper procedures will change the way the city conducts all meetings open to the public. Please be patient while the mayor, council & staff adjust to these new procedures.

Citizens who may have complaints or concerns should pick up a form from city hall, include your name, address & contact phone number, a brief statement of your concern and/or complaint, return it to city hall and the form will be turned over to the appropriate department. The city hopes this will help with concerns from the residents and how staff is handling each concern.

A resident asked how to contact your city officials. You can leave a message at city hall requesting a meeting or write a letter, which can be dropped off or mailed to the city's address. Address it to the individual to whom you wish to contact. Your contact may not be able to answer or solve all your concerns but each council member should do as much as allowed to help each citizen.

Council shall work for all its citizens no matter what personality conflicts exist. One wrong decision can affect us all.

CITY BUDGET MEETING

June 20, council will be meeting to review its budget. Amendments will be necessary to offset excusive spending by some departments. With the high cost of fuel as well as other items, council needs to maintain control of the city's fiscal affairs. All citizens are welcome to attend.

25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The details of the proposal submitted by Alderman McWhorter and Sgt. O'Donley are as follows: Tentative date is Oct 22, 2006 (Sat). We will be seeking donations to help fund the event, with the location to be determined at a later date. The plans include music, games, lawnmower races, food, crafts, and much more. The event will need lots of volunteers to assist in planning, organizing, set up & cleaning crews, collecting donations, etc. We hope for this to be a fun filled day for all the citizens of the Bay and all the visitors who may come into our city. If you would like to volunteer, please leave your name, address, phone number & how you can help with the event at city hall. We hope to celebrate even if it's without city funds. Thank you.

COUNCIL meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Seating will be limited, if you plan to attend, come early. There will a sign up sheet for residents to request to be heard during citizen participation. All comments are limited to 2 minutes. Residents may make a statement but questions cannot be answered by council.

It's going to be a hot summer. Be sure to stay inside if you have breathing problems. Keep cool & drink plenty of water.

See you next printing. (:

R. McWhorter