

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul A. Hofmann, City Manager
Date: February 12, 2021
Subject: Weekly Memo, February 8-12, 2021



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Preparations for cold/icy conditions

Based on the latest forecast from the National Weather Service and other sources, we will delay until noon the opening of city offices on Monday February 15. We will reassess whether we will open Monday at all on Monday morning. The forecasts call for extremely low temperatures and precipitation. Temperatures should hover around freezing from now until Sunday night. Sunday night we should expect rain and sleet, followed by snow on top of the ice, which is not ideal. The temperatures for Monday won't exceed the 20's and may dip to single digits on Tuesday. Then, we can expect another cold air blast on Wednesday.

Public Works crews will stay prepared to treat bridges and overpasses, and BP&L has also been preparing for the potential of ice and snow. Arrangements are being made for employees to be on standby and to spend Sunday night at work. Solid waste will not be collected on Monday. We will distribute public messaging beginning today via all our social media and website. We will be regularly updating each day as needed.

We really appreciate the Police, Fire, Public Works employees who will be out in the weather the next few days.

Council Member Ennis honored as Man of the Year.

Council Member Ennis was selected by the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce as Man of the Year. Mr. Ennis learned of this honor during the February 19 meeting of the Main Street Advisory Board. Mr. Ennis is being recognized for his decades of faithful service to the Bastrop community, including his work to promote and protect the city's history and the arts. Thank you Mayor Pro Tem Nelson and Council Member Rogers for ensuring Mr. Ennis' presence for the surprise.

Certified Municipal Official designation

Congratulations to Mayor Schroeder, Mayor Pro Tem Nelson, and Council Member Jackson for earning their Certified Municipal Official designation. These elected officials earned this designation by participating in the Texas Municipal League Institute program. They will be recognized after this year's TML – TAMCC Elected Officials Conference on Thursday, March 18.

Personnel Updates

During the presentation of the quarterly report at the February 9 Council meeting, I made mention of the number of employees hired by the City of Bastrop since the beginning of August. The precise number is 37, which includes 5 temporary and part-time recreation workers we have hired to assist with our recreation programming. The list also includes 6 new full-time firefighter positions, the filling of 4 police officer vacancies, and one city manager.

Rebecca Gleason to serve on County Historical Commission

Rebecca has been asked to represent the City of Bastrop Main Street Program on the Bastrop County Historical Commission. We are honored to have been asked to have Rebecca serve in this role, and she happily accepted.

LCRA Grant Applications

The City of Bastrop has submitted a grant application to the recreation program of LCRA. The project is to construct a covered pavilion with benches at Minerva Delgado Park. We will keep you informed of status.

ACE Lego Club

Carmen Serna from the Library and Rebecca Gleason had the honor of judging BISD's ACE Lego Club pirate ship entries. The entries varied greatly with some students believing that more flags equaled a better equipped pirate ship and others going as far as building out the ship in mid turn while encountering a wave.

Ascension Catholic Church Break In

Parish Business Administrator Deborah Moore sent an email to Chief Steffanic regarding our Officers.

Good morning,

Thank you for taking the time to come by the church yesterday morning. It was a pretty emotional event for us, and the professionalism of Sergeant Hamilton, Officer Barnes, and Detective Glenn is greatly appreciated.

It is good to know that Bastrop is served by such a great group of individuals. We appreciate you.

February 23 Council Meeting

Given the number of items planned for the February 23 Council meeting, the Mayor suggested we start at 5:30 and hold the closed session for the city manager evaluation first.

Future Agenda Items

February 23, 2021

- City Manager Evaluation (meeting to start at 5:30 p.m.)
- Life Saving Award presentation
- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Audit
- Gills Branch update from Halff and Associates
- Presentation of the monthly financial statements for January 2021
- Earthwork contract for the Fisherman's Park Wheeled Skate Park
- Presentation from TxDOT on Highway 71 Construction Project
- Approve authorizing the issuance of Texas General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2021
- Second reading of property swap with Calvary Episcopal

- Contract with Kimley-Horne for grant related engineering services.

March 9, 2021

- Discussion on future direction of Recreation Programming
- Reappointment of Presiding Judge
- Selection of Construction Manager at Risk for Water Plant Project
- Creation of PID for DR Horton Homes development
- Contract for year 3 of the street maintenance project
- Historic Landmark designation of structure known as the Mason Chalmers Fireplace

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- Approval of River Loop project
- Presentation of Compensation Study

Attachments

- TML Legislative Update Number 6
- Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program recertification letter on Ms. Ann Franklin