

City of Hillcrest Village

Mayor's Update

The Mayor's Update is a report to the residents of Hillcrest Village that provides information on City Council meetings and other items that impact the Village. Working with the City Council, these updates will be open and give transparent insights into the Hillcrest Village operations.

Mayor Brad Dawson

Regular session Hillcrest Village Council meeting
February 17, 2025

1. The Operations Report was presented by Caleb Cristofaro from MDS, LLC.
 - a. This report provides information on monthly water distribution and sanitary collection systems. This includes the city water plants and the wastewater plant. A new line item in the reports is the ability to track the water pumped versus the water billed versus the wastewater treated. This information helps the city track our most precious water resource more carefully so we can head off potential problems before they become bigger problems.
 - b. Caleb presented the final contract setting up electronic billing, electronic payments and auto functions for paying your water bill. More on this in the comments under New Business/Discussion.
2. Marshal Shohn Davison presented the January Marshal's Report.
 - a. Monthly cases included calls for service, traffic citations, warnings and vacation watch checks were presented.
 - b. The Marshall reported he interviewed 3 candidates for positions on our police force recently. His goal is to keep a strong presence within Hillcrest Village with more patrol coverage. You may have noticed a greater daytime presence recently as we try to control speeders and stop sign runners particularly on Main St.
3. Travis Hobbs, Emergency Management Coordinator was unable to attend due to a work scheduling conflict however, he informed the

council that Hillcrest Village cleared the final hurdle and was awarded a Federal grant to help fund a replacement generator for water well #3 and all necessary equipment to connect that new generator to the municipal building in the event we need to use the building as an emergency command center during a disaster situation. The kick-off meeting for that grant is on the schedule.

Business

A. FOLLOW-UP BUSINESS

The city has been looking for an additional vehicle to replace the Ford Crown Victoria that was retired a few months ago. The council approved the purchase of a mid-size truck to replace the Crown Victoria. While the existing Ford F-150 is still in service, maintenance items are starting to crop up. A day trip to the repair shop for the Ford F-150 was necessary recently. The new purchase helps ensure we have necessary equipment as the need arises.

B. NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

1. We have been having discussions concerning the city website at www.hillcrestvillagetx.gov and ways to make it easier to navigate and contain more pertinent information. Working with the webmaster at THE20, Amanda, our city secretary, negotiated an upgrade design to achieve our desired goals with no increase in costs to the city. Expect the website to be much improved in the coming months. Way to go Amanda!
2. Discussion and approval of the resolution 2025-05 concerning electronic lockbox payment services for the City of Hillcrest Village resident's water bills. That feature will be implemented soon giving residents more ways to receive and pay their water bills.
3. Discussion and approval of the idea of adding a little development to the city park every year as funds allow. Three trash can receptacles were installed recently. These were purchased with a grant Travis Hobbs procured. Dr. Allbright is looking into a master plan for the park and adding playground equipment in small yearly increments. I am looking forward to seeing then park continue to move forward.
4. Discussion and possible action on ordinance 2025-02 order of cancelling the general election scheduled for May 3, 2025. No one

declared to run against any of the three existing aldermen making for no need to have an election.

5. Discussion and possible action on approval of the 200 W. Timberlane Building interior upgrade drawings for storage and office space. Starting in April, the building adjacent to the city park will become the City Hall of Hillcrest Village. The council approved moving the city office to that location. Interior office space and storage capability construction will begin the first week of March. Starting in April, building permits and other city functions will be handled within Hillcrest Village at the city hall.
On behalf of the City of Hillcrest Village I would like to thank Joel Marin and his staff for nearly 30 years of running our city office from his business location in Alvin. This is an amicable move and we both anticipate a cooperative and smooth transition.
Our City Secretary Amanda Blake has agreed to staff the office and handle the day to day operations of the city.

This Mayor's Update summarizes the most recent meeting of the city council. Council meetings are held every third Monday at the Hillcrest Village City Hall located at 200 W. Timberlane Dr. next to the city park at 6:00 pm. This report does not replace the official City Council meeting minutes which are always reviewed and approved at the next council meeting. Those minutes are archived on the city website as required and readily available.