

AUGUST 2017

Mayor's Minute

Second only to the concern for the welfare of our citizens, City of Hondo officials continually address the citizen concerns of the animals in our community. This is especially important during these dangerously hot summer months.

reducing it to zero one day. To do that we need your help and we need to work together. We need your support in not allowing animals to run free and at large and to remember to keep them housed, fenced, and/or lawfully penned or tied. It's important for you and it's important for them too. The fees for animals who are impounded in Hondo range from \$30, for the first offense in a month, to \$60 for the fourth offense in a month. There are also fees for dogs not spayed

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

~John Quincy Adams

A few months ago, your City Council appointed some of your fellow citizens to the city's first ever Animal Care Services Advisory Board (ACSAB), a dedicated group of men and women who have exhibited a love of animals, who will assist and advise the city in its caring for our animals. This board consists of: Dawn Hoover, Chairperson; local veterinarian David Galewsky, DVM; Florestella Gonzales; JP Judge Clyde "Bubba" Howse; Ida Ortiz; and the city's liaison, Police Chief Brian Valenzuela. This board has met twice and is currently considering several actions to not only provide advice as to the care of our animals but also ways to publicize and promote animal welfare. In Hondo, all animals running at large; including cats if they can be caught; will be impounded by our animal control officers. During the three months of April, May and June, forty-eight dogs were impounded. Of that number, fourteen were adopted, thirteen were claimed by their owners, and unfortunately, another fourteen dogs were left unclaimed and had to be euthanized. The last number is the one we are most concerned with. It is our endeavor to decrease the number of euthanized dogs, with the hope of

or neutered (\$25-\$50). Additionally, we urge you to take advantage of one of the Spay and Neuter events that take place periodically in Hondo and the surrounding area. There is a daily fee for impoundment and there are quarantine fees as needed, based on the situation of the animal. For those of you who would like to adopt a dog, *and this is highly encouraged*, there is a fee of only \$25. The goals of city officials and the ACSAB are to reduce the number of animals impounded, increase the number of adoptions and overall improve the overall care of our "best friends". We urge our citizens to work toward these same goals with us.

The city's library and animal care services personnel are partnering for an event called "Words and Wags-Cold Noses and Warm Hearts" on August 5th at the Hondo Public Library. We invite you to come and join some of our youngsters as they share puppy tales and offer comfort to our shelter dogs. All week long blankets, toys, dog bowls and food will be collected at the library for the dogs who are sheltered and in our care.

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Upcoming Events

City Council Meetings

August 14th at 6:00PM

August 28th at 6:00PM

Boards & Commissions

Airport Advisory Meeting
August 16th at 6:00pm

Library Advisory Board
August 17th at 5:30pm

Planning & Zoning Meeting
August 21st at 4:00pm

Board of Adjustment Meeting
August 22nd at 6:00pm

Parks/Rec Advisory Board
August 23rd at 6:00pm

City Customer Reminders

15th of each month
Bill due (without penalty)

25th of each month
Bill due (with 10% penalty)

26th of each month
Disconnect Day (disconnect fees added)

Only 2 extensions per account allowed
(per calendar year: January – December)
MUST BE done from 16th – 25th



In observation of
Labor Day
Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 4, 2017

On August 5th from 10:30am to 1:45pm programs and activities will be held including a presentation by Veterinarian David Galewsky and a presentation on the benefits of spaying and neutering family pets.

Please come and take advantage of this community event, and don't forget the free adoption day on August 5th.

~Mayor James W. Danner, Sr.



August 10th * 4pm-7pm
Congressman Will Hurd's
DC2DQ Town Hall meeting
will be held at the Hondo
Public Library (2003 Ave K)

This informal town hall meeting are open to the public and designed to offer constituents an authentic opportunity to engage with Congressman Hurd in a way that was never-before seem under previous Representatives.

For more information reach out to the Hondo Public Library staff at 830-426-5333.



Adoption of Building Codes

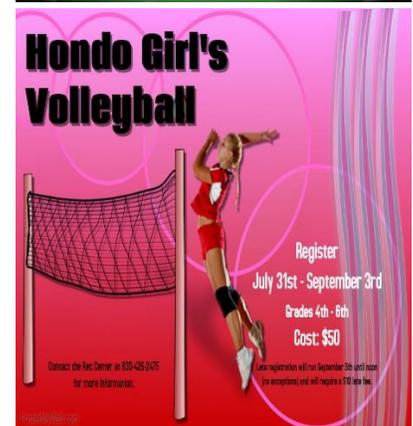
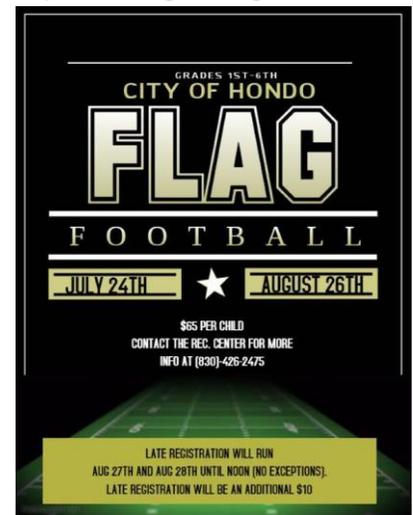
Why are building codes necessary? They serve as a tool to ensure compliance with new and revised changes in construction techniques. They govern the issuance of permits for inspection, completion of construction, and they serve to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare of all citizens.

On July 10, 2017, the City of Hondo adopted ordinance 1131-07-17; the latest edition of nine (9) International Building Codes and three (3) National Fire Protection Association Codes. This action was initiated to ensure compliance is up to date with construction techniques and to be proactive in regards to development as our community continues to grow.

The newly adopted building codes are listed on the City website and available for review at our Code Compliance office located at 802 Ave Y. Help make a difference in the community by achieving compliance through the spirit of cooperation and education.

Code Compliance/Building Inspection Division at 830-426-4737.

Sports League Registration!!



From the Desk of the City Manager

One of the joys of my job is seeing someone I work with reach a life goal. Recently, I had the opportunity to see just that when Brian Valenzuela was selected to fulfill the Chief of Police position. Brian was born and raised in Hondo and has served with Hondo PD for over 16 years and moved through the ranks from a patrol officer to Lieutenant. As well as his duties as an officer, Brian has served as the City's Emergency Management Coordinator. In February, he took over the duties of Interim Chief. Because of the unique role the Chief plays in the community, I felt it was best that he meet the challenge of competing for the job and making sure that he is the best fit for where we see the future of the department going. I had the privilege of selecting a community based advisory group to assist me in writing a candidate profile, ensuring that we clearly identify the key character traits we wanted in our next Chief. We officially opened the position in early June. Not only did we request that the candidates complete an application, we asked them to share with us a written exercise which allowed us to see their vision for the department in the first five years. The community advisory committee and I met to review the applications and writing exercises and selected our finalist group for interviews. While there were a number of highly qualified candidates, Brian's vision and experience led him to be the unanimous clear choice for our City. He has a passion for serving the citizens of Hondo. It is clear when he speaks about his vision of community policing and working with our residents to keep Hondo a safe place to raise our families. I look forward to seeing the vision that he has for the Department come to fruition. Please join me in congratulating Chief Valenzuela on the next step of his journey.

I would be remiss if I didn't also take this opportunity to say thank you to the community based advisory group members. The group members were James Barden, Melodee Gruber, Rose Mary Mares and Michael Sanchez. Your hard work and dedication to our community is greatly appreciated!

~Kim Davis