

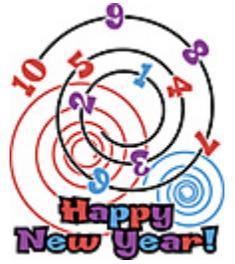


The Stafford Newsletter

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Critical Meetings Scheduled in Early 2011

TOWN MEETING AND JOINT MEETINGS WITH FORT BEND CO. WC&ID NO. 2 AND SMSD SET

As we embark on the New Year, City Council has scheduled a trio of meetings with extraordinary significance.

The Annual Town Meeting, in which City officials lay out Stafford's status, accomplishments, and pursuits and opens with the Mayor's State of the City and Goals for 2011 Message, is scheduled for Wednesday, January 26, at 7 p.m. in the Civic Center.

A week later on Wednesday, February 2, at 7 p.m. in the Civic Center, the City will meet with the Board of Directors of Fort Bend Co. Water Control & Improvement District No. 2 to address critical matters impacting plans of the District affecting the City's water supply, sanitary sewer capacity and related issues, currently, and for the next fifty years.

City Council and the Board of Trustees of the Stafford Municipal School District will convene in a joint

session at 7 p.m. in City Hall on Thursday, February 10, to discuss SMSD's much heralded Vision and Planning proposal focusing on restructuring SMSD's educational direction and configuration of facilities.

These meetings will address vital aspects impacting the future of SMSD, Fort Bend Co. WC&ID No. 2 and the City. In the proposals of the School and Water District is a potential for \$100 million in debt, with related tax impacts, which could be on ballots in bond elections of these two entities this May. A summary of the agendas for these three meetings can be found on page 3 of this *Newsletter*.

The public is encouraged to attend each and all of these special meetings as they may well have profound ramifications upon the future direction of the City, School District and Water District for decades to come.

ECONOMIC GROWTH, COST CUTS TO GET CENTER STAGE

With the economy continuing to flounder, it will be necessary for the City to pursue additional approaches both in growth and belt-tightening to live within its means. At the Town Meeting on January 26, Mayor Leonard Scarcella will give the State of the City and Goals for 2011. The report will focus on instituting measures needed to provide for the City's near- and long-term operations, and progress.

As most are aware other municipalities, specifically the City of Houston, are making severe cost-cutting measures. In contrast, Stafford has positioned itself well to limit additional fiscal restraints - although some

will be necessary - while aggressively pursuing economic growth, especially in the US 90A Corridor.

The Mayor has stressed that paramount in this process of protecting the City's viability is the continuation of no property taxes, the elimination of debt, maintaining quality services and avoiding employee layoffs or furloughs.

In order to get the complete message, you are encouraged to attend, or watch on S-METV. The ramifications from the Mayor's proposal will likely carry significance to our citizens and businesses.

SEDC APPROVES DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT AND BANNER PROJECTS

The Stafford Economic Development Corporation is a vital component in advancing the City. It is funded with a one-half percent sales tax and was the source for the extensive landscaping and monuments on US 90A and US 59. Recently, it has elevated its sights on promoting the economy and visual identification of Stafford. After public hearings in November, the SEDC Board approved and sent to City Council proposals for two projects, which it accepted.

The first is to retain and fund, at an annual cost not to exceed \$182,500, economic experts to solicit new quality businesses, especially retail, and the expansion of existing businesses. In doing so, it is anticipated that this will entice

thousands of consumers to Stafford and significantly strengthen the economy of the City.

The other authorized project is a program of installing informative and “catchy” banners throughout the City, with emphasis on US 90A. These banners will not only enhance the streets but also will promote tourism, entertainment and our economy. The estimated expenditure of the project is \$30,000 annually. The goal is to gain the attention of the hundreds of thousands of people who traverse our City on a daily basis.

Through this pair of projects, the SEDC and City Council will be putting forth an assertive effort to elevate and expand Stafford’s economy, identity and image.

FOUR COUNCIL SEATS TO BE ON MAY BALLOT



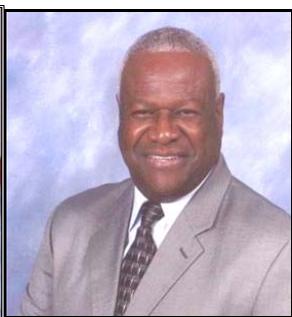
*Mayor
Leonard Scarcella*



*Councilwoman
Felecia Evans-Smith*



*Councilman
Wen Guerra*



*Councilman
Fred Woolridge*

In accordance with the City’s Home Rule Charter, four positions on the Stafford City Council will be on the ballot this May. The seats currently held by Mayor Leonard Scarcella and Councilmembers Wen Guerra, Felecia Evans-Smith and Fred Woolridge will appear on the ballot.

Filing for positions on the ballot may begin on Saturday, February 12.

However, the City Secretary’s office will not be open that day. Therefore, applications can be filed beginning Monday, February 14 through Monday, March 14, at 5 p.m.

Anyone interested in seeking the Mayor or Councilmember two-year positions should contact the election official, City Secretary Bonnie Baiamonte, at City Hall.

Calendar Items & Notes

City Offices will be Closed:

Monday, February 21
President’s Day
Friday, April 22
Good Friday

Tree Limb Pickup:

Monday, February 7
Monday, April 4

Alarm Permit:

2010 Alarm Permits expired December 31. Renew by January 31 for \$15. The fee is \$25 on or after February 1. Alarm Permits are available at the Stafford Police Department. For questions, call 281-261-3955. The Alarm Permit Application can be found at www.cityofstafford.com under the section “Forms, Instructions, Fees” on the front page.

PROPOSED AGENDAS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Annual Town Meeting **Wednesday, January 26, 7 p.m., Civic Center**

1. Call meeting to order and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Presentation of Mayor's Annual State of the City and Goals for 2011 Message.
3. Brief overview, presentation by staff, comments by Mayor, City Councilmembers and discussion on:
 - a) City's economy, zero property tax, sales and other taxes, and fiscal condition;
 - b) Zoning, building standards and regulations and landscaping for US 90A and US 59;
 - c) Police and fire protection, emergency management operations and homeland security;
 - d) Stafford Centre and Stafford Civic Center;
 - e) Stafford Municipal School District, Houston Community College and educational opportunities;
 - f) Major highway improvements, streets, mobility, commuter rail, water supply and sanitary sewer;
 - g) Parks and Swimming Pool;
 - h) Municipal Court;
 - i) Stafford Municipal Educational Television Station; and
 - j) Other matters of interest to the City.
4. Comments and questions from the public and responses by Mayor, City Councilmembers, staff and professional advisors on matters in Item 3.
5. Concluding comments by Mayor and City Councilmembers.
6. Adjournment.

Joint City Council/WC&ID No. 2 Meeting **Wednesday, February 2, 7 p.m., Civic Center**

1. Establish Quorum, Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.
2. Opening remarks by Mayor.
3. Opening remarks by WC&ID No. 2 President.
4. Presentation by WC&ID No. 2, with comments and questions by City Council and staff, including:
 - a) Future water supply:
 - Sources of water supply for WC&ID No. 2
 - Dedicated sources of water supply for Stafford
 - Anticipated water use for Stafford for 10, 20, 50 years
 - WC&ID No. 2's wholesale contract plans for 10, 20, 50 years.
 - b) Future sanitary sewer capacity for Stafford and anticipated sewer needs for 10,20,50 years.
 - c) Current & proposed debt of District:
 - Percentage Stafford and ETJ is of tax base of WC&ID No. 2
 - Percentage Stafford and ETJ is of rate base of WC&ID No. 2
 - Current bond debt
 - Proposed bond debt
 - Anticipated tax base contraction of WC&ID No. 2
 - Anticipated tax base growth of WC&ID No. 2
 - Anticipated tax rates of WC&ID No. 2
 - Future annexations proposed or anticipated by WC&ID No. 2
 - Major projects anticipated by WC&ID No. 2
 - WC&ID No. 2's reimbursements and other incentives to private entities -- current and proposed.
5. Comments from the public on presentation by WC&ID No. 2.
6. Discussion by City Council, WC&ID No. 2 Directors, and staffs on presentation by WC&ID No. 2.
7. Brief closing remarks by WC&ID No. 2 representatives and City representatives.
8. Adjournment.

Joint City Council/SMSD Meeting **Thursday, February 10, 7 p.m., City Hall**

1. Establish Quorum, Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.
2. Comments and discussion from City Council in regard to proposed Vision and Planning facilities and educational structure, bond election, related tax rate and operational costs.
3. Discussion by City Council and Board of Trustees on information presented.
4. Adjournment.



City of Stafford
2610 South Main
Stafford, TX 77477

THREE EMERGENCY GENERATORS INSTALLED



With vital financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and as a result of outstanding support from U.S. Congressman Al Green, the City received funding for three major emergency generators. The cost of these generators is projected to be \$251,312. The FEMA grant will provide \$188,484, while the City will be assuming the responsibility for the remaining \$62,828. The installation of this equipment was recently completed at City Hall, the Police Station and the new SMSD cafeteria.

These generators will provide the necessary power that is crucial for these facilities to operate during major emergencies, such as hurricanes or other disasters. In addition to keeping

these facilities functioning for emergency operations, they will also significantly assist with critical communications with emergency personnel and with the citizenry as a whole.

One only has to reflect back on Hurricane Ike to recognize the extremely beneficial component that this adds to our City to protect the safety and welfare of our citizens. Emergency Management Coordinator Jennifer Taylor and Public Works Director Lawrence Vaccaro deserve high commendations for their efforts and expertise in regard to this project. Ms. Taylor was the point person in obtaining these grants, while Mr. Vaccaro oversaw the important aspects of the installation and functioning of the equipment.