

City of Buda
Retreat Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2009 – 9:00 a.m.

This notice was posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act. The City Council held a retreat beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 10, 2009, at the offices of the Texas Rural Communities, Inc., located at 168 Cimarron Park Loop, in Buda, Texas. No formal action was taken by the Council.

Councilmembers present were: Councilmember Allen, Councilmember Fletcher, Councilmember Dodd, Councilmember Chilcote, Mayor Pro-Tem Crouse, and Mayor Lane.

Mayor Lane called the retreat to order at 9:02 a.m.

Kenneth Williams made opening remarks, advising Council that his goal for the retreat would be to look at resolving issues that have come up.

AGENDA ITEMS

1) Presentation and discussion on the City's Local Government Training.

Charlie Zech, with Denton, Navarro, Bernal and Rocha opened the City's Local Government Training portion of the retreat. Charlie's goal was to provide the Council with a basic Texas Local Government overview. He provided Council with an overall view of Buda's form of Government and its Home Rule provisions. The more important purpose of running for Council is to get involved. Every City's home rule charter is different as the citizens put together the home rule charter, the citizens voted for the charter which governs the City's rules and laws. Charlie discussed the differences between the different General Law types. Under General Law there are 3 types, A, B, and C, which is determined by population. General Law cities are limited to doing what the state authorizes or permit them to do. Cities having more than 5,000 in population, by a majority vote, may become a Home Rule City. A charter establishes the City's governmental structure and provides for the distribution of powers and duties amongst the various branches of government. It is the city's constitution and rather than looking at the state law to determine what you may or may or not do, rather, you look to the charter in order to proceed. Nine percent of Texas Cities as of 2008 is Council/Mayor forms of government. City council is a policy making body. Mayor is responsible for administrative affairs. Council/Mayor form of government is under the control of the Mayor, which runs the administrative side of the staff. Council/manager form of government, 89% of Texas cities, the Manager is responsible for administrative affairs. Manager runs the day to day operations of the city. All powers of the city shall be vested in city council, except as otherwise provided by laws of this charter. Buda is composed of the Mayor and six (6) Council members. They are the city's legislators, policy maker, regulator, and employer. Financier, levying taxes, assess fees and charges, sells bonds, set the budget, they are a buyer. Charlie's discussed prohibitions. Councilmembers may not hold other elected office or city employment, hold compensated city office or employment within one (1) year or after expiration of their term of office. While serving in office, councilmembers cannot be an employee of the city. They shall not control or demand the appointment or removal of administrative officers or employees who are subject to supervision of the city manager. They shall not as a body or individually give orders to any such officers or employees. The employees need to know they have one boss, the city manager, as opposed, to 7 members. Mayor Lane asked for a point of clarification regarding going to staff for general information. That would be between the City Manager and the Council. Council shall not as a body or individually give orders to any such officers or employees. Charlie gave highlights of what the Mayor's responsibilities were and are. For technical compliance, a resolution should be adopted appointing board/commissioners. For future references, "I move that the Mayor appoint....." Or we appoint....." The city manager is the chief administrative and executive officer of the city. He directs/supervisors the administration of all departments, officers and agencies of the cities. Participates in council meetings, but doesn't vote. Under the home rules charter, the council has new authority. Initiatives, referendum and recall, extension and contraction of boundaries, regulation of alcohol sales in residential areas, qualifications of candidates, and city council compensation. Under an initiative, gives the power of qualified voters to propose ordinances to the city council. Referendum, the power of qualified voters to require reconsideration by the city council of any adopted ordinance. Recall, the power of the qualified voters to remove the mayor or city council member. Charlie then discussed the requirements of the initiatives, referendums, and recalls. Each charter is different. Other

provisions include boundaries, elections, financial procedures including but not limited to fiscal year, preparation and submission of budget, council action on budget, debt, and taxing authority. Other provisions include planning and zoning, public utilities and franchises, legal provisions, and transitional provisions. Penalties include city council members forfeiting their office for violating an express prohibition of the charter. Other penalties include City Council and City Manager showing favoritism, discrimination, willful and fraudulent acts regarding personnel rules, providing or receiving value for appointment or promotion, and relation within 2nd degree of affinity and 3rd degree of consanguinity of council member or city manager.

- 2) Presentation and discussion on the Mayor and Councilmembers mission, goals and objectives for 2009.

Mayor Lane asked each Councilmember to go around the table and share what their thoughts and desires are for the City in 2009. Mayor Lane, mentioned going through a turbulent 2008 with personnel issues, losing the City Judge, and the Parks Director etc. Mayor Lane wants to see the structure get back into place. He asks that everyone be accountable for what is being done. As projects are taken on, new ways of doing things, to make sure that once the first step is taken, to make sure that is the direction the City wants to go in. Be more focused on where we're going. When it comes down to taking care of the business for the City then that's what the Council should do. He asked that everyone be committed to what they would like to see done and to provide a good quality of life for the citizens, such as water, wastewater, parks, streets, etc. and to provide a safe pleasant community, including that small town charm yet being cost effective, having a good balance. Council asked that when working on repairing or maintain streets for example, is there something that could be added to the streets that would help to make our town charming. Council would like to see Staff always looking to enhance the City. Councilmember Chilcote stated the comprehensive plan had a vision statement, to give Buda that old country charm ambiance, to encapsulate the true focus of what the citizens wanted. Councilmember Fletcher read the vision statement from the comprehensive plan. City Manager, Kenneth Williams stated that would make a good vision statement. Councilmember Tenorio stated "balance" is the word she keeps thinking of. Staff is very efficient in handling projects in house. What concerned Councilmember Tenorio is that the new subdivisions that are coming in look really nice, fresh, new, and pretty, but there hasn't been as much done to enhance other parts of Buda that have been in existence for quite some time, ie Old Town, Bonita Vista, Sequoyah, etc. Councilmember Tenorio stressed the quality of life in Buda. For instance, when looking at the road repairs on Goforth Road, Councilmember Tenorio asked that extra steps be taken to make the roadway better than before, possibly coming back in with sidewalks, making it better than it was prior to starting the work. Not just repairing but enhancing, adding value to a project as the repairs are done. These are quality of life issues Councilmember Tenorio would like to see addressed. There is no sidewalk at the entrance to the Stagecoach Park and maybe that could be enhanced as well. Councilmember Chilcote would like to see Staff address public safety issues. She would like to see a more formal emergency management plan in place, and to make sure that in our processes that we're ready from the point that if "we hear it, see it, smell it etc." that we could respond to the emergency. Get the services here and to be prepared for anything that might be disastrous in downtown. Police Chief, Bo Kidd mentioned the city has a plan already in place, it's pre-09-11-2001, is outdated, and there's been a lot of programs available to the City we now have access to that we didn't have access to prior to 09-11-2001. There are more resources available to small cities for planning for disasters. Once a firm plan is in place, then information should be disseminated to the public. Council would like to work on possibly having a mock event. Staff will look at working towards having a dry run in an emergency situations, flooding situations, etc and also look into getting an emergency plan in place for Buda. Councilmember Chilcote also doesn't want council to forget the work done during the 2007 Charette, in the downtown area. She like for Staff to revisit the accomplishments, but more importantly, to take another look at what has not been done yet that the City committed to completing. Councilmember Chilcote believes that some ethics training is needed, as there are liability issues, confidentiality issues when discussing personal and private matters. Councilmember Crouse believes the City's IT infrastructure is in need of being reviewed for security, making the information we have as secure as possible. Councilmember Crouse would like to have a security expert come in to assess our IT infrastructure. He would like to work towards possibly hiring a part-time on site person to make sure the access to confidential information is safe, to keep better control of our data, and to have Staff's server in a more secure place. Councilmember Tenorio does not believe there is enough work for a full or part-time on site to employ. City Manager,

Kenneth Williams asked that the IT committee get together to come up with some issues that need to be addressed by Staff. Councilmember Fletcher mentions not being able to put off updating the comprehensive plan. He suggested maybe an off-site workshop, with stockholders from Old Town Buda, to look at the comprehensive plan, maybe stockholders from old town meeting, and then to council for a workshop on updating the Comprehensive Plan. There were some very specific issues during the Charette that were done, i.e. zoning, sign issues, parking issues that are still outstanding. Councilmember Fletcher suggested we need to become less dependent on sales tax, and to not have to raise property taxes, then we look at annexing more property that is valuable or has potential for value even if it costs more up front for the infrastructure. Councilmember Crouse mentions some potential for additional revenue from RV sites. Director of Finance, Sarah Mangham stated that now that we have annexed Crestview RV Park, we will be able to start collecting hotel/motel from Crestview RV Park. Councilmember Tenorio would like to see Staff make another assessment of all of the City's fees, also look at all of our franchise agreements, and to look at other sources for more revenues. City Manager, Kenneth Williams, mentioned looking at all of our franchise agreements to see what more revenue we can gain. Councilmember Dodd mentioned focusing on reconnectedness and neighborhood safety. Councilmember Dodd senses frustration at the delivery of construction projects. Councilmember Dodd would like to see Staff add personnel with staying on track with all of the City's projects. He would like to see a better job of keeping the construction projects on board. Councilmember Dodd would like to see more of a connection between all of the City's parks and to enhance the visibility of where the Parks are located throughout town with signage for the parks. Councilmember Dodd would like to see the Parks commission address the infrastructure issues and not place parks at the back of a subdivision, i.e. Garlic Creek. The general public doesn't know where these parks are located when they are placed at the back of a subdivision. Mayor Lane would like to see more signage in City Park with regards to the hours of operation, and the curfew hours. Councilmember Dodd also mentioned with limited revenue, lower property taxes, it appears that the revenue from property taxes goes mainly towards Parks projects. Councilmember Dodd would like to see more revenues being used towards other projects around the city. Parks funds are set up for "fees in lieu of park land" and goes before Council prior to spending moneys in the Park fund. Councilmember Tenorio would like for Staff to look at the future use land map. She wants to make sure Buda doesn't become divided between the east and west side of the interstate, an exercise that the Council could workshop at a later date. Councilmember Tenorio would like for Staff to look at how the city enhances the developments on the east side of the interstate. Councilmember Allen would like to see more communications between Council, Staff, and the Citizens of Buda. Councilmember Crouse offered a "Town Hall" type gathering on a Saturday to invite the public to City Hall once a month to communicate different projects going on in the City. Other ways of communicating with the public were discussed as well. City Manager, Kenneth Williams offered Staff would look into the use of a public access channel on Time Warner Cable, which is free to the City as a part of their Franchise Agreement. A meeting with Time Warner will be set up.

3) Presentation and discussion on the Director's Project Status Reports.

City Engineer, Stanley Fees began the discussion with addressing Capital Improvement Projects. Elm Grove Wastewater Line: New gravity service to replace existing lift Station, construction is ready to begin pending easement release from Robert Giberson. Overlook Park Lift Station: Alzheimer's Facility scheduled to open in mid-February 2009. Lift Station scheduled to be complete by 1st Week of February. Rebel drive 12" Waterline: Connect Booster Station at Well #3 to 12" waterline at Rebel Drive, Easement acquisition is in process. Bonita Vista Subdivision Roadway Improvements Phase 2: Loma Linda sub grade complete, and the final course of base has been placed. Main Street Extension Project: Road extension project significantly complete, and Punch list items remain. Lifschutz Drainage Improvements Phase 4: Plans are being reviewed by LAN. Estimates being readied for construction by February. Beacon Hill Elevated Storage Tank is complete and in service. Approximately 4,900 L.F. pipe installed. Waterline has been filled, and is awaiting test results to put into service.

Mike Beggs, Interim Public Works Director continued the presentation. Bacteriology reports are in compliance and turned in to T.C.E.Q monthly. Total Gallons water used in 2008: Well #1 - 74,468,400, Well #2 - 67,758,600, Well #3 - 70,561,000, Well #4 - 8,729,300, GBRA - 95,135,100 for a year total of 316,652,400 gallons. Hydrogen peroxide was introduced into the City wastewater distribution system in August 2008. The purpose of introducing peroxide was to lower the Biological Oxygen Demand. B.O.D. is a chemical procedure which determines how fast biological organisms use up oxygen in a body of water.

The introduction of peroxide into our wastewater infrastructure decreases odor and reduces the amount of treatment the wastewater plant has to complete which lowers the operating cost. Previous to the introduction of hydrogen peroxide the B.O.D. count was very sporadic ranging from 2.49 mg/l to 4.97 mg/l. They have gone down to an average of 3.0 mg/l with a noticeable decrease in odor and a cleaner return to the wastewater treatment plant. The Garlic Creek lift station was recently rebuilt with a new control panel rails, wiring floats, and two A.B.S. 100 H.P. pumps. This lift station is working exceptionally well with no problems and the amount of call outs has been greatly reduced. Stonefield lift station will be acquiring a new L-PRO radio to replace the free wave radio that was incompatible with our system. The electrical engineer mistakenly requested the incorrect radio in the plans. The new radio will allow us to monitor the well via S.C.A.D.A. Green Meadows lift station has a problem similar to the one at the Stonefield lift station. The problem is on the receiving side instead of the transmitting side. The issue is with the main terminal at Public Works. We are working with U.S. Control Panels and C.T.W.M. to get this resolved so we can start monitoring that system as well. The Wastewater Department also has a very stringent maintenance program. We jet and clean all sewer mains throughout the city and clean lift stations weekly. Mr. Beggs also reported on the condition of Buda area streets. Mr. Beggs informed Council of the street conditions in Buda. Main Street, Cabela's Drive, and Old San Antonio Road are in excellent condition. Cullen Country, Green Meadows, Creekside Park, and Elm Grove are in good condition. Mr. Beggs reported 20% of the streets are in fair condition. Those streets include Whispering Hollow, Garlic Creek, West Goforth Road, Bradfield sub-division, and Stonefield sub-division. He also reported 35% of the streets are in poor condition. Those streets included are in the Sequoyah sub-division, Old Town East and West, and Meadow Park sub-divisions. Last but not least, 20% of the streets that are in the very poorest of conditions include Ashford Park, Bluff Street, and Oxbow. Many factors are taken into account when analyzing the condition of Buda's streets. They are Pavement patching estimate - The estimate cost amount of patching required Bleeding - When excessive asphalt cement rises to the surface creating a shiny, glasslike, reflecting surface that usually becomes quite sticky Raveling - The wearing away of the pavement surface caused by the loss of asphalt or tar binder and dislodged aggregate particles Polishing - When the surface of the roadway becomes smooth to the touch, creating low skid resistance Scaling - The breakdown of a slab surface to a depth of ¼ to ½ inches Popouts - A small piece of pavement that freeze-thaw action combined with aggregate expansion causes to break loose from the surface (these are much smaller than potholes). Pot holes - Bowl-shaped depressions in the pavement surface Shoving - Permanent, longitudinal displacement of a localized area of the pavement surface. Faulting - A difference in elevation across a joint. Rutting - When there are pronounced impressions in the pavement along the wheel paths. Cracking - Cracking can take on several forms, such as fatigue cracking, longitudinal cracking, block cracking, corner cracking, cracking, and transverse cracking. Overall riding comfort of the street and drainage issues such as ponding. The City of Buda entered into a storm water management program in November 2005. Portions of the City of Buda are within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone and the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone, as mapped by TCEQ. Therefore Staff must meet the requirements of 30 TAC chapter 213 (Edwards Aquifer rule). The overall SWMP has been created to meet the requirements of part 122.34 of title 40 of the code of federal regulations (40 cfr&122.34) The SWMP contains the following six MINIMUM control measures: Public education and outreach on storm water impacts; Public involvement/participation; Illicit discharge detection and elimination; Construction site storm water run-off control; Post construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment; Pollution prevention/good house keeping measures for municipal operations. As part of the BMP (best management practice), Staff would like to implement number 2 by talking to elementary teachers and mentors about the importance of storm water run-off. Encouraging the younger generation involved by organizing groups to help with storm drain marking which would be fun for the kids as well as educational. Staff could also go door to door placing informational door hangers to help educate the public on causes and solutions to storm water pollution.

Marjorie Martinez, Library Director reported 63,769 Visitors to the Library, 22,184 Adult checkouts (includes Adult fiction and non-fiction, large print books, westerns, mysteries, science fiction, etc...), 43,015 Children checkouts (includes young adult, juvenile, and children's fiction and juvenile non-fiction), 15,719 Audiovisual checkouts (includes movies, audio books, and music), 22,940 Computer checkouts (includes computers and headphones) 2,440 Magazine checkouts (many more were read in the library).

4) Presentation and discussion on the City's Downtown Revitalization. City Manager, Kenneth Williams gave an updated presentation regarding Downtown Revitalization. Questions for the Council included: What is your vision for downtown? Is it economically viable; preservatory of "Buda's Historical values; orderly development standards; proper land uses; or does the City keep it as is? Some of the challenges being faced with are receding economy, dilapidated structures, unsightly conditions, uncooperative landlords, limited resources of renters, and limited city resources. The Stakeholders include citizens, city government, property owners, and merchants. Some issues to consider include: public vs. private; citizens and merchants want intervention by the City; City wants more involvement by landlords and merchants; attempts to resolve both sides; City has made investment in beautifying downtown. Some of the reasons given to revitalize include: increased property tax revenue; increased sales tax revenue; buildings more aesthetically pleasing; historical preservation; more pride in the community. Top Ten Downtown Revitalization Mistakes include: 10. Boundaries are Unreasonable 9. Not enough community cooperation 8. No unique economic development tools 7. Applying wrong development codes 6. Lack of a niche 5. Timeline Unrealistic 4. Lack of Govt. Commitment and Resources 3. No Management After Planning 2. Failure to Identify Market 1. Property Owners Not Committed to Effort. Suggestions for Commitment from Citizens, Property Owners, And Merchants: citizens need to support council initiatives and shop in downtown; Landowners need to maintain and invest in their property; merchants need to provide the product and services sought by possible buyers. Suggestions for possible commitments by the City: economic development tools; increased development standards; Main Street Program. Suggestions for use of economic development tools included: TIF— Funds for rehabilitation; TIRZ—Use for Blighted, Underdeveloped/Unsafe-Unsanitary/ vacant comm. buildings/Petition by Property Owners/Election; EDC Assistance—Grants/EDC funds; HOT TAX—Advertising/Tourism; Improving development standards: for hard to gain compliance; adoption of downtown dilapidated building codes/ordinances; adoption of unsafe/unsanitary/nuisance codes; aggressive enforcement of codes in the downtown area/fire marshal/building inspectors/code enforcement officer; fines and penalties/municipal court; city can correct/bill/liens. Mr. Williams then discussed some specifics regarding the Main Street Program. Goals of program—economic development, community heritage, marketing and design assistance. Hiring of a Main Street program manager to provide individual assistance and to manage the plan. Cost of the program is \$60K. Mr. Williams offered the following recommendations: comprehensive strategy; identify economic development strategy; good guy bad guy approach; adopt and enforce ordinances; discuss implementation of Main Street Program; need consensus from council. Other action items for Council to consider include: consensus from council/downtown program; implement development ordinances—fire, building, codes, zoning, etc.; address land use issues; identify and implement appropriate economic development tools; council consider approval, funding and implementation of a Main Street Program.

5) Presentation and discussion on the City's annexation plans for 2009. Ed Theriot, City Planner, spoke regarding annexations, and to work toward an annexation plan for 2009. A unilateral annexation gives Council the authority to annex within the confines of the law under the home rule annexation. You have to provide soft services such as police, fire, animal control, parks and public works. Hard services include water/wastewater and street construction within 2 years. The level of these services must be at the same level at which is provided to the rest of the city. Limitations on how much land you can annex, up to 10% of the area of the city as of January 1, are all that can be annexed in one year. Statute allows you to transfer what you don't annex to the next year not to exceed 30% in any one given year. As of 01-01-09 is about 3600 acres that we can legally go out and pursue. Working with LAN on the city limits, Ed showed a map identifying parcels that Staff is working with the engineers and LAN that have been identified as being liable for annexation. Plenty of viable areas to have a proactive approach to annex properties. Park 35 South has substantial utility improvements that would have to be made on this annexation. Thomas Rhodes to put together a package of information which will show the amount of properties and the taxable value of the properties.

6) Presentation and discussion on the City's Parks projects for 2009. Jake Eason, Interim Parks & Recreation Director, gave a brief presentation on the progress of some of the City's parks projects. Stagecoach Park – Phase II has several steps needed towards completion. Those are resolving the restroom issue, entering into an interlocal agreement with Hays County, completing the fence, acquiring permissions to go out for bids on the remaining items, and then award bids and finish parking lots, windmill and cistern,

and an additional restroom. The Stagecoach House still looks to have mortar testing on the building for bidding documents, an interlocal agreement, identifying the use of the building, completing the bidding documents, acquiring permission to go out for bids on the remaining items, and then finally awarding the bid and finishing the home restoration. The Buda Sportsplex is substantially complete. Funding for lights is being requested from Hays County. This will allow for programming in the winter time. Youth and adult sports will begin in the Spring and Summer 2009. The Buda Sportsplex is also looking into hosting the nations select baseball tournaments. The 2009 Eggstravaganza will also be hosted at the Sportsplex. Another project on the Parks Department schedule is to build a parks and recreation maintenance facility, which will include office space, storage, maintenance, and identity. The facility needs include a place to keep and maintain the parks equipment; storage for parks maintenance and operating supplies; office space to hold and conduct safety meetings, Staff training, maintenance logs, coaches meetings, parent orientation, league and team registrations. Internet and computer access to process park rental fees, individual and team registrations, maintenance logs and pesticide applications, running tournament brackets effectively, and preparing league schedules.

7) Presentation and discussion on the City's Emergency Management Plans for 2009.

Jeff Turner, Hays County Emergency Management gave a presentation to the Mayor and Council. Emergency Management 101: reasons why the City needs an emergency management manager. The coordination and integration of all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to prepare for protect against, respond to, recover from, or mitigate against threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters. To be successful, everyone has to know what their roles and responsibilities are, the response personnel, but also the policy, coordination, and support roles. Emergency management director for Buda is the Mayor, and currently it's Jeff Turner, but there is a need to name someone locally. Local appointment serves as a City's liaison on all emergency preparedness, response, and resource issues. Coordinate and allocate activities and training, and also to advise departments on emergency planning. The local person would/should know who does what. As a local management, you own the assets, know what you've said. The local person would establish baseline of assets, what do we have. They can establish standard operating guidelines, or standard operating procedures, how will we use what we have? Establish response priorities, what to do first, establish memorandum of understandings, and to know who we call for help? Identifying and knowing your specifics. An Agreement with CAPCOG for emergency response, to handle emergencies. Additional response: use what you have, activate mutual aid agreements, utilize local volunteers, businesses, request county assistance, regional assistance (MOU'S), then look at state assistance, then federal assistance (FEMA). Not just police and fire, but also your health departments. Investment strategies for FY09, homeland security grant funding: regional response and disaster planning, capital area P25 interoperability build out, sustaining and enhancing CBRNE (haz-mat team) prevention and response capabilities, and lastly improving local response, on-site management and information in a catastrophic event (includes EMS – reverse 911 and WEBEOC). Increasing local capabilities and collaborative response with training and exercises. Enhance citizen preparedness and awareness, metropolitan medical response system, citizen corps, - cert, fire corps, etc. Chief of Police, Bo Kidd mentioned that Buda has some things in place already. Councilmember Crouse asked if the funds trickle down to the City. As a jurisdiction, Buda can apply for these homeland security funds. Councilmember Tenorio would like for City Staff to look at the notification system, the reverse 911, or "Code Red" technology.

8) Presentation and discussion on the City's Safety programs.

Chief of Police, Bo Kidd presented the possibility of Buda's Red light enforcement. The goal is to increase public safety by providing with technology and self-funding. Public safety issue, program is violated funded, and violations are a civil offense versus criminal offense. The Program is outsourced, leaving the City responsible for only reviewing violations and adjudicating. The systems are completely outsourced, vendor installs, and maintains, vendor sends violations to vehicle owners, violator payments are sent to secure lockbox, then into a City account once per week. Excess revenue is split with the State after expenses. Vendor charges a flat rate per month per camera system (no liability to city), no out-of-pocket costs for the city; city maintains full decision authority over which offenses deserve violations. The system has the capability to capture several vehicles. Has video clips, live viewing, and also offers a historical recording, which could help with accidents. Fully web-based application, remote self-service, has end-to-end comprehensive reporting and is available 365 days a week, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Payments can be accepted on line.

- 9) Presentation and discussion on all Boards and Commissions to include, terms vacancies, and procedures for filling vacancies.

Toni Milam, City Secretary gave a presentation to the Mayor and Councilmembers regarding the active Boards/Commissions. Those Commissions include the Library, Planning and Zoning, the Historic Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Starting with the Library Commissions Ms. Milam reported the Library Commission has 7 members (two year terms); Maximum of two (2) consecutive terms; Majority shall be residents of City; and the by-laws were recently redone and approved by City Council; Currently there are two vacancies which were not due to expire until 2009; Staff has advertised for members but has not received any applications. Moving on to the Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 members serve on the Commission; 5 members shall be residents within city; 1 member shall be resident of ETJ; 1 member shall be business owner in city; 7 members appointed to two year terms; Currently there are 4 vacancies; 2 members have reached the max # of terms they can serve; 2 members terms expired in August, 2008 and have submitted applications to be reappointed; Staff has advertised several times for the expired term positions; City has received one application (business owner in City); Options – Review and possibly reappoint two new members and appoint business owner; Solicit for vacant position. The Parks and Recreation Commission has the following status: 7 members; All members shall be residents of City with one member in the ETJ; All members serving two year terms; Currently there are no vacancies as Council recently appointed Citizens to serve on the Commission; 4 members terms due to expire in June, 2009. Ms. Milam reported the Historic Commission consists of 7 members; 5 members shall be City residents; 2 members shall be ETJ residents; Currently all Commission members are serving two year terms; 2 vacancies have existed since January 2008 and have not been filled; 2 members terms expires 01-2009 (both in the ETJ); 3 members terms expire in May, 2009; Total of 4 vacancies as of January, 2009; City has received 2 applications from residents inside City limits; City has received 1 application from resident in the ETJ; City has received 1 application from resident outside the ETJ; Staff has advertised several times for the expired termed positions; Appointment of 4 members is needed to fill the vacancies that we currently have. The newest Commission created is the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Currently, there are 5 members with two alternates with 3 members and one alternate serving a two-year terms, due to expire in July 2010; and 2 members and one alternate serving one-year terms, due to expire in July 2009; Staff advertised several times before reaching the required number of members. Some of the action items Staff recommends are: Continue to recruit applicants through the newspaper; Review residency requirements in the by-laws; Review term limitations; Submit applications as soon as they are received so Council appointments can be made; Changing Commission appointments to once/twice a year; Continue to advertise in local paper; advertising using the utility billing; Contact applicants not previously selected to see if they would consider serving on Board/Commission.

- 10) Discussions regarding the upcoming 2009 Legislative Agenda.
Councilmember Fletcher gave an update/report regarding the 2009 Regular Legislative Session. He asked Council to support any bills containing the following TML priorities:

- Permit a local-option municipal court fee on convictions in municipal court to be used to offset fuel costs.
- Amend the Utilities Code to allow annual inflation adjustments to electric franchise fees.
- Allow a city to enforce its codes and ordinances in its ETJ.
- Make beneficial changes to Chapter 245 of the LGC (relating to permit vesting) bringing back “exceptions” eliminated over the years
- Exempt from the 2% cap any local sales tax devoted to transportation projects.
- Apply hotel occupancy tax to RV park stays of less than 30 days.
- Discontinue the diversion of transportation revenues to non-transportation purposes [Such as HJR 13, SB 216, SJR 9].
- Increase the public accountability of water supply corporations.
- Require the TCEQ to consider minimum standards for fire protection for new or amended CCN applications.
- Allow cities to charge motor fuels taxes for transportation projects.
- Allow cities to share in motor vehicle sales taxes.

Councilmember Fletcher asks Council to oppose any bills containing the following TML priorities:

- Mandate a reduction in the current 10% cap on annual appraisal growth [Such as HB 17, HB 46, HB 127, HJR 12, HJR 15, HJR 21, HJR 22, HJR 27, SB 218, SJR 10].
- Impose a revenue cap of any type.
- Further erode a city's ability to condemn property for a public purpose [Such as HB 37, HJR 14, SB 219].
- Erode municipal annexation authority [Such as HB 98].
- Erode municipal authority in the ETJ.
- Be detrimental to municipal zoning authority.
- Reduce municipal authority to require extractions required by and related to new development.
- Exempt any entity from paying municipal impact fees.
- Impose new property tax exemptions that substantially erode the tax base [Such as HB 132].
- Impose a property tax freeze that can be implemented by any mechanism other than council action.
- Enact any sales tax exemption that would substantially erode the tax base [Such as HB 20, HB 57, HB 150, SB 130, SB 133, SB 134, and SB 144].
- Impose any additional state fees or costs on municipal court convictions or require municipal courts to collect fine revenue for the state.
- Require municipal courts to share municipal fine revenue with the state.
- Erode city sovereign immunity.
- Erode municipal authority in any way, impose an unfunded mandate, or otherwise be detrimental to cities.

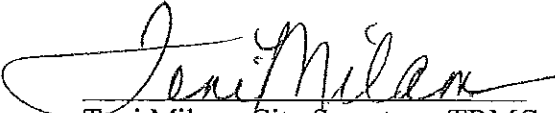
Councilmember Fletcher asked Council to support bills containing the following City of Buda priority:

- Eliminate the provision allowing water supply corporations to designate as "flushing valves" those fire hydrants which are inadequate for fire fighting. In addition, require that they provide adequate fire fighting flow in developed areas or those scheduled for development. If they cannot support this critical safety need, require them to release their CCN to an entity that is willing and able to provide fire fighting flow.

Councilmember Tenorio stated she wasn't comfortable with a blanket support or non support of all of the legislative items listed in the handout. After a final review, it was suggested that by a resolution, with the handout attached, the request for support of specific bills be sent to Jeff Wentworth, and Patrick Rose, and Speaker Elect Joe Strause.

ADJOURN 4:30 p.m.


 Bobby D. Lane, Mayor


 Toni Milam, City Secretary, TRMC