**HASLET HAPPENINGS**

City of Haslet Monthly Newsletter

**January 2021**

**Volume 7 Issue 6**

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# MAYOR’S UPDATE—Tis the Season to be Thankful

(Dec. 16, 2020) Our most critical folks, our front-line medical personnel, started receiving their COVID-19 vaccinations this week. By the end of this week, 8 area hospitals in Tarrant County will have received their first shipment of vaccine and started to administer the first doses. I was on a call today with Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and Health Director Vinny Taneja. In that call Vinny covered the latest statistics for Tarrant County (in Haslet — 104 positive cases, 75 recovered, and 0 deaths) and then he presented some information about this new technology vaccine. The two most common “anti” theories seem to be (1) that you are getting a live virus injected into your body and (2) that your DNA makeup could be altered by this vaccine. First, this technology has been ongoing for a decade and these COVID-19 vaccines have been developed more quickly than we are used to because they are incorporating entirely new technology. They are utilizing mRNA (messenger RNA) to communicate with your body – like telling your skin to develop a new layer when you get a burn or blister, in this case telling your body to develop antibodies to combat the virus. I took a picture of one of Vinny’s slides today and my summary of these two issues follows: (1) mRNA vaccines do not contain a live virus and do not carry a risk of causing disease in the vaccinated person and (2) mRNA from the vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell and does not affect or interact with a person’s DNA.

As most of you know, I am a retired pilot, not a medical authority so do not take my word on this. Contact your family doctor or do some research on your own but please don’t get caught up in the misinformation on social media. When my age bracket/medical condition status allows me access to this vaccine, I will get it as will my wife of 53 years (today is our anniversary). As we enter the Christmas and New Year’s weekends, please try to follow the 3 W’s – wear a mask, watch distancing, and wash your hands. Enjoy your time with your families but be vigilant and stay safe. I want all of us to there when this pandemic allows us to safely gather again.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

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**APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR HASLET FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS THRU JANUARY 15TH. TEST DATE IS JANUARY 16TH. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 817-439-1048.**

**BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT WILL CLOSE KELLER-HASLET ROAD BEGINNING JAN. 5TH**

Keller-Haslet Road will be closed beginning January 5th for the replacement of the Keller-Haslet Road crossing of Henrietta Creek. Due to limited right-of-way, the working area cannot be constructed one lane at a time and the road requires full closure. TxDOT will close the road January 5th and the closure is expected to last through June 2021.

Please plan alternative routes accordingly.
January 2021

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DATES TO NOTE THIS MONTH:

- Jan. 1st: New Year’s Day Holiday
- Jan. 4th: City Council
- Jan. 10th: Municipal Court
- Jan. 13th: First Day to File for May 1st Ballot
- Jan. 13th: Parks and Rec Board
- Jan. 18th: MLK Jr. Day
- Jan. 18th: City Council
- Jan. 25th: Planning & Zoning Commission
- Jan. 27th: HEDC Type A
- Jan. 27th: HCEDC Type B

ALL COUNCIL & BOARD MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL MEETINGS

FILING FOR PLACE ON MAY 1, 2021 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

The first day to file as a candidate on the May 1, 2021 General Election Ballot is January 13th. The last day to file is February 12th. The Office of Mayor (incumbent Bob Golden), Council Member Place 2 (incumbent Harold Williams) and Council Member Place 4 (incumbent Patricia Hilborn) will be on the ballot. More information is available on the city’s website at www.Haslet.org or by contacting City Secretary Dianna Buchanan at 817-439-5931 ext. 102.

YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES FOR AGENDAS TO COME STRAIGHT TO YOUR EMAIL INBOX

Be the first in Haslet to review what elected and appointed officials are considering by subscribing to meetings through E-Updates. Access the E-Update sign up on Haslet’s Civic Web portal online at https://haslet.civicweb.net/portal/. Scroll down and select the icon for E-Updates (as pictured). To subscribe to a meeting type, simply check the box next to the meeting name (or names), that you would like to subscribe to, enter your email address, and complete the verification code. The next time an update is made for the meeting type(s), such an agenda posted, a meeting canceled, etc., you will receive a notification directly to your email’s inbox! The notice will provide a link to the updated information. Haslet’s Civic Web Portal has other information available of interest including, council bios, attendance and voting history, and a search feature. Want to research a specific topic such as a details of a road project? You can complete a quick search by simply typing a key word into the key word search box. Your results will display at the bottom of the page. Any matching search results will include a short description and link for the document that contains your search results. Need help signing up for E-Updates or tips to use Search? Call staff at 817-439-5931 ext. 102.

INSTALLATION OF NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT UNDERWAY AT GAMMILL PARK

As recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board, Council approved the replacement of the playground equipment in Gammill Park. The contract was awarded to We Build Fun of Allen, Texas for a bid price of $185,000. The new all-inclusive playground equipment is nature-themed, meets all current safety standards and is ADA compliant. Much needed shade structures are also included. Completion is estimated at the end of January. The playground opening date will be announced at a later date in compliance with CDC recommendations for Covid-19 prevention.