



City Of Granite Shoals
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MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF GRANITE SHOALS, TX
REGULAR CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016
6:00 PM

The numbering below tracks that of the agenda, whereas the actual order of consideration may have varied.

1. Mayor Brugger called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Granite Shoals to order at 6:02 pm, Granite Shoals City Hall, Council Chamber, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road, Granite Shoals, Texas.

Present:

Carl Brugger, Mayor
Anita Hisey, Council Member, Plc. 1
Eric Tanner, Council Member, Plc. 3
Tom Dillard, Council Member, Plc. 4
Todd Holland, Council Member, Plc. 5
Mark Morren, Council Member, Plc. 6 arrival 6:32 PM.

Absent:

Shirley King, Mayor Pro Tem

City Staff Present:

Ken Nickel, City Manager
Peggy Smith, Assistant City Manager
Brad Young, City Attorney
Elaine Simpson, City Secretary
JP Wilson, Police Chief

2. Mike Mitchell of Granite Fellowship Church and the Granite Shoals Faith Alliance gave the invocation.

3. Pledge to the US and the Texas State flags.

4. Public comment and announcements and items of interest

At this time, any person with business before the council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. No

discussion or deliberation can occur. Comments regarding specific agenda items should occur when the item is called. Anyone wishing to speak under this agenda item must complete a comment card and submit to the city secretary prior to addressing the council.

- Larry Berkman, 103 Gateway Parkway, Marble Falls, TX: Introduced himself and asked for support for his campaign for Burnet County JP District 4.
- Dennis McCoy, 315 E. Sweetbriar Dr., Granite Shoals, TX: Discussed his dissatisfaction related to the manner in which an email exchange with the City Manager was handled.
- Roger Scarborough, Granite Shoals, TX: Expressed concerns with the city website, specifically significant amount of time required to download a City Council agenda onto his computer.

Pastor Mike Mitchell was recognized for his volunteerism at the City and presented with an appreciation pin by Assistant City Manager Peggy Smith.

5. Presentations, Recognitions and Reports

Police Department: Annual Racial Profiling Prevention report – *Police Chief JP Wilson*

Chief Wilson read the ‘Tier 1- Partial Exemption Racial Profiling Report’ as filed electronically with the state January 2016. Wilson read the entire report into record, and explained that the City is in compliance.

6. Management Reports

a.) City Manager

- Park Grants Update. Last sub-contractor to be paid is expecting payment at the end of February for Quarry Park. ISD representatives in discussion related to city/ISD partnership opportunities for Granite Shoals parks.
- Updated contract for Municipal Court Associate Judge Nelson, next meeting: Judge Nelson’s last written contract expired Jan of 2014. Under State Law, since Council did not replace her, she began an automatic two-year extension of this contract which ends this month. She has agreed to attend the 2/23/2016 council meeting, when city staff will bring an updated contract to City Council to consider.
- 50th Anniversary Committee – update. Committee has adopted a logo and issued application forms for those wishing to have a vendor booth at the event. (First version of the vendor application has been updated with **new application date of February 29, 2016.**)

b.) Assistant City Manager

- LCRA Community Development Partnership Program application submitted January 31, 2016, for water conservation for Quarry Park and City Hall Complex. Total project costs \$35,696, grant amount requested \$23,062.70. This is a rainwater collection grant application, the City wishes to reduce amount of potable water used at the Interpretive Center, wildflower garden and Monarch Butterfly Waystation. The City appreciates very much assistance we received on this grant application from grant writing specialists at Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC). The city hopes for a 55% match if we are awarded this grant. The city plans to provide the match in cash, in 'in kind' labor and in supplies/parts. This grant is expected to be awarded next month.

- Beautification Advisory Group (BAG) draft report *Christmas By The Highway 2015*. BAG Chair Maier has submitted the annual report regarding the event that they conducted in 2015. It will be reviewed by the BAG members at their meeting 2/8/2016. This report can be viewed at this link: <http://www.graniteshoals.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/02082016-449> Donna Maier, Chair of BAG was recognized for the report, the action plan and associated reports that she has composed. It was noted that more than 500 volunteer hours were worked to get the Christmas By The Highway Project done in 2015.

c.) City Secretary

- Elections Update:
 - 1.) No applications received so far for Place on the Ballot. The dead line for filing for a place on the ballot is Friday 2/19/16.
 - 2.) The Drawing for Order of Names on the ballot is tentatively scheduled for 2/23/2016 afternoon, before the City Council meeting.
 - 3.) Election related consent agenda items on tonight's agenda for Council approval and signature. Order(s) of Election in English and Spanish for posting and publication purposes.
 - 4.) Texas Ethics Commission Training 1-29-2016 – update. New requirements for some contracts.

- Human Resources Update: 2 job vacancies open at the City. Water Tech – Utilities and Light Equipment Operator - Streets. One of our Water Techs is resigning.

7. Consent Agenda Items

The items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the City Council and will be approved by one motion, There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to a motion and vote. The item will be considered in its normal sequence of the regular agenda.

- a. Approval of City Council Regular Meeting minutes for January 26, 2016.

- b. Approval of Ord. #683 to amend Ord. 667, to allow certain members of the '50 Anniversary Event Planning Committee' to serve as non-voting 'advisory members'.

According to the city's charter, Board and Committee members must be property owners or residents within the city limits. When Ord. 667 was adopted in August 2015, to establish the ad hoc committee to advise the Council related to the 50th Anniversary Event, this requirement was included in the Ordinance. Tonight's proposed Ord. #683, allows the Council to determine that some members of the committee, who do not reside or own property in the city limits, but are none the less members of the Granite Shoals community, will be eligible to remain on the committee as 'advisory (non-voting) members'. Ord. #683 is also drafted to allow the advisory committee members to serve as Chair of the committee, as the committee members desire.

City Secretary Simpson disseminated copies of the entire proposed Ordinance #683, because the second page of the proposed Ordinance was inadvertently left out of the agenda packet.

- c. Approval of formal 'Order of Election' Notices, in English and Spanish, related to the May 7, 2016 Special and General Elections, respectively.

On January 26, 2016, Council adopted Ordinances 679 and 681, calling the city's General and Special Elections, respectively, for May 7, 2016. These Orders of Election have the information needed for posting purposes, as well as Spanish Translations of the information that will be needed by the voters. If approved under this consent item, the original forms will be signed by Council members.

Council Member Tanner made a motion, and Council Member Dillard seconded, to approve items a.) and c.) on the Consent Agenda, as presented, and item b.) with the correct pages (3 pages) as provided tonight. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Council will individually consider and may take action on any or all of the following items:

8. Special Agenda Item

Hear presentation from Mr. Greg Haley, of KC Engineering, Inc., discuss, consider and possibly take action related to options for public road infrastructure improvements, including design and cost options for arterials, as discussed at previous City Council meetings December 15, 2015, January 12, 2016 and January 26, 2016. *(City Manager Ken Nickel)*

Mr. Haley discussed his preliminary review of Prairie Creek road, specifically focusing on two options that the City Council has for design: curb and gutter style (a popular style for urban settings), or drainage ditch style. He discussed pros and cons of each design as well as pricing estimates. It was noted that the urban curb and gutter style usually was more expensive to build, however, the drainage ditch style had added costs due to the needed right-of-way that must be purchased. It was noted that Prairie Creek differs significantly

from Phillips Ranch Road regarding right-of-way issues, drainage, and large number (50) of private driveways that attach to Prairie Creek.

There was an extended discussion of drainage issues/drainage patterns, and a discussion of Mr. Haley's cost estimates being based upon calculations of Prairie Creek to Forest Hills Drive, not the entire length of Prairie Creek.

Mayor Brugger disseminated a page of his notes, noting that if the estimate of charges to do Phillips Ranch Road (from FM 1431 to Live Oak) remains \$1,790,400, and the Prairie Creek option chosen is curb and gutter with storm sewer from Prairie Creek to Forest Hills Drive the cost is \$2,038,000, then the city could apply for USDA Rural Dev grant for \$3,828,400, being grant funds in the amount of \$2,105,620 and city bond funds in the amount of \$1,722,780.

There was a discussion of investigating possible grant opportunities for water and possibly future wastewater lines from the USDA Rural Development.

Dennis McCoy, 315 E. Sweetbriar Dr., Granite Shoals: expressed concerns about the existing problems with drainage right at Prairie Creek and Forest Hill Drive. There is often standing water in this intersection.

Donna Maier: inquired about wisdom of pursuing research for cost/designs for continuing to rebuild Prairie Creek all the way to the South end.

Since no formal deadline looms regarding the USDA Rural Dev. Grant, the consensus of Council was to continue researching the costs for rebuilding Prairie Creek Dr. to the end, as well as researching conditions/locations of current water lines and to research/estimate long-term options for water/wastewater lines to be included in this project.

There was no formal action. Mr. Haley will return at a future meeting to discuss his findings.

9. SPECIAL WORKSHOP

Workshop to discuss the Granite Shoals, Texas airstrip, located in the Mystic Castle Section of the Sherwood Shores Subdivision. Property owners near airport have been invited to this workshop discussion.

- Background: History and legal status of the airstrip, title search / deed information, zoning, comprehensive plan, FAA classification
- Current Situation: airstrip physical dimensions and conditions, airstrip amenities, number of hangers / aircraft 'based' at airport, activity (landing/take-offs) logs, Costs for maintenance/insurance/utilities, revenue issues, status of Airport Advisory Committee.
- Looking Ahead: planning for best use for property in the future

Mayor Brugger disseminated a page of his notes, and requested that the discussion during the workshop be limited to six items:

1. The Airport History.
2. The Airport's legal status, including title and deed information, zoning, comprehensive plan and FAA classification.
3. The Airport's current situation – take-off and landing activity, physical dimensions and runway conditions, number of private hangers adjacent to the airport.
4. The Airport's operating costs.
5. Requirements and costs to upgrade the airport.
6. Alternate uses of the property.

Mayor Brugger led the discussion of these items. There were numerous members of the public who submitted comment cards and/or spoke, most of them were property owners in the area, or pilots, or both:

1. Ashton Brunner, Sunrise Beach Air Field, Sunrise Beach, TX (also: *Fly Texas*)
2. Bonnie Kalodimos, 1404 Mystic, Granite Shoals, TX
3. Doug Scarbrough, 308 Belaire Circle / Scarborough Ranch, Granite Shoals, TX
4. Terry Scott, 809 N. Shorewood, Granite Shoals, TX
5. Roger Scarborough, Granite Shoals, TX
6. James Tenny, 100 Burnett Ranch Rd., Wimberley, TX 78676 (also: *Fly Texas*)
7. Gerald and Joyce Atchley, 1104 North Mystic Drive, Granite Shoals, TX
8. Jimmy Fermin, 1409 Green Forest, Granite Shoals, TX 78654
9. Nancy Sylvester, Granite Shoals, TX
10. Gene Lyng (in person) and son Stephen Lyng (submitted written remarks for the record)
11. Anita and Bill Harris, Mystic Drive, Granite Shoals, TX
12. Sandra Buschorn, 219 Mallard Point, Granite Shoals, TX
13. David Dittmar, Granite Shoals, TX
14. Mike Gardner, 902 Mystic Drive, Granite Shoals, TX 78654

As part of the effort to conduct the city's business with utmost transparency, a Notice was sent to all the property owners listed at the Burnet Central Appraisal District living adjacent to the airstrip, inviting them to come and participate in tonight's workshop discussion of the city airstrip.

Mayor Brugger read some history of the airstrip from a recent article about the 'History of Granite Shoals' which was recently printed in the Highland Lakes Weekly, authored by John Hallowell. The airstrip was probably built in the very early sixties, as the builders of Sherwood Shores subdivision expanded eastward after the purchase of the Ebeling Ranch. The City incorporated in 1966. The City took ownership of the airstrip in 1973.

Mayor Brugger recognized City Attorney Brad Young to discuss items #1 and #2. City Attorney Young had submitted his findings related to the history of the airstrip and the current legal status of the airstrip and this information was included in the agenda packets for tonight's meeting and was posted on the city's website.

At the council's request, staff obtained a title search for the airstrip property and reviewed the documents that the title company obtained from the real property records.

The airstrip was a part of the original Sherwood Shores subdivision. When the City obtained the airstrip in 1973 as part of the Sherwood Shores settlement, it obtained the property free of any relevant restrictions or encumbrances.

When the City accepted the conveyance of the airstrip in 1973 as part of Resolution No. 78 (along with the rest of the Sherwood Shores property), it dedicated the airstrip "for use as a part of the park system." This means that the city can continue use of airstrip as airstrip, or for Park system purposes, but could not use for any other city use (e.g., build a new water plant or Fire Hall). The property also cannot be sold unless the voters approve the sale of the airstrip at a Special Election.

The last update of the 'Airport Ordinance' is dated 2010.

The comprehensive plan for the City of Granite Shoals (circa 2010) recommends that there be an Airport Advisory Committee established to research best options to expand and make optimal use of the airport; and to apply for grants to fund such projects. This Airport Committee was established and the late Robert Sylvester served for many years as the Chair, and often acted as an airstrip manager. Mr. Sylvester donated many hours of time mowing and performing other volunteer service to maintain the airstrip. In the last years, the city has 'taken back' the responsibilities that Mr. Sylvester once held. Also, in the last year, the city has re-located the airstrip lights electric box to a city-owned site and so the Sylvester family is relieved of the bother of hosting this equipment on their property.

According to Mr. Roger Scarborough, a member of the Airport Advisory Committee during the years 2009-2011, the Airport Advisory Committee attempted to make recommendations for the expansion of the airport, but these recommendations did not make it into the final version of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

Assistant City Manager Peggy Smith was recognized to discuss FAA classification as well as 3.) Airport current situation.

Currently the FAA classifies the airstrip as a turf/dirt airstrip, publicly owned but 'restricted', meaning it is not open for use by the general public. It is classified as 'private/restricted'. It is 2,000 feet long and 300 feet wide. It is 'land locked' by private property owners on both ends. The FAA lists City Manager Ken Nickel as the contact/airport manager to be contacted by those desiring to use the airstrip. Due to the small size, the airstrip is not eligible for any federal grants for expansion or improvement. The airstrip has no fuel available, and from time-to-time deer are found on the airstrip. The airstrip is zoned ARPT – Airport. There are obstacles (trees) at the approach which are on privately owned land. Due to the small size the airstrip is almost solely used by pilots with 'ultra-light' planes. Although there are some runway lights, most activity at airstrip is conducted in daylight, for safety. The runway lights are available for dawn or twilight landings.

The Granite Shoals airstrip is named 32TE. Mr. James Tinney submitted a page of statistics regarding the airstrip. (see Exhibit A to these meeting minutes). It is generally agreed that the airstrip had approximately 71 days of use in 2015. Of the four hangers at the airstrip, two are involved with 'Fly Texas' business. The Fly Texas hanger(s) house the 'log book'. It is possible

that more flights landed or took off, when the Fly Texas hanger(s) were not open to provide access to the book. There is no airport operator on site or any representatives of the city.

Mr. Ashton Brunner and Mr. James Tenny spoke related to the current situation of the airport. At this time, their business, Fly Texas, works out of two of the hangers at the airstrip. Their flight school is based in Smithville and Luling.

The city doesn't own the lots adjacent to the airstrip, so the city makes no money from hanger leases, landing fees, or anything else. The estimated cost to operate the airstrip is approximately \$10,000 per year. Almost \$1,000 of this is for 'Aviation Liability' insurance that the city maintains through Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool. City Manager Nickel explained that there was a 'one-time' cost of \$3,000 to move the electric box in 2015, for a total of \$13,000 for last year. The city pays costs of maintaining (mowing) the airstrip, as well as costs of replacing the windsock, as needed, and providing police patrol of the area. The airstrip has been a favorite target of vandals riding 'four-wheelers' and doing 'donuts' on the airstrip. When vandalism of this type happens, the city repairs the airstrip. It was noted that the airport has not 'developed' as have other, airstrips with larger area which are capable of growing. It was also noted that the costs listed tonight are actual expenditures/costs. The figures do not incorporate the 'opportunity costs' being lost by not re-purposing this property to another/higher use.

Peggy Smith provided a poster board visual aid depicting a diagram/map of the airstrip area with a list of the property owners.

Item #5, expansion of the airport options and costs was not discussed in depth, as it is not known what kind of improvements could be made without grant assistance. This is also not a budgeted item for 2015-2016.

Last, the discussion turned to item #6, options for alternate use of the airport. Mayor Brugger explained that during a Special City Council meeting last summer to discuss a possible park grant opportunity, the City Council was informed that the youth of the community desire playing fields for soccer, baseball, softball and other organized play. The discussion of the need for soccer fields is what prompted the idea of possibly re-purposing the airstrip for use as soccer fields.

The decision as to what to do with the airstrip is not made at this time, it is not going to be made this budget year, as the airstrip is not a budget priority. The Council's top priorities include safety, water system and the improvements of the public road infrastructure.

There was an extended discussion of the pros and cons of possibly changing the use of the airstrip from being an airstrip to being soccer fields.

Some 'pros':

1.) In 2009, the City Annexed the Kingswood area on the East side. This section of the city is underserved regarding off-water parks. This airstrip area would be accessible for those new

residents. There is no park on the East side which could be easily 'leveled' enough to build a soccer field on.

2.) The city has 19 public parks, and although there are many amenities for boat ramps, picnicking, Hike and Bike trail, etc., there are no playing fields for basketball, baseball, softball or soccer. A 'practice' goal has been set up on the Quarry Park (City Hall campus) for some who wish to practice soccer, but it is an informal, small practice field.

3.) The airstrip has not developed. It is too small to attract interest, it is landlocked by private property and there is no business being generated from the airstrip, no revenue from hanger space or hanger leases.

4.) There has not been an Airport Advisory Committee active in the last four years. There is an active Parks Committee which invests volunteer time on the city's parks.

5.) The airstrip is used by only a small group of hobbyists, mostly flying ultra-light planes, so it is very specialized and would be difficult to 'market' due to lack of amenities such as fuel.

6.) The airstrip is not being 'managed' as the rest of the city facilities are managed, records are kept in a haphazard way, and the City Manager is not consulted by those who wish to use the airstrip.

7.) At least half of the students in soccer leagues in Marble Falls actually live in Granite Shoals.

8.) Having an interior park, not located off the busy highway or up at City Hall, provides more of an opportunity for the youth of the city to be able to ride their bicycles to the site.

9.) Other city parks which have restroom facilities (such as Veterans Park) do not have the space to have a soccer field big enough to use for games, other than young youth leagues, or practice fields.

10.) The airstrip is classified as park property.

'Cons' would include:

1.) Giving up the airport would mean giving up a unique asset. Granite Shoals has an airstrip and Marble Falls does not. Once converted to park with soccer fields, it could never be changed back to an airstrip.

2.) The ultra-light planes and glider type planes, which are popular at the airstrip, are becoming more and more popular in general.

- 3.) There are opportunities to involve the youth of the city in the airstrip, and provide them with activities such as kite flying, drone flying, etc. This would use the property as both airstrip and youth recreation facility.
- 4.) The property owners adjacent to the airstrip often purchased their property specifically in order to build a hanger and live near airstrip.
- 5.) The city converting the airstrip to soccer fields would increase traffic, litter and noise in this area, if the fields had lights; there would be glare.
- 6.) There are differences of opinion regarding the size of planes which can safely use the airstrip, although ultra-light planes are the majority, planes as large as a *Cessna 175 Skylark* can and has used the airstrip.
- 7.) The city has not made the best use of the airstrip as an airstrip. The city could advertise this amenity. The city could put up some 'tie-downs', especially 'tie-downs' with simple shade covers at the airport and increase interest/use. Some of the neighboring property owners could be tapped to do some volunteer mowing at the airstrip; as Mr. Sylvester used to do. If the city would invest in building and renting hangers, the airstrip would be able to contribute revenue to the city.
- 8.) The airstrip is not completely level; there are dips and bumps. These would not be easily leveled to a smooth enough surface for safe soccer play.
- 9.) The airstrip, if converted to soccer fields, would still present maintenance costs and mowing costs as a park, it would still require police protection and would still require some sort of insurance coverage, as all city facilities do.
- 10.) The City Hall complex sits on 130 acres of property, many of those acres planned for Quarry Park. This location would be a logical site for soccer fields. The land next to the Highland Lakes Elementary school would also serve well for playing fields, due to proximity to the school.

There was consensus of all present that safety of the citizens and visitors is the priority, no matter what the eventual outcome of this matter.

City Secretary Simpson was asked to read a statement from Mr. Lyng into the record:
"To the Granite Shoals City Council:

My name is Stephen Lyng and I wish to make a statement about the recent proposal to close the Granite Shoals Municipal Airport and repurpose the property for use as public soccer fields. My interest in this proposal derives from my ownership of property adjoining the airstrip, which I purchased about three years ago with the intention of building an airplane hangar and residential quarters on the property. I selected a building contractor and was preparing to break ground on the project this past November when I learned of the proposal to close the

airport. Obviously, this proposal is of great concern to me since I will not be able to use the property as I initially intended if the airport is closed.

I will begin by sharing some information about myself. I am a 65 year old college professor who has been a pilot for 50 years. I teach at Carthage College in Kenosha Wisconsin and I have just started a phased retirement from the College. My wife and I were both raised in Texas and we would like to retire there. It has been a long-standing dream of mine to live in a "hangar house" on a small airport, so I conducted a search several years ago of airport property for sale in the Texas hill country and we eventually found and purchased two lots on Granite Shoals Municipal Airport.

My opposition to the proposal to close the airport is based on several considerations. First, closing the airport will deprive airport property owners like myself the opportunity to use our property for aviation purposes, which is presumably the main reason why anyone would purchase airport property. Although I have made a significant investment of time, energy, and money in this project so far, I will be forced to abandon my plans to build on the property if the airport is closed. While it is possible that I can find an alternative site at some other airport in the area, the value of my Granite Shoals property will likely decline if it ends up adjoining a public soccer facility instead of an airstrip. Thus, if the proposed change goes forward, property owners like myself may reasonably expect to be compensated for the diminished market value of their property.

Second, I would like to make the Council aware of a recent real estate market trend that makes it financially advantageous for the City of Granite Shoals to keep the airport open. During my five year search for airport property in the area, I have spoken with several local real estate agents who have informed me that property of this sort has become very scarce in recent years. Small private-use airports that allow residential living on the field, such as Sunrise Beach, Lago Vista, and Spicewood, are now almost completely filled with few remaining parcels for sale. Consequently, Granite Shoals Airport is one of the only private-use airports in the area where unbuilt lots are still available. The "hangar house" idea is becoming more popular as baby boomer pilots, like myself, approach retirement and wish to incorporate flying into their retirement living arrangements. I believe this trend will produce several results if the airport remains open: land values on the airport will increase, more hangars and residential quarters will be built on this land, and property tax revenue from airport properties will subsequently grow. These developments will definitely NOT occur if the land is repurposed as soccer fields.

Finally, I would like to correct some factual errors I have discovered in the Minutes from an earlier City Council meeting at which the airport proposal was discussed. The Meeting Minutes from the October 13th, 2015 City Council Meeting include a reference to the suitability of the airport for different types of aircraft. According to the Minutes, the Assistant City Manager was told by an unnamed pilot that "the airstrip is not safe for a plane bigger than an ultralight airplane; that is the plane type that uses the airstrip" (p. 10). While it may be true that the airport is presently used by ultralight airplanes primarily, it is definitely NOT true that it is unsafe for larger aircraft. In a conversation I had with the previous Airport Manager before his passing, Mr. Robert Sylvester informed me that he operated a Cessna 182 at the airport for many years. This is a four passenger, high performance, single-engine airplane that is very similar to

the airplane I own (a Cessna 180). Mr. Sylvester never indicated that he had any concerns about the safety of the airport for any single-engine airplane. Moreover, I am aware that larger aircraft from other airports in the area often use the Granite Shoals airport to practice takeoffs and landings. As an experienced pilot, I am confident in stating that the airport is completely safe for use by larger single-engine airplanes, the type that future property owners are mostly likely to own and fly.

For the reasons I have specified in this statement, I encourage the City Council to allow the Granite Shoals airport to continue operating as an active airport. As I have stated, I believe it is in the best interest of current and future airport property owners and the City of Granite Shoals as a whole to keep the airport open.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Respectfully yours,

*Stephen Lyng, Ph.D
Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Carthage College”*

Mayor Brugger stressed that this workshop was held due to the mission of City Council to be transparent. He re-iterated that this item is NOT on the list of City Council budget priorities for this year. The top priorities of City Council for this budget year include safety, water and roads. The on-going discussion and planning for road improvements will be given the attention of City Council at this time. There are no decisions made related to the future of the airstrip. This was an information exchange workshop. Mayor Brugger thanked all those who participated and provided input related to this issue.

As this was a workshop, no formal action took place.

10. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discuss, consider and possibly take action related to the appointment of members to Boards and Committees. *(City Secretary Simpson)*

City Secretary Simpson disseminated copies of the application received 2-8-2016 from Rick Mills, for consideration of appointment to the Beautification Advisory Group (BAG) Committee.

Council was reminded that they were also now able to re-classify Jackie English as an ‘advisory member’ for the 50th Anniversary Committee, due to the approval of proposed Ord. 683 under the Consent Agenda items.

Mayor Brugger made a motion, and Council Member Holland seconded, to appoint Rick Mills to the Beautification Advisory Group (BAG), motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Council Member Tanner made a motion and Council Member Hisey seconded to 're-classify' Chair Jackie English as an 'advisory member' (non-voting) within the 50th Anniversary Committee, per Ord. 683. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

- b. Discuss, consider and possibly take action related to adopt a program for Urban Deer Management in Granite Shoals, as discussed at the January 26, 2016 City Council Regular Meeting. This was also discussed at the December 15, 2015 Regular City Council meeting, including discussion of proposed Ordinances to regulate Deer Feeding in the city limits, to establish a deer management program, and to modify the current ordinance related to use of Firearms (bows and arrows) within the city limits in conjunction with this program, respectively. (*City Manager Ken Nickel*)

Council briefly discussed the workshop held on January 26, 2016.

Mayor Brugger noted that the Committee has been in place since June 2014 and has fulfilled all the charges that they were given: they have followed the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department guidebook for Urban Deer Management by conducting a city-wide citizen survey (January 2015), holding a Town Hall Meeting related to Deer Population Issue (May 2, 2015) and conducting a census count of the deer according to procedures designed by the biologist from Texas Parks and Wildlife (August 2015). They have successfully completed all these projects in a professional and step-wise manner with close guidance from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department experts. In the months since the deer census was conducted, indicating that the City of Granite Shoals has a biological overpopulation of deer, the Committee has researched logistic and cost options for a possible deer management method. The Committee met in Joint Workshop meeting with the City Council on January 26, 2016. The Committee provided several options for deer management, but noted that the city doesn't have the money available for several of the deer management methods used by nearby cities (i.e., contracting with a deer manager to net the deer.)

The Committee recommendation to City Council was to try a pilot-program of bow-hunting based deer management. This would be new to this area. They researched how programs of this type are conducted in other states. The City Council expressed support for the pilot-program, as designed by the committee, because the pilot program would be extremely limited (small group of hunters- required to meet rigorous qualification standards to participate and to maintain membership) and there would be few (approximately six) locations which were chosen based on being isolated from other structures – for safety. The pilot program was designed with a time-line including when the next deer census would be conducted, when the 'No Deer Feeding' Ordinance would be passed, and how the city code would need to be amended to allow participants in the program to shoot bows in the city limits. The Committee members worked closely with the biologists from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Committee to design the program.

Mayor Brugger made a motion, and Council Member Hisey seconded, to authorize a 2016-2017 Deer Management pilot program within the limits of the City of Granite Shoals, that harvest female deer (does) using bows and arrows at potential pilot sites, to authorize city staff to prepare a formal deer management pilot program resolution for council approval, to authorize city staff to bring forth a modification on the current ordinance on firearms allowing for City sponsored hunted and to place the drafted 'No Feed' ordinance on an April regular scheduled meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously by 6-0 vote.

The formal Ordinance for to adopt the pilot program will be presented on a future meeting.

11. Future Meetings and Agenda Items

- Review Agenda Calendar
- Identification of future agenda items

12. Adjournment

With no further business, and no objections from Council, Mayor Brugger adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Approved by City Council on the 23rd of February, 2016

By: Carl J. Brugger
Carl J. Brugger, Mayor

Attest:

Elaine Simpson
Elaine Simpson, City Secretary

*Exhibit 'A' to
City Council Minutes 2/19/16*

Granite Shoals Municipal Airport 32TE

Activation Date: August 1963

Direction: 02/20

Dimensions: 2000' x 50'

Wind Sock: Yes

Edge Lighting: Yes Low Intensity

122.850 Act Rwy Lts 3 clicks

Traffic Pattern: Rwy 02 Left Rwy 20 Left

CTAF 122.800

(Common Traffic Advisory Frequency)

Aircraft Based at Airport:

Hangers on Runway: 4

General Aviation Aircraft: 1

Light Sport Aircraft: 4

Ultralight: 5

Hang Gliders: 8

Boat Towing Rig Hang Glider on Floats: 1

Yearly Airport Operations:

2011: 259

2012: 145

2013: 266

2014: 88

2015: 150

Total: 908

Estimate 20-25% transit operations not logged.

Nearby Airports:

Sunrise Beach 3 mi

Horseshoe Bay 4 mi

Shirley Williams 7 mi

Kingsland Estates 8 mi

Burnett 12 mi

Llano 21 mi