



City Manager Report

September 2024

I am pleased to present the City Manager's Report for the month of September 2024. In addition to the departmental reports regarding finance, fire, streets and parks, police and utilities, this report provides an overview of key activities, committees, projects, events, and updates Citywide.

Committees and Workgroups

Planning and Zoning Commission: The Planning and Zoning Committee met on September 17th and discussed the creation of a workgroup to review Chapter 40, the City's Zoning ordinance. The next meeting is scheduled to be held October 15th at 6PM.

Wildlife Committee: The Wildlife Committee had an engaging meeting on September 9th, where they discussed plans for an upcoming presentation to Council, a wildlife management plan, the proposal of a Youth Committee Member, and Texas Parks and Wildlife programs. The next meeting is set for October 7th at 6PM.

Board of Adjustments: The Board of Adjustments (BOA) will meet on September 30th at 6PM to hold a public hearing regarding a variance request.

Airport Committee: The Airport committee met on September 5th, 2024, and discussed their 2024-25 calendar of events, budget, parking area at the airport, and a vacant position on the committee. The next meeting will be held on October 3rd at 3PM.

Parks Committee: The Parks Committee met on September 5th, 2024 and discussed recent park improvements, Timberhill Park, cost of improvement to the Community Center, future park workdays, the placement of a memorial tree in Veteran's Park, and consideration of a lease agreement from LCRA for the waterfront area at Lakeview Park. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3rd at 6PM.

Beautification Action Group: This group met on September 20th to discuss Christmas Beautification opportunities within the City.

Youth Advisory Committee: The City is excited about the idea of adding youth positions to several of our committees, as we believe it will bring fresh energy and unique perspectives to the table. We truly value the voices of our young residents and see this as a chance to help foster the future leaders of our community. By giving the youth a platform to engage in meaningful discussions, we hope to inspire their interest in the decision-making process

that shapes their community. The Parks, Airport, and Wildlife Committees have all been very welcoming to the idea of youth membership on each of their Committees.

City staff are currently working through some questions that came up during the first review of the draft ordinance on September 10, such as age requirements, the number of youth members per Committee, and aligning terms of service with the school year. We anticipate that the ordinance to establish Youth Committees will be on an upcoming Council agenda. If approved, we'll be partnering with Marble Falls ISD to share this exciting opportunity with local students!

Police and Fire



Police and Fire personnel, along with David and myself, had the privilege of attending a powerful event in honor of September 11th at the Tower of the Americas in San Antonio. Hundreds of first responders from across the state participated, with many dressed in full turnout gear, uniforms, and weighted plates, as they climbed 110 stories to pay tribute to the World Trade Center's 110 stories. The first 334 participants received the name of a fallen first responder, which they wore as they ascended. Upon completing the climb, participants announced the name of the fallen hero and rang a large bell in their memory. It was a deeply moving and inspiring tribute, one we hope to take part in for many years to come.

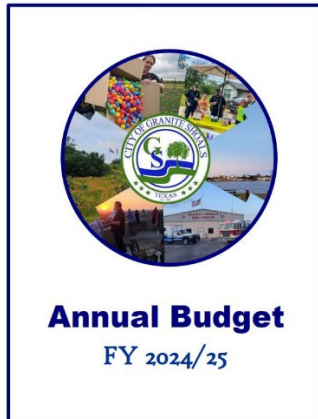
Photos from the event can be found on the City of Granite Shoals Facebook page. For more information about the event, please visit: <https://www.sanantonio110.com/>

Earlier this month, Police and Fire staff also completed boat rescue training and had each of their boats and teams ready for action over the Labor Day weekend. Our Police department has been working hard to ensure traffic and community safety, particularly with the increase in activity as school is back in session. You may have also seen them at back-to-school events, cooking for the kids and their families.

A Burn Ban is in effect. This decision was made in coordination with local fire officials, who continue to closely monitor conditions to ensure public safety. We encourage everyone to stay informed by checking the City's website and social media for updates. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to fire safety.



Finance



The City operates on a Fiscal Year that begins on October 1st and ends on September 30th of the following year. We are pleased to announce that the approved Annual Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget is now available on the City website at: <https://www.graniteshoals.org/city-services/finance/budget>.

As we approach the end of Fiscal Year 2023/24, all departments have been asked to request final invoices from vendors. To support careful monitoring of expenditures, staff are receiving biweekly budget updates to help track spending and ensure we close the fiscal year within budget.

Parks & Streets

The parks crew has been hard at work installing engineered wood fiber (mulch) and expanding the bumper at the Community Center playground. Their efforts are ensuring a safer and more enjoyable space for families to gather.

Meanwhile, the street paving project on Kings Circle and Hill Way, which began on August 26th, is now in its final phase of asphalt installation. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we continue our efforts to improve the city's roadways.



In addition, parks staff are installing signs at the pickleball court to clearly outline court guidelines for all users. The resurfacing project for the court is scheduled to begin in October, helping to maintain the facility in top condition. Thank you for your understanding as we work to provide a safe and well-maintained recreational space for everyone to enjoy for years to come.

A fiber line will be extended over the next few weeks to City Hall which provides an improved connection capability for the phones and internet connectivity.

Utility



Line Upgrades

The 2-mile waterline extension and upgrade project in the area of Kingswood Dr. included the upgrade of an existing 2 inch mainline to a 6 inch in order to resolve longstanding pressure issues and to support the installation of three fire hydrants in the area. Work ran daily 8am – 5pm from August 15-23rd and is now complete. Recent testing of the improvements revealed that pressure to these lines was raised by 18 psi as a result of these upgrades.

Billing

Effective October 1, the City will no longer accept utility payments made by credit cards over the phone. We will continue to take the following forms of payment:

- **Bank Draft** - Set up **FREE** Automatic payments with the City for Bank Drafts. Complete the [Bank Auto Draft Form](#) and submit it in person to City Hall, email to billing@graniteshoals.org, or mail to City Hall 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Rd. Granite Shoals, TX. 78654.
- **In Person** - Drop off your payment inside City Hall from 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday – Friday, excluding holidays. A drive through drop box with envelopes for payment is available in the parking lot just outside City Hall. For security purposes, please DO NOT leave cash in the drop box.
- **By Mail** - Mail your check or money order to City Hall, Attn: Billing Office.
- **Internet** - You may make a one-time payment or set up monthly auto drafts. <https://www.graniteshoals.org/city-services/utility-services/payments>

Grant

The City of Granite Shoals has successfully secured a Texas Department of Agriculture CDBG grant for the maximum amount of \$500,000. The grant will fund critical improvements at the city's raw water intake facility, which supplies water from the lake to the treatment plant for filtration and chlorination, before being distributed throughout the city. The grant will allow the installation of a fourth pump, completing the intended capacity of the pump station, along with an air compressor to clean the intake screen, and variable frequency drives to stabilize pump flow and protect against mechanical damage. Additional improvements include a raw water sump recirculation system. These upgrades will enhance the facility's overall efficiency.

Building & Planning

Over the past 22 days, the Building Department has processed the following:

- 20 new site-built homes
- 4 manufactured homes
- 105 permits for various other items

Staffing

The City of Granite Shoals is currently accepting applications for the following positions: Utility Plant Operator, Firefighter, and Fire Lieutenant which were incorporated as new positions in the FY 25 budget, as well as a Police Officer and Parks worker to fill roles which were recently vacated.

If you're interested in any of these exciting opportunities, visit <https://www.graniteshoals.org/city-services/human-resources/job-openings> for more information and to apply. Join us in making a difference in our community!

GRANITE SHOALS FIRE RESCUE
WE'RE HIRING
4 Firefighters

DO YOU QUALIFY?

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Valid Texas Drivers License
- ITCP Basic Structural Certification
- EMT-Basic Level Certification
- NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700 & 800

Salary Starts At \$62,000 Annually
Hiring Process: Oct. 27

BENEFITS

- 48/96 Work Schedule
- 156 Hours of Paid Time Off (PTO) Accrued Annually
- 14 Paid Annual Holidays
- Incentive Pay for Qualifying Degrees & Certifications
- 100% Employer Paid Tuition
- TERS Retirement with 2:1 Matching @ 7%

TO JOIN OUR TEAM
Email Your Letter of Intent To:
Fire@graniteshoals.org

Odds and Ends

John Rinehart Spirit of Service Award: The deadline for nomination is coming up soon. If you have someone you'd like to nominate, please let Dawn know and she will provide you with the nomination form.

The City has been in coordination with TxDOT to update population signs at the entry points of the City with the most recent Census data.

October Events and Happenings

As we head into October, there are several exciting events and activities happening around the city:

- 1st – Begin Operation “Fill the boat” for Christmas. This runs through 11/31.
- 5th – Meet the Pilots
- 8-11th TML Conference in Houston
- 8-14th Fire Prevention week
- 10th – Circus in the Shoals at Quarry Park
- 14th – Columbus Day – City Holiday – City offices will be closed
- 17th – Sunset Sips, Snacks and Social
- 19th - Burnet County Collection Event will be held at the Burnet County Reuse and Recycle Center on October 19, 2024 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at 2411 FM 963 (2 miles E of 281) Burnet, TX 78611.
- 19th – Meet the Pilots @ the Bob Sylvester Airport, hosted by the Airport Advisory Committee.
- 26th – Halloween Trunk or Treat/Fall Festival @ Quarry Park 6-9pm