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Robert Lee City Council meeting provides platform for mayor

Following several citizen comments requesting resignations from the mayor, council, and even the city attorney, Mayor Allyson Crenshaw took over for a lengthy slide show attempting to prove that City Secretary Crystal Blevins was extremely inept. Crenshaw then excused herself from the meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Brandi Brosh stepped up to finish the slide show with more claims of poor performance against Blevins. Robert Lee’s billing clerk tried to interject that the claims were untrue and that jobs Brosh was claiming were incomplete had actually been completed weeks ago.

A gentleman stepping out of the meeting to get some air exclaimed that the citizens could not believe anything stated by the current mayor because of her past actions and pending charges. Citizens might have been more receptive to Crenshaw’s slides if Blevins had been allowed to respond to the Mayor’s claims.

Once the open discussion began on Blevins termination, Blevins was allowed to speak for about a minute to answer a question on reports. She explained you could not reconcile a current month if there were prior months that had not yet been reconciled. City Attorney Jeff Betty kept saying that “you didn’t reconcile” and Blevins kept repeating “she couldn’t reconcile”.

Mayor Pro Tem Brosh then made the statement regarding Blevins lack of whistleblower status, claiming first it was the auditor that brought it up and then backtracking and saying it was the former Mayor Pro Tem Roger Alexander.

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Stolen Vehicle Recovered! At approximately 3:45 am Tuesday, April 2, 2019, this 2007 Nissan Versa was stolen from the Suarez residence at 810 West 11th Street in Robert Lee. While enroute to the residence, Coke County Deputy Sheriff Sparks Burdett observed the car traveling slowly, but erratically, on North 10th Street. The vehicle turned right on Childress and the driver increased his speed. The driver attempted to make another turn and struck a fire hydrant at 15th Street and Childress at which point the vehicle left the roadway and drove onto Robert Lee ISD property before stopping. The driver exited the vehicle and ran from Deputy Burdett who followed him into the backyard of 1417 Childress. At that point, Deputy Burdett took the subject into custody. Robert Clark, 18 years old and a resident of Robert Lee, was booked into the Mitchell County jail on two state jail felony charges. The charges include unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and evading arrest with a motor vehicle. It is believed the vehicle may be a total loss and the cost of repairing or replacing the fire hydrant is in excess of \$3,000.00.

Robert Lee ISD Bond Election detailed

The Robert Lee Independent School District has called a \$6,000,000 Bond Election for May 4, 2019. The bond money will go toward the following.

- Renovation of the old gym and locker rooms.
- Resurface the two current tennis courts and build four more tennis courts.
- Renovate the old high school hall between the new and old gyms.
- Convert the current football storage into a training room and small storage.
- Build a new covered parking for seven buses.
- Resurface the back parking lot.

Robert Lee ISD has issued several statements regarding this Bond Election. They include the following.

“The bond election, if approved by voters, combined with the other district debt, will require a projected Interest & Sinking Fund (I&S) Tax Rate of no more than 42 cents, which is the District’s current 2018-2019

I&S tax rate. So the passage of this bond election will not result in a tax rate increase.”

“Taxpayers that are 65 and over will not have their taxes go above the frozen levy amount/ceiling that was established whenever the Over 65 exemption was granted.”

“The bonds will initially have a 20 year term/payback period with a fixed tax exempt interest, however they will have a 7 year call option that will allow for them to be paid off early if the District is able to do so.”

“Taxes levied for bond payments are not subject to recapture so all taxes levied and collected for the Bond will go directly toward paying back the bond.”

Early voting will begin April 22 and continue through April 30 at the Coke County Courthouse in Robert Lee.

Early Voting begins April 22 in three local elections

Early voting for the May 4 local entity election will begin April 22 and continue through April 30. Early voting for the

Robert Lee based elections will be held at the courthouse. The Bronte ISD early voting will be held at the school in Bronte.

The City of Robert Lee will hold an election for three two year terms and one special election for a one year unexpired term. Incumbents on the ballot include Ricky Green and Ann Hedges. They both filed for the two year term seats. They will be joined on the ballot by Manuel Abalos, Tracy Grantham, David Lewis, Becca McGuire and Jason Moran. Zachary Van Tine and Wyatt Hopson have filed for the one year term.

Bronte ISD will also hold an election to elect two members to the Board of Trustees. These are three year terms currently held by Shane Kelton and Josh Schoenfield. Schoenfield has filed to retain his seat. He will be joined on the ballot by David McWright and T.J. McCullough.

Robert Lee ISD has called a Bond Election for \$6,000,000 for improvements to the school facility. Please see the separate article detailing the proposed bond in this issue of The Observer/Enterprise.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, April 12

Robert Lee Head Start Registration, 9 am - 2:30 pm

Robert Lee Care Center Garage Sale

Saturday, April 13

RL4Restoration Spring Fling, 6:30 pm,
Robert Lee Rec Hall

Tuesday, April 16

Robert Lee - Silver Lions Club Meeting,
6:30 am, Old Jail Annex, Robert Lee

Area High School Track Meet,
Sterling City

Town Hall Meeting, 7 pm,
Robert Lee Park Pavilion

Thursday, April 18

Bronte City Council Meeting, 6:30 pm,
Bronte City Hall

Friday, April 19

School Holiday -
Blackwell CISD
Bronte ISD
Robert Lee ISD

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