



# HIGHLAND HAVEN NEWS

<https://highlandhaventx.com/>

Edition: February 2025

Sponsor – Highland Haven Property Owners

## PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

*Johnny Farris, Secretary*

### **HHPOA Bi-Annual Meeting Summary**

The HHPOA Bi-Annual Board was held on February 8, 2025, the agenda consisted mostly of budget review and board member selections. Here are budget summaries:

Summary Balance Sheet (as of December 31, 2024) and comparison to prior year.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>2023 Balance</b>	<b>2024 Balance</b>
Reserve .....	\$35,000 .....	\$35,000
Capital Improvement .....	\$32,000 .....	\$32,000
Operating .....	\$43,151 .....	\$127,293
Total Cash on Hand .....	\$110,151 .....	\$127,293

\*The fiscal year 2024 expense report showed 41% for Office and Administration (mostly for insurance covering POA properties and liabilities); 19% for mowing and brush removal; 24% for maintenance and repair; and the remainder for professional fees, taxes and utilities.

HHPOA Board members for approved for 2025 consists of **Greg Rabaey, President** (unopposed); **Kellie Coppenger, Community Center** (incumbent); **Johnnie Farris, Secretary** (incumbent); **Teresa Smith, Treasurer** (incumbent); and, **Karen McRight, Rentals** (unopposed). The Director of Parks and Grounds position remains open with no applicants. Contact a board member if you're interested in volunteering for this position.

### **This year's meeting schedule:**

March 13 (March 20 is Spring Break) -- Regular Business Meeting -5pm

April 10 (April 17 is Easter Week) – Regular Business Meeting – 5pm

May 22 – Regular Business Meeting

June 19 -- Regular Business Meeting

August 9 -- Biannual Meeting

September 18-- Regular Business Meeting

October 16– Regular Business Meeting

November 13 Regular Business Meeting – 5pm

December – NO MEETING

January 15, 2026, Regular Business Meeting

February 14, 2026, Biannual Meeting

Community **POTLUCK**  
will resume this  
month.  
See you Tuesday,  
March 25<sup>th</sup>

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HAVEN**  
*Olan Kelley, Mayor & Andy , City Administrator*  
[mayor@highlandhaventx.com](mailto:mayor@highlandhaventx.com)

## City of Highland Haven Updates – March 2025

### City Hall Changes

- Our City Secretary, **Lezley Baum**, retired on Jan. 23 after five years of dedicated service. She will remain in Highland Haven and may consult when available.
- The Board of Aldermen approved hiring **Sarah Collard** as the new City Secretary, effective **Feb. 15**. Her first day in the office was **Feb. 18**. Please stop by to welcome her to the City.

### Municipal Elections

- The City of Highland Haven received candidate filings from only the three incumbents for the three available Alderman positions. The incumbents are **Bruce Robertson, Lynn Smith and Terry Smith**.
- Since each position is unopposed, the city is not required to hold an election, in accordance with **Texas Election Code § 2.051**. The Board of Aldermen will take formal action to declare the candidates elected and cancel the election at an upcoming meeting



### Legislative Updates

- The Board of Aldermen recently passed **Resolution 364**, outlining the city's legislative priorities for the **89th Texas Legislature**. This resolution details the city's stance on proposed legislation and emphasizes the importance of **decisions made by local elected officials**. [Resolution 364](#)
- Highland Haven supports legislation that **preserves the authority of local elected officials** to govern our community, rather than having those powers preempted by state laws. While some bills may be aimed at addressing issues in larger cities, they often have **unintended consequences** that negatively impact smaller communities like ours.
- Residents are encouraged to stay informed and engage with state lawmakers by writing letters/emails to our representative and senator. The full resolution, summaries of key bills, and sample letters for contacting representatives are available on our website: [HighlandHavenTX.com/legislative-issues](https://HighlandHavenTX.com/legislative-issues).

### Protecting Our Water System: Proper Use of Shut-Off Valves

- Each home in Highland Haven has a **city-owned water shut-off valve (curb stop)**, but residents should **never use this valve** to turn off water to their home. Instead, homeowners should use their **customer-side shut-off valve**, typically located past or in the meter box.
- The city's shut-off valves are **designed for infrequent use**, primarily for **city technicians to use for meter repairs**. Improper use can cause damage, leading to costly repairs and water outages for surrounding homes. Recently, a city valve was broken by a customer, resulting in an unexpected 2-hour service interruption while repairs were made.
- To help maintain our water system, please use your homeowner shut-off valve when necessary. If you have trouble locating it or need assistance, contact City Hall. Any damage to the city's infrastructure caused by improper use will be **billed to the party responsible**.
- Thank you for helping us keep Highland Haven's water system running smoothly!

## Drought Update

- **Good News!** Thanks to your conservation efforts, we stayed under our reduced water limit for 2024!
- **Bad News:** Drought conditions persist. The **15% mandatory water reduction** remains in effect through **Dec. 31, 2025**.
- **Our groundwater permit is reduced to 69 acre-feet**—please continue conserving water!
- More info: [CTGCD Drought Status](#)

## Landscape Planning

- Plan for continued drought—**70% of residential water use goes to landscaping!**
- Use **native, drought-resistant plants** & check these resources:
  - [Lawn & Landscape Tips](#)
  - [Tree Planting Guide](#)
- **Trim tree limbs to 15 feet above streets** for emergency vehicles & large trucks.

## Comprehensive Plan/Survey Update

- The Planning and Zoning commission is updating Highland Haven's Comprehensive Plan, the document (required by state law) that helps guide how we manage and grow our city.
- The first step? Hearing from you! On January 13, we sent out a community survey, and we're thrilled to have already received over 100 responses—thank you to everyone who has participated!

## City Administrator's Update – NEW

- We've launched a new **City Administrator's Update** to keep residents informed about important city news and projects. This newsletter will be sent out periodically and posted on our website. The first issue was published on **Friday, Feb. 14**, and you can read it anytime at [highlandhaventx.com/city-administrators-update](http://highlandhaventx.com/city-administrators-update). Stay tuned for future updates!

## City Meetings – Join Us!

- **Board of Aldermen:** Mar. 4 & Mar. 18 @ 7 PM (Community Center)
- **Planning & Zoning:** Mar. 13 @ 6 PM (Community Center)
- **Checkout our website to review city meeting agendas.** [City Agendas](#)

## City Services & Resources

- **Trash & Recycling Schedule:** [Waste Services](#), also check [HH Calendar](#)
- **Building Permits:** Contact **Tom Weaver** at (830) 265-4366 or [buildingpermits@highlandhaventx.com](mailto:buildingpermits@highlandhaventx.com)
- **City Website:** [Subscribe for alerts & updates!](#)

## Emergency Preparedness

**Be ready for weather & emergencies!** Build your emergency kit:

- [Texas Ready Checklist](#)
- [FEMA Emergency Kit Guide](#)

Sign up for **local emergency alerts:** [Emergency Resources](#)

Stay informed and engaged with your city, **thank you for being part of Highland Haven!**

## EASTER SERVICES

Provided by: Grace Community Church  
Dove Park on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am

Bring a chair (limited number will be provided). Golf carts are welcome. Temperatures may be cool, so come prepared. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

## HIGHLAND HAVEN LADIES CLUB

*Pat Koehn, President*

A sincere thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to prepare for our annual Rummage Sale, and who also worked at the sale to assist customers and continually straighten up tables and racks for easier shopping. Both men and women volunteers made this a successful event. Despite the busy week, many volunteers stayed late on Saturday to pack up our excess items for the charities we support, then broke down excess cardboard for recycling, and vacuumed, swept, and mopped the Community Center floors. This generosity of time and work gave all a work free Sunday to enjoy with family and friends!

The next Ladies Club is March 12 at 1pm. **Sherry Hume & Laura Higgins** are hostesses.

Potluck will resume this month on the last Tuesday of the month, March 25<sup>th</sup>. All residents are welcome! This is a perfect time to meet new residents and catch up with neighbors. Bring a dish to share. Join us at 6:00pm for social time and dinner will be served at 6:30pm. Raffle tickets will be available for a special gift ... \$1 each or \$5 for 6.

### St Patrick's Day ... Did you know?

#### Facts, Symbols, Traditions & Legends

- St. Patrick was a 5th-century Christian missionary who is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland.
- The earliest celebrations of St. Patrick's Day in America took place in Boston in 1737.
- The New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade is the oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the world.
- Every year Chicago officials turn the Chicago River green in honor St. Patrick's Day and the many Irish immigrants who helped settle the city.
- It is said that a three-leaf clover or shamrock is what St. Patrick may have used to illustrate the Holy Trinity.
- An old legend says you're supposed to wear green on St. Patrick's Day because it makes you invisible to leprechauns, who like to pinch anyone they can see.



### Did you know $\pi$ (or Pi) is celebrated on March 14<sup>th</sup>?

Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. Sounds like Greek to me. But I'm sure many of you remember that the digits in Pi do not repeat, which makes it an irrational number. When writing  $\pi$  to 39 decimal places yes, 39 decimal places, pi is 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197. Now that's quite a number! To celebrate this unique mathematical number, folks are known to enjoy a slice of their favorite pie instead of working a mathematical equation.

#### Bridge Lessons

If you are interested in learning to play bridge or would like to sharpen your playing skills, give Sherry Moore a call. She is willing to start a new class. 512-554-4994

