

The Bandera PROPHEET

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Bandera City Council Notes

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The Bandera Prophet

Following a impromptu executive session for legal council, Bandera City Council members granted City Administrator Stan Farmer the authority to negotiate a one-year facility use agreement with the Bandera Methodist Church for the 11th and Cedar Street parking lot. Council unanimously approved a monthly lease payment not to exceed \$500 per month, to take effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Council and the church have deliberated the matter for months, proposing offers and counter-offers to keep the parking lot available to the public throughout the week, trying to stave off the alternative of the church chaining the entrances and opening only for private functions, or privately charging for public parking.

“It’s not good for us, and it’s not good for our city,” Church representative Don Giles said.

In other business, Council members approved applications for event reimbursements, to be paid by Hotel Occupancy Tax funds.

The entities approved include the Frontier Times Museum, for \$2,000; Bandera ProRodeo, for \$10,500; Riding on Faith Rodeo, for \$9,000; and the Bandera Business Association, not to exceed \$8,500. The FTM originally requested \$2,150 for the Frontier Fun Spring Break Family Days; Bandera ProRodeo originally requested \$11,500 for the Memorial Day Weekend Stampede and Labor Day; Riding on Faith originally requested \$14,000 for the Summer Series; and the BBA originally requested \$20,000 for River Fest, Cowboy Christmas/Shoppers Jubilee, and National Day of the American Cowboy.

~ Bandera Marshal Nancy De Foster reported deputy marshals responded to 90 calls for service in August, and performed 668 security checks, traveling 3,962 miles. From July 1 -31, the average response to on site time for priority calls was 2.07 minutes.

De Foster said body cams and docking stations would arrive soon, thanks to a \$22,500 grant from the Peterson Foundation. Each deputy will receive an assigned body cam; reserve deputies will share one while on duty.

The annual Trunk or Treat, Nightmare on Maple will be Thursday, Oct. 31, from 5-7 p.m. Volunteers to emcee, judge entries and help with set-up are needed.

~ Susan Hull reported numerous grants are currently in different hold stages, including the Texas Department of Transportation Traffic Alternative Grant, and others through the Department of the Interior and Texas Department of Agriculture.