



Congratulations to our 2022 Christmas Lights Contest Winners! Yard signs, framed photo and gift baskets were awarded Sunday, December 18th, 2022. For more details, see poetrytexas.org/Christmas-lights-contest



(Above: First place winners, Darren & Mary Yarborough, featured Santa fishing in a lighted pond!)



Synopsis of December 13th Regular Meeting and Public Forum:

- **Listened to First Audit presentation** by Debbie Taylor of Murrey, Paschall & Caperton, P.C. Certified Public Accountants. Their findings showed that the Town's financials were presented fairly with no unresolved exceptions or disagreements. A full report is available at the Town Hall.
- **Voted** to pay the cost of audit in full \$4250.00
- **Voted** to pay legal invoice to MFM for \$4253.59.
- **Voted** to approve hiring new Town Attorney, the law firm of Nichols, Jackson, with a 90-day automatic review.
- **Voted** to approve the amended Lease Agreement with Longhorn Organics for driveway and parking for a renewable 5 years at \$100/year.
- **Voted** to approve Workman's Comp Insurance to meet lease agreement and provide for the Town's Volunteers. CM Vinson and White both pledged monies to cover the cost in full.
- **Voted** to approve \$500 Liability Insurance to cover additional coverage needed.
- **Voted** to approve a renewal of one to two years on Interlocal agreement with Kaufman County for road repairs.
- **Voted** to approve Jody Vicars to install Aerobic Septic with modified plan from James Adams, Septic engineer, with 2 fan sprays and 500-gal tank. This came with a pledged donation of \$4000 to the Town by Mr. Vicars, a \$2000 each donation by B. Patterson and T. Senkevech. Net cost to the town is \$500.
- **Discussed** a quote by Barnett Enterprises with discounted amount of \$8600 for a concrete parking lot and ADA ramp for the Town Hall. Discussed getting railing options prior to pour.
- **Voted** to open a 3 months window to area inhabitants to voluntarily annex into the Town until March 31st, 2023—prior to any mapping services requests.
- **Voted** to approve an Ordinance repealing the exemption on telecommunications for Sales &

Use tax at rate of 1.5% which goes 100% to roads.

- **Discussed** with attorney that as a type A general law town we aren't allowed to have term limits as attempted.
 - **Voted** to pay remainder of outstanding bill on M365 subscriptions for Council members which provides for emails and back up services.
 - **Accepted resignation** of City Secretary Theresa Rita Scholander who had to leave to go to full disability owing to pervasive health issues.
 - **Voted** to increase city secretary pay to \$20 up to 15 hours per week. Discussed posting job opening. (See website for details.)
 - **Discussed** Comprehensive Plan in Public Forum. CM White stated that the most recent additions need to be posted on the website.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:53pm.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 14th –Special Mtg.
12 noon Faith Temple
January 17th– Regular
Town Council Meeting 6:30pm
 Faith Temple Baptist Church.
CITY SECRETARY NEEDED:
 \$20/hr. Part-time. See website for more details.



Our TAX dollars at WORK!
(Left: Hunt County road crews spent several days repairing roads in November and December.

Efforts were hindered by the sporadic rains, adverse weather and the asphalt plant being down.)

The Town of Poetry just renewed a two-year interlocal agreement with Hunt County to partner with Hunt County using better materials than previously! They provide the labor and equipment, while Poetry provides material and

fuel costs. See a road in town which needs repair? Please file a Road Report online at poetrytexas.org under “roads”. This assists us to prioritize the worst roads first! This newsletter is available online at poetrytexas.org under “community” and by request for mail out. Please email your mailing address to contact@poetrytexas.org



Randy Strait completes his four-year term as Precinct 3 Hunt County Commissioner.

A party in his honor was held Friday, December 30th at the Hunt County Courthouse.

Hunt County Commissioner Precinct 3 Monroe will be sworn in New Year’s Day at noon.

FALL Poetry Cleanup Day on December 10th!

Thank you to our volunteers and approved Vendors! Almost 40 yards of debris collected from roadsides and residents.

(Above: Citizens Tom Jr. and Tom Sr. Parsons use their ATV to pick up litter on the sides of CR 2326 during the Cleanup day.)



(Left: Darrell Watson volunteers to assist citizen Larry Harrison as he brings his load.)

Website: www.poetrytexas.org Email: contact@poetrytexas.org

The new Town Hall mailing address: Town of Poetry, 5671 CR 323, Poetry Texas, 75160