

## **Notice regarding a sewer system for Hideaway: The City of Hideaway has tabled all planning for a sewer system for the time being.**

**Notice regarding septic systems:** On Feb 18, 2022, the City Council met in regular session. An Agenda Item stated that the Council would discuss and vote on accepting a draft resolution for the City of Hideaway to apply as an Authorized Agent (AA) for oversight of On-Site Septic Facilities (OSSF) in Hideaway. Shortly thereafter I asked for several members of our community to serve on a committee to begin working on that process and to have information ready for deliberation after the May 7 municipal elections. That committee met for the first time on Mar. 14, 2022 and was well attended. The minutes have been posted.

New information has come to my attention. One of the committee members upon revisiting the Wastewater Planning Team report came across a recommendation from House Engineering that the city might consider working under the current system of Smith County as the AA for Hideaway but being able to hire our own Designated Representative (DR). This approach, if possible, would leave us under the current standards as required by Smith County, but would allow us to have our own DR, rather than using Mr. Pledger, the current DR under Smith County.

In any event, it has raised more questions that need exploration and deeper understanding of how or if that process might be more advantageous to Hideaway. Your city Board of Aldermen will take no further action until we've completed this investigation with Smith County.

After much thought, I have made the decision to ask that the current committee on OSSF pause their work. As Mayor, I will begin a dialogue with Smith County Commissioners and the County Attorney on this new possibility.

It is my goal to have that new information ready to present to the new City Council in May or June, 2022. Until this avenue is fully investigated, I have asked our Board of Aldermen to cease work on applying to the TCEQ for Hideaway to become an Authorized Agent for the regulation of septic systems in Hideaway.

**Accordingly, future meetings of the recently established OSSF committee will pause until further notice.** I want to thank the current members of the committee for agreeing to serve even for just this one meeting. The discussion

and input by residents will be invaluable for the City Council after the May municipal elections.