



El Lago SVFD Contract Issue

03.26.2018

Concerned Residents of El Lago

www.concernedresidentofellago.com

The Mayor's Letter

2. Current SVFD Contract

Unfortunately I must report that there are those who insist on circulating misinformation on this issue. In such a small town where we should be able to work together on these issues and put aside small town politics - this is a disappointment; however, those on the Council have for the most part been able to put these negative forces aside and focus on the best plan for the citizens. The following is the official City of El Lago position on this contract:

1. **The City of El Lago is keeping the current SVFD evergreen contract.**
2. **I am appointing a committee (I am reviewing nominations now) to study the entire 911/EMS/Fire contract situation and the challenges we will face regionally as the SH 146 expansion proceeds and regional growth accelerates.**

Yes – that is it. Simple and straightforward.

However, I have been approached by many citizens who are confused as to the City's position because of something they have read on social media (specifically NextDoor.com) – and I have come to learn that ex-Mayor White and Mr. Darin Clark have generally driven this effort – and both have been removed from the NextDoor.com site by corporate officials for inappropriate content or other undisclosed policy reasons by Next Door management. Additionally – to my surprise – these individuals and others are blaming me personally for their removal.

The Mayor's letter - response

On March 7th, the mayor mailed a letter to the citizens that people were spreading misinformation and mentioned that ex-Mayor White and Darin Clark were driving this effort. By a freedom of information act request we have pieced together the details of the deal. You can decide for yourself if the Mayor was planning to move to the Pasadena fire Department and if Mr. White and Mr. Clark were spreading misinformation. Below is the post from ex-Mayor white and Darin Clark:

 Robert White, El Lago **LEAD** 45

Possible Loss of Our Medical First Responders.

Wednesday the Council will be voting on what Fire Department to use for the next few years. Please go to the City's website and learn as much as possible about this decision. Making the wrong choice will affect the City and our quality of life for a long time to come.

SVFD is more expensive, but they provide medical first responder service. Pasadena only provides fire suppression only. Of the two SVFD has a station right here in El Lago and provides concise response time.

This is very important that our children and older residents to have an organization that can take care of medical emergencies in a timely manner. Losing this service will be a considerable detriment to EL Lago and our residents.

How many on Next Door have been helped by SVFD?

Please go to the City and read the agenda.

Edited 15 Jan · El Lago in General

 Thank  Reply

15 Thanks · 46 Replies

The Mayor's letter - response



Robert White, El Lago · 15 Jan

Call and talk(or email) to your council person. NextDoor will not inform your representative. Most Councilpersons don't read NextDoor.

<https://www.ellago-tx.com/134/City-Council>

Talk to them and hear what they think, and let them know what your think.

They only can make a informed decision based on hearing from you!



Thank



Robert White, El Lago · 15 Jan

You have to open the agenda packet it's the last item on the agenda.

https://www.ellago-tx.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01172018-214



Thank 1 Thank

You can download the agenda from https://www.ellago-tx.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01172018-214

13. New Business

- 13.1 *Financial Packet*
 - 13.1.1 *Discussion/Action to Approve the Check Detail (Attached)*
 - 13.1.2 *Discussion of 1Q18 Financial Statements (Attached)*
- 13.2 *Discussion/Action to Appoint Tom Savage as Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator (attached)*
- 13.3 *Consideration/Action to Approve Parking Variance for RV at 1614 Lake Bluff Dr. Until January 31st, 2018 (attached)*
- 13.4 *Discussion/Action to Move Council Meetings from Monday Evening to Wednesday Evening (attached)*
- 13.5 *Discussion of the City's Large Vehicle Parking Ordinance (attached)*
- 13.6 *Discussion of City Ordinance Codification*
- 13.7 *Consideration/Action to Approve Parking Space Variance for Space City Hardware (attached)*
- 13.8 *Discussion/Action to Approve Agreement with the Seabrook Volunteer Fire Department to Provide Fire Protection, Medical First Responder, and Emergency Rescue Services (attached)*
- 13.9 *Discussion/Action to Approve Contract for Fire Fighting Services with the City of Pasadena (attached)*



The Mayor's letter - response

Further, on January 18th Darrin Clark posted a poll:

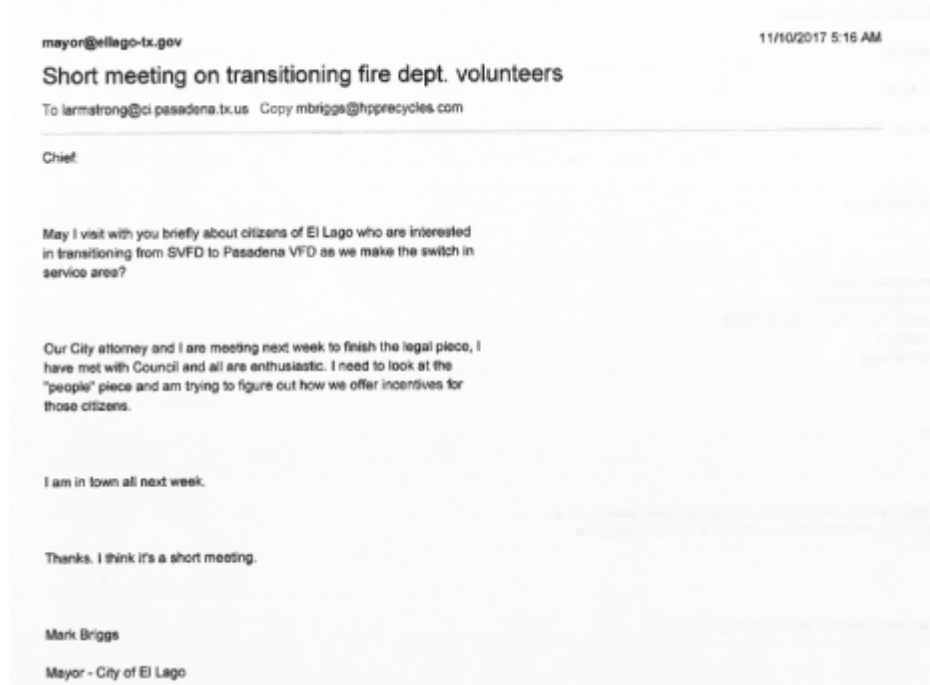
El Lago Citizens, which Fire Department would you like El Lago City Council to enter into an agreement with?

The poll has been removed from nextdoor but out of over 100 respondents 96% chose to stay with SVFD over Pasadena. In the comments section most referenced response times and no change in ISO rating as the main reason to stay with SVFD.

The Mayor's letter – response

Without the posts from ex-Mayor White and Darin Clark the city would have voted on Jan 17th to move to the Pasadena Fire Department.

The Mayor had been negotiating with the Pasadena fire department since November of 2017.



The Mayor's letter – response

From: mayor@elago-tx.gov
[mailto:mayor@elago-tx.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2018 8:28 AM
To: citysec@elago-tx.gov
Cc: 'Perkins, Val' >
Subject: FW: FireProt-ElLago2017(2).doc

William:

This is the final document for our attachment to the upcoming Agenda.
SVFD BAFC contract to follow here shortly by scan

MMB

From: Perkins, Val [mailto:VPerkins@gardere.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:24 PM
To: sthompson@ci.pasadena.tx.us ;
'Leo Clark' (LClark@ci.pasadena.tx.us)
>
Cc: 'James Rodriguez' (JRodriguez@ci.pasadena.tx.us
) >; 'Lanny Armstrong'
(LArmstrong@ci.pasadena.tx.us)
>;
mayor@elago-tx.gov
Subject: RE: FireProt-ElLago2017(2).doc

Just confirming that the attached version I sent to all by the below email
is agreeable. The El Lago City Council has this posted as an agenda item
for its meeting next Wednesday.

Thanks,

Val Perkins

Partner

t 713.276.5008 f 713.276.6008 m 713.304.5392

1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000, Houston, Texas 77002-2099

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COCITY

On January 09, 2018 the Mayor sent an e-mail to William Grigsby, the city secretary containing the finalized approved by the City attorney contract with Pasadena.

The Mayor's letter – response

On January 18, 2018 after ex-Mayor White's post on Jan 08th, Councilman Tave tabling the discussion, and the response of the poll. The Mayor says that we are bogged down and hopes that they can be patient and that the city attorney will fill the Pasadena contact in on the details.

mayor@ellago-tx.gov

1/18/2018 6:44 AM

RE: Short meeting on transitioning fire dept. volunteers

To: James Rodriguez <jrodriguez@ci.pasadena.tx.us> Copy Val Perkins <vperkins@gardere.com>

James – we are bogged down a bit here – I hope you all can be patient.

I believe Val will fill you in today.

MMB

From: James Rodriguez [mailto:JRodriguez@ci.pasadena.tx.us]

Sent: Monday, January 08, 2018 9:35 AM

To: Lanny Armstrong ; Mark Briggs

; mayor@ellago-tx.gov

Cc: Lee Clark ; Richard Waller

Subject: Re: Short meeting on transitioning fire dept. volunteers

Mayor Briggs,

Happy New Year & all! Just checking in, did the agreement pass on your City's end? Thanks, James

James Rodriguez

Chief of Staff

Office: 713.920.7915

Fax: 713.920.7940

jrodriguez@ci.pasadena.tx.us