

## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Bobby Warren <u>bwarren@jerseyvillagetx.com</u> Mayors Newsletter May 2021

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am humbled and honored by the overwhelming support expressed by the citizens of Jersey Village as they entrusted me to become the  $19^{th}$  Mayor of this amazing city. Thank you for your trust – I will work everyday during my two-year term to retain and strengthen that trust. I ask for your prayers for the wisdom to lead this city in a way that benefits all of our citizens.

President Ronald Reagan popularized an old proverb, "Trust, but verify." While you entrust your elected officials to represent you well, it is important for our citizens to have the ability to carefully monitor the work that we do. As I have done during my four years as a councilmember, I will strive to keep our city government as open and transparent to our citizens as possible.

In 2018, your city council began to broadcast its meetings online to provide more citizens with the ability to witness the work of their city council. More recently, the city upgraded to new resource planning software that enabled us to provide citizens with a real-time look into how their tax dollars are being spent. Today, you can go to the city website's financial transparency section and review every single financial transaction over the last several years.

While your city government strives to become even more transparent, citizens must also do their part to remain engaged. As my predecessors have done, I will also highlight many of the important developments in our city in this monthly newsletter. I hope you will take the time to read these newsletters on a regular basis. There is only so much, however, that I can do in a one-page newsletter. I encourage you to also utilize the resources made available through our city website (jerseyvillagetx.com) to stay informed on relevant information and updates on the work of your city council.

Try as I may to anticipate common questions and provide that information to you, whether through this newsletter or online, I know that many of you have questions that we may not be able to anticipate or that might require more detailed information. I am here to answer any question you may have about your city government. I encourage you to e-mail me anytime at bwarren@jerseyvillagetx.com. If you prefer, I am also available to speak with you by phone. My personal cell phone number is 713-515-2958. Feel free to call me or send a text anytime.

I realize, however, that as much as the Internet or a phone call might be convenient, they should never replace in-person communication in our civic engagement. As I promised during my campaign, I will hold quarterly town halls at the Jersey Village Civic Center to answer your questions. The first Mayor's Town Hall will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 7:00pm. If you can't attend this one, don't worry – we'll have another one in just three short months.

Finally, I am happy to share some great updates regarding Village Center! Collaborate, the master developer of Village Center, recently introduced several of their partners for the retail and office developments. NewQuest Properties, a local developer with a retail portfolio of over 15 million square feet of retail space valued at over \$2 billion, will bring their extensive retail development and leasing experience to this project. KHJR, a national real estate development firm specializing in medical facilities, is building a two-story 40,000 square foot wellness center in Village Center. The wellness center will house primary care physicians as well as retail oriented toward fostering healthier lifestyles. I will share additional details on this development as progress continues.

It is an exciting time to live in Jersey Village! Working together, we can retain our small-town characteristics while fostering development which fits the needs, character, and values of our community.

Your neighbor. 2hl-

Bobby Warren Mayor