



City Administrator's Update

HIGHLAND HAVEN

August 15, 2025



A Sincere Thank You Budget, Bond Details, and Legislative Clarification

Dear Highland Haven Residents,

Thank you to everyone who attended the Board of Aldermen meeting on August 5, 2025, and engaged with the presentation on the proposed Budget and the \$1,000,000 General Obligation (GO) Bond for the Water System that will be voted on in the November 2025 election. Your questions and feedback were invaluable, and I deeply appreciate the productive conversations about the budget and bond. The Board of Aldermen's hard work was on full display, and your participation strengthens our community's decision-making process.

I also want to address a misstatement from the meeting. I incorrectly referenced House Bill 2207 and Senate Bill 1024 from the 2025 Texas Legislative Session as having passed, suggesting they imposed waiting periods for resubmitting failed bond proposals. After review, I've confirmed these bills did not pass, meaning there is no state-mandated waiting period. I apologize for this oversight and any confusion it caused. My aim is always to provide accurate information, and I take full responsibility for the error. I will note that a similar bill (House Bill 54) about a five-year waiting period if bonds fail, has been filed in the current first special legislative session, noting this topic is an important piece to our state legislature.

On August 15, 2025, Governor Greg Abbott announced a second special session of the 89th Texas Legislature, beginning at noon, to address the same 19 agenda items from the first special session, which ended without a quorum. We will continue to monitor legislation being filed during this new special session in order to study how it may impact Highland Haven if it becomes law.

The proposed \$1,000,000 GO bond, to be voted on in the November 2025 election, would fund the following projects if approved:

- Property acquisition: Purchase of property identified in the city's comprehensive plan. The current owner has offered to sell the property to the city.
- Water system improvements: Upgrades and/or repairs to the city's water system infrastructure to maintain reliable water services.

The proposed bond is set up to not create a debt service tax or impact water rates. Projected annual payments for the bond will be about \$13,000 less than our current payments, and we will not have a full principal and interest payment due until our current bond is paid off.

Detailed information about the bond, including a brief presentation video are available on the city website at www.highlandhaventx.com. If you or anyone you know would like to meet to discuss the bond, please reach out to me at cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com and I'd be happy to set something up. The bond requires voter approval in November 2025 to proceed.

As always, stay informed, stay involved, and thank you for being an engaged part of our community!

City Administrator
Highland Haven, TX
cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com



Next BOA Meeting

The Board of Aldermen will have their next regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday August 19, in the community center.

A copy of the agendas will be available online, as well as the packets.

Next P&Z Meeting

The next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday September 11, at the Community Center.

A copy of the agenda will be available online, as well as the packet.

Facts About the Water Investment Bond

1. The proposed bond is a **General Obligation (GO) Bond in the amount of \$1,000,000.**
2. Bond proceeds will be used to **purchase property for the water system** and to **fund some system repairs and/or upgrades.**
3. Once the bond is approved, the Board will **repay the bond using water system revenues (enterprise fund); no debt service tax will be created** and **water rates will not be raised** due to the bond.
4. The first two payments on the bond will be **interest-only** and funded from **General Fund reserves**, as outlined in the City's adopted budget.
5. When the full principal and interest payments begin for the new bond, the City's **current bond will be paid off**, and **principal and interest for the new bond** will be **paid from water fund revenues.**
6. The **annual bond payments** for the **new bond** are estimated to be approximately **\$13,000 less than the current bond payments.**
7. The property intended for purchase is **adjacent to the City's water plant** and contains **two water wells** for which the City currently holds historical lease agreements and pays royalties.
8. The City has planned to purchase this property **since 2004 as part of the Comprehensive Plan**, to ensure full control over its water infrastructure.
9. Acquiring the property will **allow for future water system development if needed** and eliminate royalty payments.
10. Possible **water system upgrades or repairs** potentially funded with this bond include:
 - a. **Replacing the current water system generator** (required by TCEQ)
 - b. **Building out well #6** and connecting it to the system
 - c. **Adding variable frequency drives to distribution pump motors**
(Not all upgrades may be completed with this bond)

Stay in the Loop & Reach Out!

We appreciate you taking the time to stay informed about what's happening in Highland Haven. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat about city matters, we're always happy to hear from you! Feel free to reach out, and we'll do our best to provide answers and keep you in the know.

📞 Phone: (830) 265-4366

✉ Email: cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com

🏢 City Hall Address: 510-A Highland Dr., Highland Haven, TX 78654

Stay engaged, stay involved, and thank you for being a part of what makes Highland Haven a great place to live!