

Hays Free Press

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Oct. 21, 2013

Kyle City Mayor and Council Members
Kyle, TX 78640

RE: Public Notice of annexation proceedings

I understand that there has been some concern regarding the publication of the legal notice on the recent annexation proposal by the city. I just want to let you know that it was simply mistakes that led to the lack of the notice being placed in the Oct. 9 edition.

Usually, a staff member gives us notice that a public notice is expected and we reserve space. Then, early on Wednesday morning, following the Tuesday night meeting, that notice is sent to us to be placed in the newspaper.

However, on Tuesday, Oct. 8, we were not notified of the possibility of a public notice coming in Wednesday morning. Usually, we upload pages to the printer's FTP site each Wednesday by 9 a.m. On Wednesday, Oct. 9, we uploaded earlier than usual (at 8:43 a.m.) because the pages were completed. We were headed out the door shortly after 9 a.m. for breakfast but got a call from the city at 9:06 a.m., requesting to get a public notice in. We called our printers in Bryan, Texas. They had already formatted the large metal plates to be put on the presses and when this call came in, they were trying to stop everything on their end. We uploaded a new page containing the city's new public notice (around 9:40 a.m.), but did not get it to Bryan in time to stop the presses. We were not notified by the printers that they were unable to make the switch and only noticed it on Tuesday, as Monday was a holiday for city employees. As soon as we noticed it, we called the city, but the mistake of not notifying the various ESDs had caused an entire new problem, so this lack of printing was put on the back burner, as city staff was scrambling to figure out what to do about the ESD problem.

For the Oct. 16 edition, we *were* given the notice ahead of time, knowing that it might *have* to run, in case the council decided to proceed, regardless of the ESD lack of notification. After Tuesday night's vote to pull the annexation until all entities could be properly notified, I was able to pull the annexation public notice late Tuesday night, so that it did not go out to subscribers and on the newspaper racks.

There were no charges for either week. I just wanted to let you know the procedures, should any of you have questions about how this happened.

Thanks,



Cyndy Slovak-Barton
Publisher

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