

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2021

VOL. 17 | ISSUE 10



Da A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Taylor has seen a lot of growth over the past few years and all signs point to that growth continuing in the future. That is why the budget theme for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Budget is "Growing Pains."

New growth brings more residents and more revenue to a city, but it also brings increased demands on municipal services and additional costs for maintenance and construction for streets, roads, and other infrastructure. The City of Taylor Finance Department was tasked with balancing the costs of the City's needed improvements with residents' desire to maintain an affordable standard of living. Council approved the FY 2022 Budget during its regular meeting on Sept. 9 and the budget went into effect on Oct. 1.

The FY 2022 budget is based on a \$0.765115 tax rate (decreased from \$0.809215). The budget also increased the Over 65 Exemption to \$30,000. The City will also issue \$11.6-\$13M in tax supported debt in early 2022, a portion of which will be used to purchase equipment for street improvements and vehicles for public safety. The remaining debt proceeds will be used for projects to be identified and recommended later this year.

The budget also includes public safety mental health services, an increase in street material funding, and the addition of two new staff positions for Development Services and the Finance Department. This year's budget also increases funding for the HOME Program, which had been decreased in recent years, back to levels that will support the building of four homes.

I'm excited to see new growth coming to Taylor, and I know that our City Council and staff are prepared to face the challenges that this new chapter will bring for our community. It's an exciting time to be living in the City of Taylor!

To view the adopted budget, visit www.taylortx.gov.

Brian LaBorde
City Manager

COUNCIL APPROVES RESOLUTION AT JOINT MEETING

The Taylor City Council participated in a joint meeting with the Williamson County Commissioners Court held on Wednesday, Sept. 8. In the meeting, Council approved a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute agreements with Samsung Austin Semiconductor, LLC relating to the development of the company's semiconductor plant project. The City of Taylor has been a finalist as the possible location of Samsung's expansion in the United States.

"I am just so appreciative of Samsung for providing Taylor the opportunity to compete for this project," Mayor Brandt Rydell said at a press conference held after the meeting. "We just needed that opportunity because we knew we had something special here in Taylor. And we had a team, an incredible team that could make this happen. That team included our partners at the county level, the state and the federal level. And then all of our local partners here from the school district to our Economic Development Corporation and our Chamber of Commerce. We have a fabulous community; fabulous spirit and we knew we had a great story to tell to Samsung."

The City's resolution includes authorization for the Mayor to take necessary action to execute a Tax Abatement Agreement, a Development Agreement, a Development Review Services Reimbursement Agreement, and a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Economic Development Agreement and Chapter 380 Economic Development Incentive Agreement. By law, the City must follow a series of steps prior to executing the economic development agreements described in the resolution. These steps include holding a public hearing to designate a reinvestment zone, and then approving a tax abatement agreement after a 30-day public notice period.

The City held a public hearing for the designation of the Reinvestment Zone on September 9, and it was approved. The final tax abatement agreement will be scheduled for consideration at Special Called City Council Meeting on Thursday, October 14.

"Should Samsung select Taylor as the location for this project, it opens up a world of opportunity for this community, for our existing businesses, for new businesses in Taylor, for our residents, for our kids," Mayor Rydell said.

To view a recording of the meeting as well as additional information about the project and updates, visit www.taylortx.gov.



The Taylor City Council participated in a joint meeting with the Williamson County Commissioners Court held on Wednesday, Sept. 8.



CITY OF TAYLOR WASTEWATER AVERAGING

As a reminder, the City of Taylor conducts its annual sewer averaging from late November through March. The months that are used are typically the lowest consumption months of the year. These three months are averaged to get the sewer rates for the next 12 months.

Prior to the averaging period you are advised to repair any leaky faucets or running toilets and any other water leaks. This will avoid a high usage month during the averaging period and help to keep your sewer rate down.

WASTEWATER AVERAGING PERIOD PER ZONE

To find your zone, look at the payment coupon of your water bill next to the billing address.

	SERVICE DATES	BILLING DATES	NEW RATE APPEARS ON BILL DATE
ZONE 1	11/23/21 – 2/23/22	1/5/22, 2/5/22, 3/5/22	4/5/22
ZONE 2	11/29/21 – 3/2/22	1/12/22, 2/12/22, 3/12/22	4/12/22
ZONE 3	12/9/21 – 3/10/22	1/19/22, 2/19/22, 3/19/22	4/19/22
ZONE 4	12/16/21 – 3/17/22	1/26/22, 2/26/22, 3/26/22	4/26/22

OCTOBER 3-9 IS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October's **Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety** Fire Prevention Week 2021 is October 3-9.

This years' theme focuses on fire alarm and the sound that they emit.

Here are five key ways to make sure you're prepared:

1. Every resident should have at least one fire alarm in their home.
2. Fire alarms should be mounted on the ceiling in each bedroom and in the hallways adjacent to the bedrooms.
3. Every home should have a fire extinguisher mounted in an area where all members of the family know the location and are familiar with its use.
4. Homes should have their address numbers conspicuously mounted so that are easily seen from the roadway.
5. Potting soil should not be used to extinguish cigarettes. Potting soils are composed of organic materials that are primarily decomposed wood chips and moss and not dirt.

Fire safety is important to everyone. Please contact the City of Taylor Fire Department 512-352-6992 to discuss your home's fire safety plan or to have a fire alarm installed at no cost.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

Join us for Preschool Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room.

Oct. 6 - The Color Blue

Oct. 13 - The Color Purple

Oct. 20 - The Number One

Oct. 27 - Halloween

Oct. 31 - Join us for Spooktacular from 6-8 p.m. at Heritage Square

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

To stay up to date on city events, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and check the Community Calendar on the City's website at taylortx.gov.

October

5 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

5 PM-9 PM

Block party, registration opens Sept. 1. Visit www.taylortx.gov/police for more information.

30 MAIN STREET CAR SHOW

10 AM-4 PM | DOWNTOWN TAYLOR

Visit www.taylortx.gov for more info on sponsorship, car registration & more.

31 SPOOKTACULAR SCARE ON THE SQUARE

6-8 PM | HERITAGE SQUARE

Visit www.taylortx.gov for more information.

November

27 SHOP SMALL SATURDAY

DOWNTOWN TAYLOR

Support your local businesses and shop small, shop local!

December

4 CHRISTMAS FAIR

10AM - 4PM | CITY HALL & HERITAGE SQUARE

Experience the joy of the holiday season by coming downtown for an arts and crafts extravaganza during the Christmas Fair.

4 CHRISTMAS PARADE

7PM | DOWNTOWN TAYLOR

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

6 p.m. Thursday:

October 14, 28; November 11

Watch meetings live online or taped recordings at www.taylortx.gov.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City offices will be closed on:

Thursday, November 11

(Veterans Day)

Thursday & Friday, November 25 & 26
(Thanksgiving)