

# Community Connection

May, 2014  
Volume 10, Issue 5



## Cost of Living Remains Lowest in County

For the past several years, the following comparison has been provided by the City of Georgetown to neighboring cities in Williamson County.

The City of Taylor has not changed position as having the lowest cost of living in the county. The property tax is based on average home values as of March 21, 2014: Taylor \$88,580 at a combined tax rate of \$2.71292; Hutto \$130,896 with a combined tax rate of \$2.79772; and Georgetown \$199,986 at a rate of \$2.28653 as provided by the Williamson County Appraisal District.

This chart indicates the combined costs of utilities and property tax and shows Taylor to have the lowest cost of living in the area. Because the City of Taylor has such low property values, the tax rate is justifiably higher.

## A Message From The Interim City Manager

The City of Taylor is OPEN FOR BUSINESS! We want Taylor to be as business friendly as possible, providing assistance to anyone who is thinking of relocating or beginning a new business here. We have implemented programs such as the Downtown Rental Assistance and façade grants in the Historic Downtown area and may offer economic development incentives for larger companies that provide additional jobs in our city.

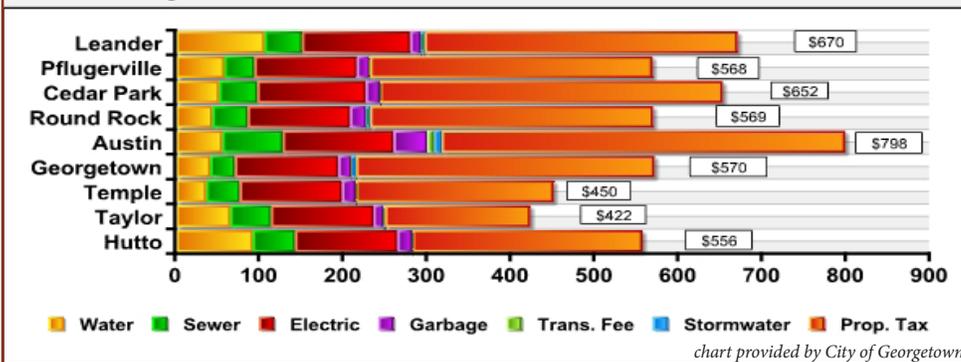


Our goal is to improve all facets of doing business with the City. We are undertaking a complete analysis by a third party of how the City handles permitting and the development review process as well as contract engineering services. Our service should be top-notch and we are doing everything we can to make the City of Taylor the best it can be.

- Jeff Straub

### Combined Total Monthly Utility and Tax Expense

Based on Average Home Value as of 03/21/14



## City Manager Search Underway

The City Council selected Chris Hartung Consulting, LLC from Arlington, Texas to facilitate a professional search for the City Manager position. Hartung was selected from a list of four finalists who responded to the Request for Qualifications. Chris Hartung, owner and president, has over 25 years of public sector consulting experience in the areas of executive search, compensation, classification and other management consulting projects, and more than 20 years experience as a manager in city government.

The process includes developing a profile, recruitment of applicants, screening to include reference checks and assist in negotiating the contract once a candidate is selected. The Council's goal is to have the project completed within four months.

Community Connection is a monthly publication of the City of Taylor

400 Porter Street Taylor, TX 76574 512.352.3675 www.taylor.tx.gov



## Election Day - When & Where to Vote

An election will be held in the City of Taylor on Saturday, May 10, 2014 for the purpose of electing one person as a member of the City Council for the At Large position. There are two candidates: Jesse Ancira, Jr. (incumbent) and Ricky Louis Selin.

Early voting begins Monday, April 28 – Saturday, May 3 (8 am to 6 pm); Sunday, May 4 – no voting; Monday, May 5 and Tuesday, May 6 (7 am to 7 pm). Early voting will be held in the foyer of Taylor City Hall, 400 Porter St.

On Election Day, May 10, residents may vote at any voting center in the county. Taylor has four as follows:

District 1	Taylor City Hall 400 Porter St.
District 2	Taylor Public Library 801 Vance St.
District 3	Pasemann Elementary School Lobby 2808 North Drive
District 4	TISD Main Street Events Center 3101 N. Main Street

## Report

### First Meeting of Street Committee

The first meeting of the Street Maintenance and Reconstruction Committee was held on March 13 at the Taylor Public Library. The primary responsibilities of the committee are two-fold:

- 1) to discuss and recommend to the Council potential funding mechanisms for an annual street maintenance program and
- 2) consider funding mechanisms and make recommendations concerning street reconstruction. Please note these are two separate issues, maintenance and reconstruction.

The committee is made up of citizens directly appointed by individual council members.

At the meeting the group selected Ed Komandosky as Chair and Dolores Garza as Vice Chair.

The next meetings are scheduled for 6 p.m. on April 3 at the Taylor Public Library and April 17 in the Council Chambers in City Hall. The meetings are open to the public.



*Street Maintenance & Reconstruction Committee, left to right, Joe Naizer, Erwin Stauffer, Dolores Garza, Andrew Gonzales, Ed Komandosky, Dave Bogan, Eric Weiner, Lonnie Zycha*

### City Closings

All City offices and Taylor Public Library will close at 12 noon April 18, Good Friday, and Library will be closed April 19.

## Community Events

### Easter Egg Hunt



(for ages 1-6)

10 am, Saturday, April 19

Murphy Park

Contact: Deby Lannen

512-352-3463

### City-wide Spring Clean Up

8 am – 3 pm, Saturday, April 19

Drop locations:

1424 N. Main

1200 Welch St.

Contact: Lance Zeplin

512-352-6257



10 am – 5 pm, Saturday, May 3

Historic Downtown Taylor

Contact: Deby Lannen

523-352-3463



### Memorial Day Salute

10 am, Monday, May 26

Swimming Pool Pavilion at

Liberty Garden

## City Council Meetings

April 10 & 24, 2014

May 8 & 22, 2014

6 p.m. at City Hall