

# Community Connection

December, 2014 - January, 2015  
Volume 11, Issue 1



Mr. Turner speaking to the Taylor Conservation & Heritage Society board.

## Year in Review

The past year has been one of many accomplishments and a springboard for exciting plans to come in the future. The City of Taylor continues to demonstrate excellence in the financial management of funds received from taxes and fees.

Once again Finance Director Rosemarie Dennis has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for the sixth consecutive year. Also, the City has been named to the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle as a Platinum Member, the highest level of recognition for online financial transparency.

A list of capital improvements projects (CIP) and others that have been completed or may be in process include the following:

### Streets:

Street maintenance paving project, "fair" to "good"	\$2.3 million
Downtown streets are designed, waiting for Master Plan	1.5 million
Jones/Burkett Streets rehab (CDBG funding)	1.03 million

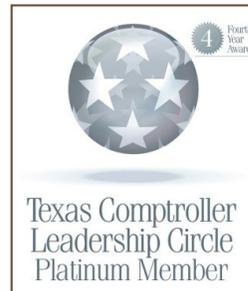
### Grants:

TX Parks & Wildlife trail from Bull Branch to Robinson Park	158,250
TXDOT TEP 10' sidewalks on Main Street from north loop to south loop	1.3 million

### TIF funded projects:

Downtown Master Plan being developed	100,000
Downtown incentives, façade grants, infrastructure imp.	209,000

Other major issues that are being addressed includes airport improvements, disposition of the Seventh Street Campus building owned by TISD and funding for rehab of the city's "failed" streets. Community outreach programs such as Taylor 101 was initiated and the Citizens Fire Academy will begin in January.



## A Message From The City Manager

I am really excited about the start of the New Year, 2015. Spending time with many of the civic organizations and getting to know a number of community members has been very rewarding to me. I expect this to continue and hope to get around seeing and meeting more of you.

One of the goals I have is to make sure the City staff and management puts the customer first in everything we do, whether it's fixing a broken water main, answering the phone or listening to problems our customers may have. Everything we do is an opportunity to serve our customers in the very best way possible.

We will never forget the citizens of Taylor are our customers and we are here to serve them.  
- Isaac

Community Connection is a monthly publication of the City of Taylor

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



## Water Usage Averaging

During December, January and February, the average residential water consumption will be used to calculate the monthly wastewater charges for the next 12 months effective as shown below:

Zone 1 & 2 will be changed to the new rate on April bills.

Zone 3 & 4 will be changed to the new rate on March bills.

For questions, contact the Utility Billing Office at 512-352-1066.

## Taylor 101 Class Starts in January

Once again, the City of Taylor is offering residents a great opportunity to learn about the city. The third class of Taylor 101 begins January 27. It's a 10-week program that provides an in-depth look at how the city operates. The class will be free and includes presentations by city department heads and field trips to several city sites. Admission requirements and additional information are located on the City website: <http://www.taylor.tx.gov/721/Taylor101> Or call City Hall, 512-352-3675.

## Citizens Fire Academy

The City of Taylor Fire Department will begin a Citizens Fire Academy beginning January 13 that will provide hands-on education about the department. The Taylor Fire Department has evolved from a traditional fire department responding to fires into an entity with many other responsibilities like training, education, prevention and emergency response beyond fire fighting.

The academy is a 12-week course for individuals who are at least 18 years old and either live or work in Taylor. For additional information and an application, call Michelle at Fire Department Admin, 512-352-6992.

## Milestones

This year the 1935 City Hall was taken down from Heritage Square after efforts to save the building proved to be fruitless. A copper time capsule was removed from the cornerstone during demolition and with much fanfare, it was reopened on October 25, 2014.



The capsule was delivered in fine style and a crowd witnessed its opening. The contents will be displayed in the Taylor Public Library.

### Water Smart Tip:

Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from bursting or freezing! For more smart water tips and ideas, visit:

[www.takecareoftexas.org](http://www.takecareoftexas.org) and [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)



## Community Events



### Third Thursday Events

Historic Downtown Taylor

Dec. 18 & Jan. 15, 2015

5 – 9 p.m.

### Martin Luther King Day Community March & Program



January 19, 2015

March begins at 9 am from  
Robinson Park to Taylor City Hall  
Program begins upon arrival



## Closings

*All City offices will be closed on the following dates.*

*Dec. 24 & 25, Christmas Holidays  
January 1, 2015, New Year's Day  
(Garbage pickup delayed one day)*

*January 17 & 19, 2015  
MLK Day observance  
(Regular garbage pickup schedule)*

## City Council Meetings

Thursday, December 11  
Thursdays, Jan. 8 & 22, 2015  
*All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and  
are held at City Hall*