

Community Connection



Photo by Andy Sharp Photography

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Notice of Municipal Election May 9, 2015

Notice has been given that a City election will be held on May 9, 2015 to elect one person as a member of the City Council from District 2 (currently held by Chris Gonzales, Sr.) and District 3 (currently held by Brandt Rydell).

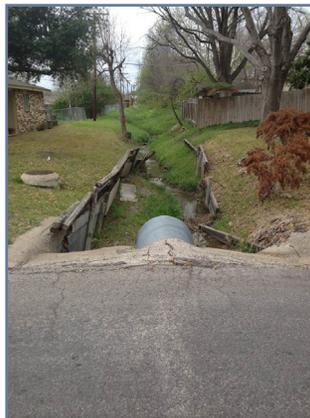
Candidate applications for City Council may be found on the City website www.taylor.tx.gov or may be picked up at City Hall, 400 Porter Street, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Completed applications may be submitted to the City Clerk (Susan Brock) in person beginning on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 through 5 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015.

Council Addresses Drainage Priorities

In December, the City Council began an assessment of drainage improvement projects. Working with Sledge Engineering and Halff and Associates, the Council reviewed a priority list of 12 drainage issues. Cost for each project varies and will be paid from the remaining 2012 bond proceeds of \$339,894 and with the use of fund balance from the MDUS Fund in the amount of \$448,187, creating a pool of \$788,081.

Some projects could include a combination of replacing utilities and



rebuilding streets that would provide access to other City funds set aside for those purposes. Some projects may be phased in over a period of several years making it easier to address some of the major drainage improvements.



A Message From The City Manager

As the New Year begins, the Council and staff are looking forward to developing a new strategic plan for the future of Taylor. The last plan which was done in 2008 provided the vision, mission, goals, and objectives which has guided our community. I look forward to our 2015 strategic planning efforts.

Also, we are doing a search to hire an assistant city manager. Filling that position is critical to ensure there is appropriate management support for our organization to complete our tasks in a timely and efficient manner.

And, last but not least, we are celebrating our new brand, "Taylor Made Texas!" This brand will be utilized by the City along with the Taylor Independent School District, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Taylor Economic Development Corp. You will begin to see it on our website, social media and other informational materials. It is our effort to communicate that our services will be tailor-made for you, the citizens and businesses of the Taylor community. - Isaac

Community Connection is a monthly publication of the City of Taylor

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Department of Development Services

A new initiative is underway to enhance the Development Services Department beginning with a redesign of the permit office and lobby area of Taylor City Hall. The intent is to create a space where staff can assist customers who come in for planning, permits, and zoning services.

Other changes include online permitting and tracking, a centralized permitting process, web-based GIS and plans to hire a fulltime planner in the future.

A Development Services Advisory Committee has been appointed and will be providing input into the process. All these efforts are geared toward providing better customer service and greater customer satisfaction.

Jones/Burkett Streets Update

Atmos Energy has completed the relocation of gas lines to residences on the street and the street rehab is underway with Facilities Rehabilitation as the contractor. The utilities have been replaced and there are rolling closures and roadwork during the street improvements from East Lake Drive to Fourth Street.



New Street Signs



Up in time for Martin Luther King Day on January 19, 2015, new street signs changing Walnut Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. have been installed.



Finance Department Recognized

The City Finance Department has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for the sixth consecutive year. Recognized were Finance Director Rosemarie Dennis, Betty Richardson, Diane Naivar and Lillie Lawler.

Water Smart Tip:

Toilet leaks can be silent! Be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year. For more smart water tips and ideas, visit: www.takecareoftexas.org and www.wateruseitwisely.com



Community Events



Third Thursday Events

Historic Downtown Taylor
Jan.15, 2015 & Feb 19, 2015
5 - 9 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Community March & Program

Don't forget MLK Day Celebration!



January 19, 2015
March begins at 9 am from
Robinson Park to Taylor City Hall
Program begins upon arrival

Moody Museum Valentine's Gala



Saturday, February 14, 2015
Watch for details!

Closings

All City offices will be closed on the following dates.

January 17 & 19, 2015
MLK Day observance
President's Day
February 14 & 16, 2015
(Regular garbage pickup schedule)

City Council Meetings

Thursday, Jan. 8, 2015
Thursdays, Feb. 12 & 26, 2015
All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and
are held at City Hall