

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION



WWW.CI.TAYLOR.TX.US

**City of Taylor  
City Council**

Bernabe Gonzales  
Mayor  
District 2

Donald R. Hill  
Mayor Pro Tem  
District 1

John McDonald  
District 3

Ella Jez  
District 4

Rod Hortenstine  
At Large

**WHO TO CALL AT  
CITY HALL?**

General Information  
352-3675

Municipal Court  
352-5977

Street Department  
352-5818

Water Bills  
352-2066

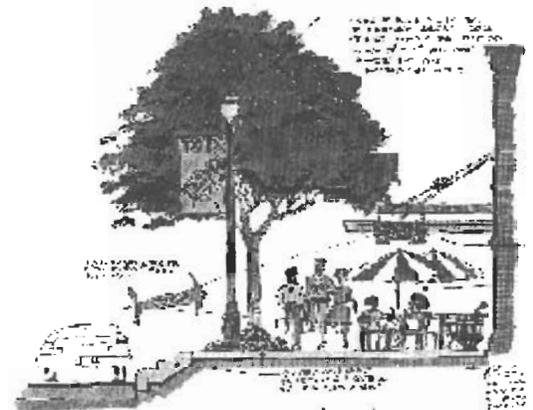
Library  
352-3434

## Downtown Streetscape To Become Reality

The long awaited streetscape project for Taylor's historic downtown is about to become a reality. The Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) awarded the bid for the base project of \$1,423,309 to Knish Corporation from Lonsdale, Minnnesota.

This bid created a shortfall of \$116,096 from the amount of funds originally allocated for the project by the City. After reviewing the bid process at its January 11 meeting, Council approved the additional funds needed to move the project forward. Additional funds for alternate bid costs will be considered later.

This is a TXDOT project funded with \$1.222 million in Federal TEA-21 grant funds combined with \$305,000 in 2000 CO bond funds from the City of Taylor in addition to the \$116,096. The total project to date is \$1.644 million.



The Knish Corporation has 16 years of experience in streetscape construction and has done more than 20 streetscape projects nationwide. Completion of the project should take about six months after breaking ground.

In the meantime, plans are being made to provide information on the project to the community and to address any concerns or issues with residents, property and business owners in the project area. For questions or additional information, contact Jean Johnson at 352-5448.

## City Receives Another Major Grant From TP&WD

City officials were awarded an additional \$400,000 grant from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department towards the development of 40 plus acres of East Williamson County Park located on Loop 397. This is in addition to a \$500,000 grant received in 2006.

The proposed development will initially include a soccer field, softball field, baseball field, basketball court, pavillion, benches, playground and trail. The engineering study and design phase should be completed by mid-year with construction to begin later this year.

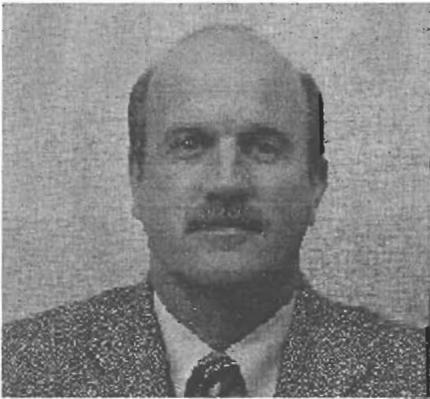
## New Fire Chief Hired

Bruce A. Watson was named Fire Chief for the City of Taylor by the City Council in January.

Watson brings more than 28 years as a professional in Municipal Fire Service and Emergency Service Special Districts. For the past 11 years, he served as Fire Chief for the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 which is the Hudson Bend Fire Department.

His experience includes emergency management preplanning and preparation for natural or terrorist disasters. He has been a member of the WMD response group and a County Resource Coordinator for area-wide emergency responses for the Austin/Travis County area.

Watson is the current board chair of the Austin Community College Fire Academy advisory board and has 15 years of experience as a fire service instructor.



## Municipal Election Day Set

Election day for two City Council seats has been set for May 12, 2007. Terms are expiring for District 1 currently held by Mayor Pro Tem Donald R. Hill and District 4 currently held by Ella Jez.

Candidate application packets are available online at [www.ci.taylor.tx.us](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us) or may be picked up at City Hall beginning February 12 to March 12, 2007. The deadline for taking candidate applications is 5 p.m. on March 12, 2007. Applicants must reside in the District they wish to represent.

On May 12, polling places will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at the following locations:

District 1            City Hall  
400 Porter St.  
Taylor, Texas

District 4            First Baptist Church  
701 Davis  
Taylor, Texas

## Tax Preparation Help

The AARP Tax-Aide Foundation is providing free tax preparation assistance for taxpayers with low- to moderate-incomes and special assistance for those age 60 and older. Volunteers will be available on Wednesdays from 12 noon-4 p.m., February 7 to April 11 in the Taylor Public Library, 400 Porter St. Call 352-3434 for information.

## Correction to "New Road . . ."

Thanks for calling our attention to this error. The right of way for the new road to be constructed between CR 409 and Old Thorndale Road was donated to the City of Taylor by Wayne Schroeder, son of the late Raymond Schroeder.

## Garbage Collection Audit

This month the City will conduct an audit of residential garbage collection accounts. A count of carts and sizes will be made and verified to assure accurate billing. Currently residents may choose cart sizes in 96 gallons at \$10.00 or 65 gallons at \$8.61 per month.

As a result of this audit, some customers may experience a rate adjustment in their monthly utility bill. Contact Aaron Riethmayer at 352-2066 for additional information.



[www.ci.taylor.tx.us](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us)

**WEBTIPS**

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**Community Connection**

Online

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## City Calendar of Events for February

- 2/1     Main Street Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm
- 2/6     City Council meeting @ 6 pm
- 2/6     Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
- 2/13    Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
- 2/20    Library Board @ 6 pm
- 2/20    Parks Advisory Board @ 6 pm
- 2/22    Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm
- 2/27    City Council meeting @ 6 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at [www.ci.taylor.tx.us](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us). Call 352-3675 for additional information.

## Community Connection

Published monthly by the City of Taylor and delivered with the utility bill each month. For more information about any story in this issue contact Jean Johnson, Main Street/Communications Manager, at 352-5448 or Susan Brock, City Clerk, at 352-3676.

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