

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

City Leaders Host Town Hall Community Meeting

City residents were invited to a Town Hall Community meeting at the new Taylor Public Library on September 20. Exhibits from each City department were set up for citizens to see all the services that are provided by the City of Taylor. There were easels all around the room to demonstrate the accomplishments and future plans that impact the quality of life here in Taylor.



Community gathering at Town Hall meeting.

The focal point of the night was a presentation by City Manager Frank Salvato. The intent of the meeting was to inform citizens of the various revenue sources used to run the City and how their tax dollars are managed and spent.

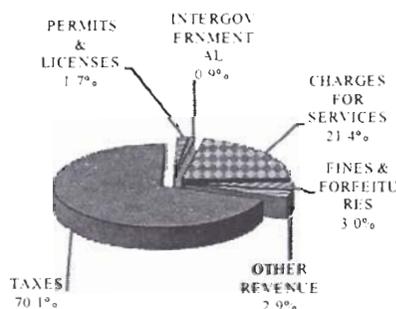
Seventy percent of the taxes in the General Fund comes from Ad Valorem Tax (39.5%), Sales Tax (22.9%), Franchise Tax (6.9%) and Other (0.8%). The remaining 30 percent comes from charges for services, permits & licenses, fines and

forfeitures, intergovernmental allocations and other revenue. The General Fund is used for operations and maintenance. Capital improvements projects are funded from bond issues, grants and transfers from the General Fund and Utility Fund.

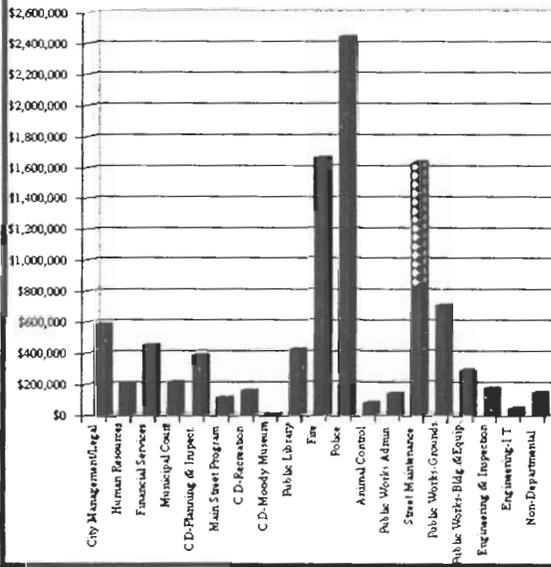
Where does the money go? The largest General Fund expenditures go to provide a safe environment for the community. The top three categories are Police at more than \$2.442 million, Fire at \$1.663 million and street maintenance/rehab and operations at \$1.6 million. A chart depicting General Fund Expenditures by Department is shown on page two. This graphically demonstrates how the money is spent.

Among the many exhibits were a Fire Department truck and Police cruiser on display in the parking lot. Sparky the Fire Dog was on hand for the children. There were many educational displays for young and old alike. The new Public Library also was open for the evening.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES



Where Does the Money Go?



City Council Approves 2007-2008 Budget

The annual budget of \$20,716,823 for the City of Taylor was approved by the City Council. This includes \$10.7 million for the General Fund and \$5.9 million for the Utility Fund. General Fund revenues are derived primarily from ad valorem tax and sales tax collections. The major expenditures in this fund are Police, Fire and street maintenance. The Utility Fund revenue is derived from water and wastewater payments. The Utility Fund pays the General Fund to reimburse administrative costs. The balance of the budget includes Debt Service of \$2.4 million and smaller miscellaneous funds such as the airport, cemetery, etc.

Additionally, the Council approved a property tax rate of \$.79 per \$100 in property value. This is a decrease of \$.005 (one-half cent) from last year.

Sales Tax Makes Impact On Property Tax Rate

Since 1999, the City's ad valorem tax rate has grown from 62 cents to 79 cents. A significant factor behind these numbers is that the City of Taylor has managed to hold the operations and maintenance tax rate between 55 cents and 60 cents. The difference in the tax rate growth is attributed to issuing and servicing debt for major capital improvements.

A second very significant factor is the role that Sales Tax plays in impacting the property tax rate. Over the same period of time, sales tax revenues have grown from \$1.4 million in 1999 to more than \$3 million for 2006-07. The City experienced a 35 percent growth in sales tax from 2006 to 2007. This is significant because \$.005 (one-half cent) of every sales tax dollar earned is allocated to the City to reduce ad valorem taxes. Without this growing sales tax revenue, the ad valorem tax rate would be higher by \$.20.

Shopping locally for goods and services keeps these sales tax dollars here in Taylor!

Get Ready for the Downtown Taylor Spooktacular!!

Taylor Artists Guild - Dia de los Muertos - Oct. 27 & 31

Spookhouse by Main Street & Taylor Jaycees - Oct. 27 & 31

Taylor Merchants & Community Organizations - Oct. 31 Fun Family Night

City of Taylor - sponsor of a safe Halloween in Downtown Taylor.

Water & Wastewater Rates Increase Notice

Effective October 1, water and wastewater rates are going up but are still a good value for the residents of Taylor. Of the more than 5,000 water customers, average usage of water hovers around 6,700 gallons per month. The rate for the first 2,000 gallons of water is \$18.44, an increase of \$1.68. This rate is still much lower than the \$23.19 rate prior to the sale of the water treatment plant to the Brazos River Authority in 2004. The fee for 5,000 gallons of usage will be \$29.72.

Wastewater base rates also will increase by \$1.77 to \$13.55 for the first 2,000 gallons and \$26.72 for 5,000 gallons. The increase will first appear on the November bill that will be received around the first of December.

City Calendar of Events for October

- Oct. 2 Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
- Oct. 9 Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
- Oct. 9 City Council Meeting @ 6 pm
- Oct. 15 Moody Museum @ 5:30 pm
- Oct. 15 Main Street Advisory @ 6:30 pm
- Oct. 16 Library Board @ 6 pm
- Oct. 16 Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
- Oct. 23 City Council Meeting @ 6 pm
- Oct. 25 Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at www.ci.taylor.tx.us.

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.

Community Connection

Copyrighted 2007, City of Taylor
Printed by Centex Mailing Service