

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



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City of Taylor City Council

Rod Hortenstine
Mayor
At Large

Ella Pumphrey Jez
Mayor Pro Tem
District 4

Donald R. Hill
District 1

Bernabe Gonzales
District 2

John McDonald
District 3

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

Council Approves Bonds

The City Council has approved the issuance of Certificates of Obligation, Series 2008, to fund capital improvements this fiscal year, including the development of the East Williamson County Regional Park and infrastructure relating to the high pressure plane improvements. The Council has capped the debt for the City at no more than \$10,000,000.

Specialized Public Finance, Inc. is handling the bond issuance for the City. They received a very competitive low bid for the bonds from First Southwest Securities at an interest rate of 4.70%.

Specialized Public Finance, Inc. is a new firm made up of former bankers with First Southwest Company who have handled the City's past debt issuance. The financial consultants advised the City's recent upgrade in its Standard & Poors bond rating of A helped to place this bond issuance at a good rate.

HOME Grant Approved

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has awarded to the City of Taylor a grant in the amount of \$390,000. The funds will be used to build possibly six homes in the community within the next two years.

The planning and application process will take six months or so. Construction on the homes is anticipated to begin by the end of the year 2009.



Lt. Eric Woods and Fire Chief Bruce Watson

First Responder Award

The Taylor Fire Department was awarded the 2008 Texas EMS First Responder Award as the best in the State. The Taylor Fire Department was recognized for its leadership in EMS areas of patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and training.

The award was presented during the annual Texas Emergency Medical Services Conference in Fort Worth. A proclamation was presented to Lt. Eric Woods and Fire Chief Bruce Watson by Mayor Rod Hortenstine at the December 16 Council meeting.

Utility Bills - New Look

Beginning with the January billing for utilities, utility bills will have a new look. The City has contracted DataProse, Inc. for preparing and mailing its utility billing. This company is experienced in working with the City's software provider of Incode and has more than 20 years in providing municipality billing services.

Christmas Tree Recycling!

Keep Taylor Beautiful and the City of Taylor are encouraging citizens to recycle their Christmas trees. Trees may be dropped off at the former rodeo grounds on Airport Road between ERCOT and the Municipal Airport beginning Friday, December 26, through Saturday, January 3. Please remove all decorations, tinsel, lights, wires, nails and tree stands before dropping off the tree. The trees will be shredded into a mulch and used for landscaping in the City parks and trails.

TFD Honor Guard

The Taylor Fire Department now has its own uniformed Honor Guard. Firefighter Matt Whisenant completed training at the National Honor Guard Academy and serves as Commander. The group is trained for ceremonies, flag etiquette and line-of-duty funerals.



FF Matt Whisenant, Lt. Bobby Copeland, FF Derrick Stefik, DO Bobby Belcher (left to right)

City Calendar of Events for January

Jan. 6	City Council Parks Bid Review @ 6 pm
Jan. 6	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
Jan. 8	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
Jan. 13	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
Jan. 19	Moody Museum Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm
Jan. 20	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
Jan. 20	Library Board @ 6 pm
Jan. 21	Main Street Advisory Board @ 12 noon
Jan. 22	Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm
Jan. 27	City Council meeting @ 6 pm

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

DTV Transition Confusing? KEYE-TV Coming To Help

Television signals will switch from analog to digital on February 17. This may impact viewers who do not have cable or satellite and use rabbit ear or rooftop antennas. These viewers will need to acquire a converter box to enable their continued viewing.

Sound confusing? As a community service, the City of Taylor will be hosting KEYE-TV representatives at the Taylor Public Library to answer questions about the transition. Citizens can get help to order coupons online for converter boxes at a discounted price. Additional information is available at www.KEYETV.com and www.DTV2009.gov.

The Community Room at the Library will be open from 5 - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6 for assistance with information about the DTV transition. KEYE-TV also will do an onsite broadcast at the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. news. The public is invited. For more information, contact Jean Johnson, 352-5448.

Water Use Averaging Underway

Water use consumption during the months of December, January and February will be used to calculate the monthly water consumption and waste water charges for the next 12 months, beginning in April. For more information, contact 352-2066.



Martin Luther King Day Community March & Program

January 19, 2009

Starting at Taylor Community Center
Walnut & Robinson Streets
at 9 a.m.
to Taylor City Hall, 400 Porter St.

*City Offices and Taylor Public
Library will be closed for
National Holiday
Martin Luther King Day
Monday, January 19, 2009*

The Taylor Public Library will host

From Smaland, Sweden to Big Land Texas

From January - March 31

A traveling exhibit offered by the
Williamson Museum

This traveling exhibit examines the lives
and times of early Swedish immigrants
who left their homes to settle in
Williamson County and central Texas.

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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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