

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

Christopher Gonzales, Sr.
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

City Names New Fire Chief

The Taylor City Council approved the hiring of Laurence Patton Ekiss as the new Fire Chief of the Taylor Fire Department. A 26-year veteran of fire safety experience and management, Ekiss will manage a staff of 25 with a budget of approximately \$1.7 million.

“Out of 26 qualified applicants, we are very fortunate to hire a Fire Chief with the high caliber qualifications of Pat Ekiss,” said City Manager Jim Dunaway. “He brings a high standard of programs and professionalism to our department.”

Since 2002, Ekiss has served as Fire Chief of Forest Hill, Texas, a suburb of the Dallas area. During his tenure, he received the Patriot Award from the United States Armed Services in 2008. He was recognized in the Congressional Record of the United States Congress by State Representative Michael C. Burgess in 2007 for work related to furthering cooperative efforts with other jurisdictions in the event of widespread disaster, and for prudent use of State Homeland Security grant funds toward achieving this goal in the North Texas region.

Chief Ekiss holds licenses and certifications from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection and is a certified EMT-Paramedic. He holds an A. A. S. degree in Fire Science and will receive an A. A. S. degree in Fire Administration in May from Weatherford College. He plans to complete his bachelor’s degree from Tarleton State University in Business Administration.



New Fire Chief Pat Ekiss begins May 10

Special City Council Meeting - May 11

The Taylor City Council will hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11 to formally accept the election results of the May 8 elections. This includes the election results of the Council Place for District 4 and the bond election for an indoor recreation center.

Unopposed Council Member Don Hill for District 1 and the new Council Member for District 4 will be sworn in for three year terms. Following the swearing in ceremony, the Council will elect the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem from amongst themselves for a one-year term.

A public reception will be held immediately following the meeting for new and outgoing Council members. District 4 Council Member Ella Jez will retire her service after six years.

Memorial Day Salute to Vets

There will be a special Memorial Day Salute to Veterans on Monday, May 31 at 10 a.m. The ceremony will take place at Liberty Garden in Murphy Park, located near the Sycamore Street park entrance.

The Taylor Fire Department Honor Guard will perform the raising of the flag and the Taylor Police Honor Guard will fire a 21-gun salute to honor departed veterans, followed by the playing of "Taps." For additional information, contact Fred Switzer, 352-3463.

City Offices and the Taylor Public Library will be closed on Memorial Day, May 31.

2010 Texas Reading Club

The Taylor Public Library kicks off its Summer Reading Program June 1. "Catch the Reading Express!" is the theme this year for children from infant up to 12 years old. This program includes reading, Wednesday programs at 10:30 a.m. and Monday Night Movies at 6 p.m.

"Within Arms Reach, The Future is Yours!" is the theme of the Thursday Teen programs for youngsters from 12 - 18 years of age. This program includes reading goals and Thursday programs at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call 352-3434.

Farmers Market Opens May 3

Taylor's Farmers Market will open on Monday, May 3 at 3:30 p.m. and will remain open until 6 p.m. or until they sell out. Vendors will sell from their usual location on the east corner of Fifth Street and Main. Fresh, locally-grown produce includes vegetables, fruits and honey, depending on what is in season.

The Farmers Market will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6 p.m. through the summer until November 17. For additional information, contact Curtis Tiemann, 365-5750.

"KidFish" Coming June 12

"KidFish" will be held once again starting at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 12, at Bull Branch Park located just off Mallard Lane. "KidFish" is an annual event for the children in the community. This is a statewide non-profit outreach program designed to give youngsters 16 and under the opportunity to experience the sport of fishing and the outdoors.

Bull Branch Lake will be stocked with several hundred pounds of catfish. Young anglers will be provided with bait, tackle and loaner rods or they may bring their own if they wish. Youngsters may win awards for raising \$10 or more to be donated to the program, but it is not required to participate. Contact Fred Switzer, 352-3463 for more information.

Swim Season Opens May 29

Murphy Park and Robinson Park pools will open on Memorial Day weekend.

Murphy Park Pool Hours:

May 29-August 23
Tuesday through Saturday
12 noon - 8 pm
Sunday 1 - 8 pm
Closed on Monday (except for Memorial and Labor days): 12 noon - 8 pm

Fannie Robinson Park Pool Hours:

Memorial Day Weekend Hours
Saturday, May 29: 12 noon-8 pm
Sunday, May 30: 1-6 pm
Monday, May 31: 12 noon - 6 pm
Regular Hours (June 4-September 6):
Friday: 4-6 pm
Saturday: 12 noon-8 pm
Sunday: 1-6 pm

Admission Fees Both Pools:

Children under 3 years old - Free
Children 4-12 years old - \$2
Adults 13-59 years old - \$3
Seniors age 60 and over - \$2

Pool Passes are available:

30 visits for \$45
60 visits for \$90

Swim Lessons:

Contact the YMCA at 365-9622 for costs and schedules.

For all other information, contact the Pool Manager after May 29 at 352-3958 or Fred Switzer at 352-3463 during regular office hours at City Hall.

City Calendar of Events for May

May 11	Special meeting City Council @ 6:30 pm
May 11	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
May 13	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
May 17	Moody Museum Advisory Board @ 5:30 pm
May 18	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
May 18	Library Board @ 6 pm
May 19	Main Street Advisory Board @ 12 noon
May 25	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
May 27	Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at www.taylor.tx.gov

City Calendar of Events for June

June 7	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
June 8	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
June 10	City Council Meeting @ 6 pm
June 15	Library Board @ 6 pm
June 15	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
June 16	Main Street Advisory Board @ 4 pm
June 22	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
June 24	Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm