

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



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City of Taylor City Council

Rod Hortenstine
Mayor
At Large

John McDonald
Mayor Pro Tem
District 3

Donald R. Hill
District 1

Christopher Gonzales, Sr.
District 2

Chris Osborn
District 4

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

Finance Staff Wins Third GFOA Budget Award

The City of Taylor has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the third consecutive year. The award is for the 2009 fiscal period and represents a significant achievement by the City. Finance Director Rosemarie Dennis and her staff were recognized by the City Council for their good work in preparing a quality budget presentation and for receiving the award.



Finance Director Rosemarie Dennis (center) with Alice Benjiman (l) and Terri Carrizales (r). Staff member Lillie Lawler is not shown.

City Plans Lean Budget For Next Year

City staff is proposing an estimated \$10.5 million budget for general fund expenses for the 2010-11 fiscal year. This reflects a basically flat budget for the last consecutive five years as follows:

2005-06	\$9.3 million
2006-07	10.0 million
2007-08	10.7 million
2008-09	11.1 million
2009-10	10.6 million
2010-11	10.5 million proposed

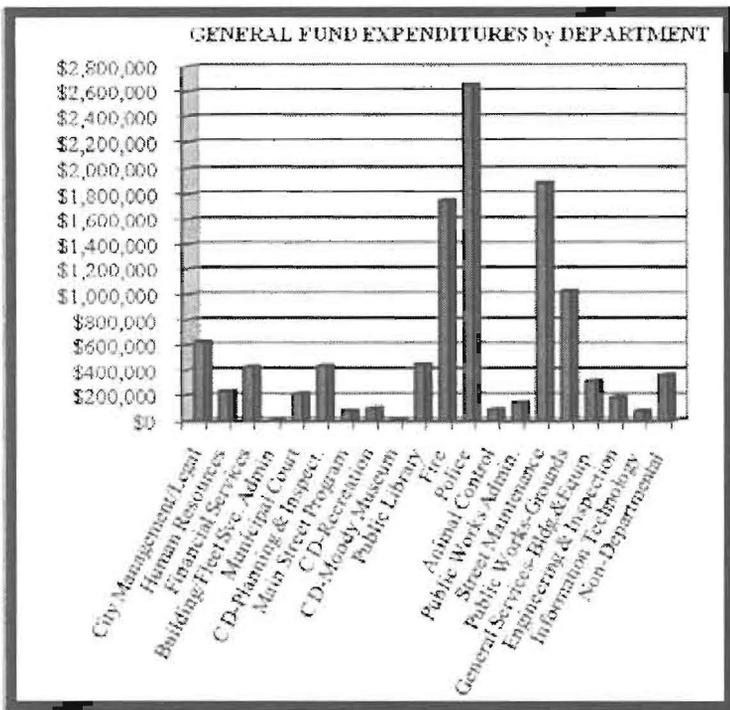
The proposal under consideration is a balanced budget. This amount calls for no increase in salaries for the second year (third year for Fire and Police staff); ten positions that are frozen; no staff additions, no street rehabilitation, no drainage repairs and no new capital equipment to be added.

Revenues for the past year are down significantly. Property valuations in the city are down approximately 5 percent which nets a significant decrease in property tax revenues. Sales tax collections also are down about 3.8 percent from last year. All taxes make up about 72 percent of the city's revenues. This all is reflective of the current economy.

City staff will manage within its means during this period, maintaining fiscal soundness. Every effort is being made to ensure current programs and services remain at a constant level. Many employees are doing double duty.

The City Council will adopt the final budget and set the tax rate for the fiscal year 2010-11 on September 9, following two public hearings on August 19 and 24, 6 p.m. at City Hall.

How Your Tax Dollars Are Spent



The City of Taylor uses tax dollars as only one source of revenue to manage the city and provide for the safety and well being of the community. Tax revenues consist of ad valorem taxes paid by property owners and sales tax. Revenues from taxes make up about 72 percent of total revenues for the City's general fund. The other 28 percent comes from fees for licenses, permits, and charges for services.

In the chart to the left, General Fund expenditures are broken down by department. The Police and Fire Departments require approximately 42 percent of the funding that is collected by the City. This equates to all of the property tax collected being used to pay for public safety of the community. All of the rest of the expenses are covered by sales tax collections and the other miscellaneous revenues. In the current down economy, this is quite a challenge.

2009-10 Adopted Budget with Proposed Expenditures

Traffic Signal Changes

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will be removing the traffic signal light at Fourth and Porter Streets this fall. The action comes at the request of the city and recent traffic counts conducted at the intersection do not meet any of the state warrants that support the continuing use of a signal.

According to TxDOT, the signal is scheduled to be put into flashing mode for about 90 days beginning July 26 and will then be deactivated in late October. During the transition, the beacons facing Fourth Street will flash amber and those facing Porter Street will flash red.

The signals will be deactivated in the fall and STOP signs will be erected facing Porter Street while the traffic on Fourth Street will flow freely through the intersection. Signs will also be placed on Porter advising motorists that cross street traffic does not stop.

A much needed new traffic light will be added to Loop 397 (Carlos G. Parker Blvd.) and Mallard Lane intersection.

Look for the addition to be completed around mid-September or October.

Pools Close September 6

Murphy Pool Fall Hours

Aug. 24-Sept. 4
Tuesday through Saturday, 4 - 8 pm
Sunday, 1-8 pm
Labor Day 12 - 8 pm

Robinson Pool (no change)

Friday - 4-6 pm
Sat. 12 N - 8 pm, Sunday 1 - 6 pm

City offices will be closed for Labor Day, September 6.

Patriot's Day Parade & Program

September 11, 2010 - 7 p.m.
Heritage Square Park
"9/11 Remembrance Tribute"

City Calendar of Events for August

August 3	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
August 5	City Council Special Meeting @ 6 pm
August 10	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
August 12	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
August 17	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
August 17	Library Board @ 6 pm
August 19	City Council-1st P.H. on tax & budget @ 6 pm
August 24	City Council -2nd P.H. on tax & budget @ 6 pm
August 25	Main Street Advisory Board @ 4 pm
August 26	Airport Advisory Board at 6:30 pm

City Calendar of Events for September

Sept. 7	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
Sept. 9	City Council meeting @ 6 pm
Sept. 14	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
Sept. 20	Moody Museum Board @ 5:30 pm
Sept. 21	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
Sept. 21	Library Board @ 6 pm
Sept. 22	Main Street Advisory Board @ 4 pm
Sept. 23	Airport Advisory Board @ 6 pm
Sept. 28	City Council meeting @ 6 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at www.taylortx.gov