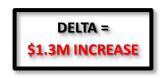
City Manager Update – 9/10/21

This month's City Manager update will primarily focus on the FY21/22 budget.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Council, City Staff, and Citizens for participating in the public hearings and budget workshops over the past few weeks. Many hours were spent identifying and prioritizing projects/plans and making necessary cuts to meet budgetary needs. Before the Council votes on the proposed tax rate and budget during the **September 13, 2021** Council meeting, citizens will have the opportunity to address the Council about their opposition to (or support of) the proposed budget. Our FY21/22 revenues and expenditures are currently BALANCED at \$13,742,531. This is \$1,342,092 greater than our FY20/21 budget of \$12,400,439 and represents a 10.8% INCREASE in projected Y-O-Y spending. Our General Fund debt service payment next year will be \$516,174. The total bonded debt remaining (as of 9/10/21) is \$7,024,042 (11% reduction).

FY2020/21							
General	Utility	Debt	Total				
\$5,008,912	\$6,982,972	\$408,555	\$12,400,439				
FY2021/22							
General	General Utility		Total				
\$5,522,767	\$7,703,590	\$516,174	\$13,742,531				



Several key "drivers" impacted spending during FY20/21 that will carry over into and/or impact our FY21/22 budget: \$RED = EXPENSE / \$GREEN = REVENUE

- Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) INCREASED by 75% (\$10k)
- Sales tax revenue INCREASED by 16% during FY20/21 (\$80k)
- Chamber Office / Visitor Center / Railroad Museum Re-Build (\$180k)
- Budget requires \$1.32M Transfer from Utility Fund to General Fund (\$325k)
- COS property values INCREASED by 12.2% or \$36M during 2021 (+\$62k)
- Health Insurance premiums DECREASED by 7% (\$31k). City pays 100% of employee health care.
- Contingency expenditures in FY20/21 approximately \$215k (e.g., COVID-19, Arctic Blast, SH-95, Sidewalk repair)
- Solid Waste Services Fee INCREASED by 85% (\$380k). Rate increase was not transferred to customers last year.
- \$750k Tax Note required to purchase capital equipment (e.g., patrol cars, asphalt zipper) for PD and Public Works.
- Recommend **FY21-22 Ad Valorem TAX RATE** @ **\$0.549061 cents** (SAME AS 2020). Average Home Value INCREASED to \$185k from \$170k. Average impact to property owners is \$83.00 INCREASE / year.

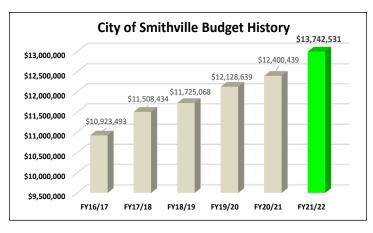
The proposed FY21/22 budget will cover the projects we have planned plus a \$2.80 equity adjustment to raise our hourly employee base rate from \$12.20/hour to \$15.00/hour. The City of Smithville's hourly base rate is \$2-3 per hour LOWER than what other municipalities in the area are paying their employees. I will also be recommending a 5% performance-based merit increase for all salaried employees. This will help reduce our attrition rate and enable the city to continue delivering the level of service citizens expect. The additional revenue from issuing a tax note and raising utility rates (e.g., water, sewer, and garbage, etc.) will cover the cost of purchasing capital equipment, grant matches increasing base wages, and hiring four (4) additional FTE's. The average cost to homeowners from raising utility rates is \$27 / month.

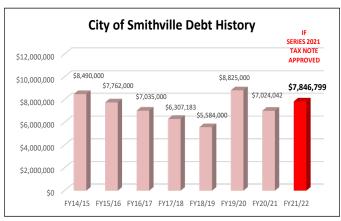
Funds have also been budgeted to enable mowing of over-grown lots, removal of debris associated with condemned property, installation of a new A/V system for the council chambers, seal-coating and re-striping the Rec Center parking lot, expanding Wi-Fi, and installation of security doors at City Hall. Public services like fire, police, animal control, courts, library, airport, rec center, parks, cemetery, leaf/limb, road repair, street paving, and small drainage projects throughout town will be funded through property taxes, sales tax, permits, and a \$1.325M Utility transfer to the General Fund. However, the following projects and plans have been cut as they represent a lower priority and can be postponed until funding becomes available and/or operations warrant:

- Reopen Ramona Street \$100k
- Hire Assistant City Manager \$85k
- Purchase shade structure for Skate Park \$5k
- Purchase COVID-19 Air Sanitizers at Rec Center \$15k
- Construct ADA compliant bathrooms @ City Hall \$35k
- Construct "mini-pavilion" at Riverbend Park \$15k

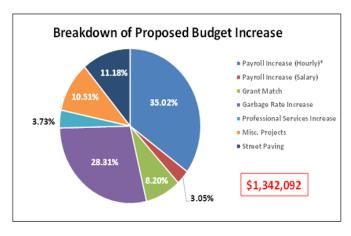


City Manager Update - 9/10/21





Breakdown of Proposed Budget Increase Percent Item Cost Payroll Increase (Hourly)* 35.02% \$470,000 Payroll Increase (Salary) 3.05% \$41,000 **Grant Match** 8.20% \$110,000 Garbage Rate Increase 28.31% \$380,000 **Professional Services Increase** \$50,000 3.73% Misc. Projects 10.51% \$141,092 11.18% 150,000 Street Paving **TOTAL** 100.00% \$1,342,092 Includes 28% Burden Rate for Benefits + Estimated OT and Part-Time Labor



City of Smithville Budget Workshop Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Tax Note For Capital Equipment:

1

- TAX NOTE A debt instrument that a city may sell to finance the construction of public works, the purchase of capital equipment, or to pay off cash flow deficits.
- Max term is 7 years at fixed interest rate.
- Repaid with property taxes from the I&S portion of debt service.
- Request \$750k Tax Note to purchase Capital Equipment.

4	2021 Ford SUV AWD - Patrol	\$56,539	\$226,156			
3	2021 Ford SUV AWD - Unmarked	\$37,239	\$111,717			
N/A	Car / Body Cameras	\$38,011	\$38,011			
			\$375,884			
	Public Works / Ut	ilities				
Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Total			
1	Asphalt Zipper	\$189,000	\$189,000			
1	Brush / Limb Chipper	\$46,000	\$46,000			
2	F250 Utility Trucks	\$47,000	\$94,000			
1	Sand-Pro	\$7,000	\$7,000			
N/A	Miscellaneous Tools / Equip.	\$38,000	\$38,000			
			\$374,000			
	Grand Total					

Police Department

2021/22 Budget Workshop #2

SMITHVILL

City of Smithville Budget Workshop Wednesday, September 8, 2021

American Rescue Plan Act:

- City of Smithville to receive \$1,118,752 in funding administered via Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM).
- No match requirement. \$559,377 (50%) received 8/19/21.
 Eligible expenses include:
 - COVID-19 Expenses Testing / Equipment
 - Infrastructure Water / Sewer / Broadband
 - Tourism, Travel, Hospitality
 - Small Business Assistance
- RFP for Grant Management pending.
- Funding tentatively committed to:
 - Chamber \$77k (Workforce Training Center, Tourism, Web)
- Police Department \$250k (Radio Equipment / Broadband)
 City Hall \$40k (Council Chambers A/V System)
- WWPT Expansion Feasibility Study \$75-100k

2021/22 Budget Workshop #2

SMITHVILLE TEXAS

PGENCY MANAGE

Average Impact to City of Smithville Taxpayer Due to Proposed Fee Increases

Description of Fee	Current	Proposed	Estimated Revenue		\$\$\$ Taxpayer Impact / Yr	Comments		
Water Meter Base Rate	\$16.50	\$18.00	\$101,669	\$1.50	\$18.00	1845 Active Accounts . Based on average homeowner use of 12,000		
Water / 1000 Gallons	\$3.10	\$3.50	7101,009	\$4.00	\$48.00	gallons / month. Date of last increase - 10/1/17		
Sewer Base Rate	\$10.50	\$15.00	\$102,471	\$4.50	\$54.00	1596 Active Accounts. Based on average homeowner use of 6,000		
Sewer / 1000 Gallons	\$3.85	\$4.00	\$102,471	\$6.90	\$82.80	gallons / month. Date of last increase - 10/1/17		
Electric Meter Base Rate	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$206,230	\$5.00	\$60.00	2235 Active Accounts (Includes residential and commercial). Date of last increase - 10/1/14		
Garbage Rate	\$33.17	\$38.50	\$125,000	\$5.33	\$63.96	1576 Active Accounts. 2x / wk service, 1x / mo. Bulk + leaf / limb. Date of last increase - 10/1/19		
		TOTAL	\$535,370	• \$27	\$327			

Equity Adjustment and Performance-Based Merit Increase

Base Hourly Wage			Base Hourly Wage		
for Laborer			for Laborer		
(BEFORE ADJUSTMENT)			(AFTER ADJUSTMENT)		
City	Hourly Rate \$		City	Hourly Rate \$	
Flatonia	\$15.00		Smithville	\$15.00	
Bastrop	\$14.43		Flatonia	\$15.00	
LaGrange	\$14.28		Bastrop	\$14.43	
Elgin	\$13.90		LaGrange	\$14.28	
Gonzales	\$13.00		Elgin	\$13.90	
Smithville	\$12.20		Gonzales	\$13.00	
Giddings	\$11.00		Giddings	\$11.00	

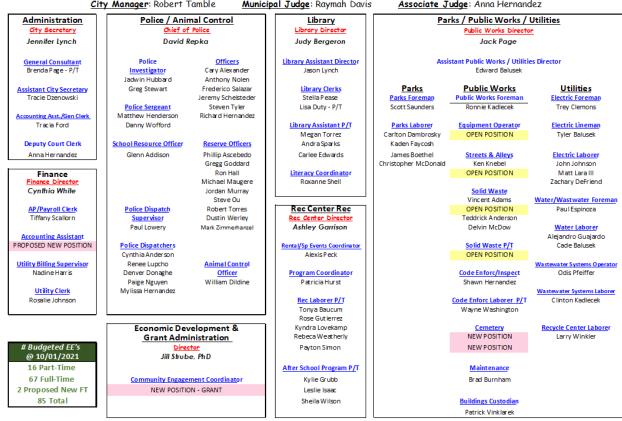
The base hourly wage for an entry-level laborer working for the City of Smithville is grossly inadequate when compared to similar positions in other municipalities. Raising the base hourly wage for a Laborer from \$12.20 to \$15.00 will require an additional **\$470k** in revenue (this includes an average 28% burden rate for benefits). This equity adjustment will better align our base hourly wage with that of surrounding municipalities. Note: Increase will not apply to the base hourly rate for entry-level part-time workers. The \$470k also covers the additional headcount requested for an **Accounting Assistant** (Finance), a **Community Engagement Coordinator** (Eco Dev) and **two (2) Cemetery Laborers** (Parks). A 5% performance-based merit increase for salaried employees will require an additional **\$41k** in revenue (burdened). The TOTAL proposed increase for the equity adjustment and a performance-based merit is **\$511k**.

City of Smithville September 2021

Mayor: Joanna Morgan Mayor Pro-Tem: William Gordon

<u>City Council Members</u>: Sharon Foerster, Janice Bruno, Tom Etheredge, & Stan Gerdes

<u>City Manager</u>: Robert Tamble <u>Municipal Judge</u>: Raymah Davis <u>Associate Judge</u>: Anna Hernandez

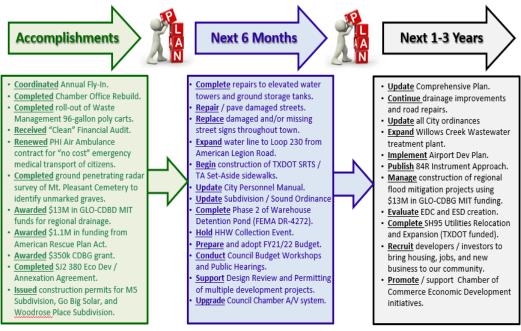


City Manager Update – 9/10/21

Some of the large projects / initiatives the city will be supporting during the FY21-22 Fiscal year include the following:

- Re-furbish / rehabilitate city-wide water storage tanks (\$2M C of O).
- Loop 230 water line expansion from American Legion Road (\$400k C of O).
- Construct TDHCA HOME Grant home for 1 qualified candidate. Cost = \$135k. City Match = (\$5.4k).
- Complete city-wide street, road, and drainage repairs. Purchase / replace street signs (\$150k).
- Support TXDOT TA/Set-Aside Project Loop 230 sidewalks from Gresham to McSweeney. Match = (\$52k in FY22).
- Support GLO CDBG-MIT City-wide drainage Improvement Projects \$13M with 1% match (\$130k FY23).
- Support TDA-CDBG Wastewater System Improvement Project Cost = \$350k with 20% match (\$70k FY23).
- Support CDBG-Disaster Resiliency (DR) Drainage Project (NW 2nd from Cleveland to SH95) Cost \$585k (County).
- Support FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMG) Drainage Projects:
 - DR-4272 Warehouse Drainage Improvement (Phase III). Cost = \$100k. Match = \$25k (PAID in FY21)
 - o DR-4586 NE 1st and Marburger Detention Pond. Cost: TBD
- Finalize / support Go Big Solar construction of 1 MW solar farm (ECD 12/31/21).
- Support M5 Subdivision construction (32-home development behind Webb Street).
- Support SJ2 Subdivision construction (29-home development off of Loop 230 behind Oak Meadows).
- Support Smithville Workforce Training Center (SWTC) initiative. Renovate old Tax Office (404 Fawcett).
- Support distribution of \$575k in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds administered by TDEM for infrastructure, tourism / eco development, and broadband, etc. No match. 2nd \$575k disbursement in FY22-23.
- Support **Woodrose Place Subdivision** construction (14-home development off of Loop 230 East between Bluebonnet Circle and the Texaco).

There are a host of other projects listed below that the city will be supporting. These projects are above and beyond what it takes to provide City services to our citizens while keeping the water running, the lights on, and the toilets flushing.



Click on the following link(s) to access the City of Smithville budget workshop presentation(s) > http://easyedit.ci.smithville.tx.us/filemanager/files/2021 22 City of Smithville Budget Workshop 1 FINAL.pdf http://easyedit.ci.smithville.tx.us/filemanager/files/2021 22 City of Smithville Budget Workshop 2 FINAL Autosaved .pdf

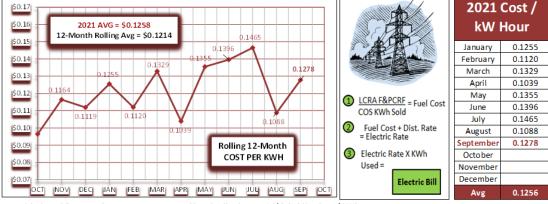
Below you will find a list of significant accomplishments, events and activities since my last City Manager update:

1) City of Smithville Employee Health Benefits Open Enrollment Scheduled – The FY21/22 Health Benefits plan has been finalized and will be presented to City employees during open enrollment meetings next week. Aetna will continue serving as our primary medical benefits provider with an overall 7% reduction of our annual premium. On average, benefits account for approximately 28% of an employee's total compensation (\$12-13k per employee per year). We are among the very few employers that pay 100% of the employee's benefit cost (i.e., medical, dental, vision, short-term disability, longevity, etc.).

City Manager Update – 9/10/21 (continued)

- 2) Budget Infographics Available to Citizens via City Website Budget Infographics is subscription-based software service that converts our annual budget from a PDF file into a user friendly, graphical format with one click drill-down to details. The subscription service costs \$2.5k per year and provides an "at-a-glance" look at revenue and spending in both the Utility and General Fund. The software is capable of producing City-defined metrics that show historic trends and comparisons with other municipalities from within the region (e.g., Elgin, Bastrop, Luling, LaGrange, and Giddings). Budget Infographics is a useful tool that visually communicates to the public all the components of our annual budget. Archive budget information is available for fiscal years 2015 to 2021. The FY21/22 budget information will be available to the public once the Council adopts the tax rate and budget. Here is a link to the Budget Infographics portal via the city website \rightarrow http://www.budgetinfographics.com/smithville. Once you access the portal, select the budget year and you will be able to navigate the revenue and expenses associated with the both the Utility and General Fund. Clicking on the icon will give you comparison data with other municipalities.
- 3) 109th Texas Municipal League (TML) Annual Conference and Exhibition The 109th Annual Texas Municipal League (TML) Conference and Exhibition will be held in Houston October 6-8, 2021. The 2021 TML Annual Conference will provide the opportunity for our current elected officials to attend informational training sessions while networking with other elected officials, municipal staff members, and city service providers. Muni-Services, Ameresco, Waste Management, Langford Community Management Services, KSA, and a host of other service providers currently doing business with the City of Smithville will be in attendance. Top issues from the 87th Legislative Session will also be discussed. For those planning to attend, Jennifer will be putting together a packet of conference information that includes your registration, hotel reservation, and session program that will be delivered on Friday, October 1, 2021.
- 4) FY20/21 Financial Audit Scheduled Singleton, Clark & Company (our 3rd Party Financial Auditor) will be conducting an internal audit of our FY20/21 budget during the week of September 27-30, 2021. Last year, the City received a "clean" financial audit for our prior fiscal year's performance and compliance with government accounting standards. This year's audit will focus on internal financial controls, procurement, payroll, employee records, and accounts payable/receivable, etc. Results of the financial audit will be available in April of 2022. In the interim, Cynthia White (Finance Director) will be finalizing budget amendments for discussion and action during the October 18, 2021 Council meeting. Please note that the October Council meeting (regularly scheduled for the 2nd Monday of the month) has been pushed back a week due to the Columbus Day holiday on October 11th.
- Fesidential Cost Per Kilowatt Hour (kWh) Calculated An analysis of LCRA billing data was conducted to determine residential cost per kilowatt hour (kWh) in SEPTEMBER. LCRA fuel costs vary month to month and are based upon electric utility generation, transmission, line loss, and service fees. The LCRA residential fuel cost per kWh for September is \$0.0778. This represents a 32% INCREASE compared to August's fuel cost of \$0.0588. Adding the City's distribution fee of \$0.0500 and LCRA's \$0.0778 fuel cost, the cost per kWh for residential service in Smithville during SEPTEMBER will be \$0.1278. ERCOT provides energy conservation tips on the following website → http://ercot.com/about/conservation/ to help reduce consumption which in turn will help citizens save money. Below you will find a "rolling" 12-month residential cost per kWh comparison chart. On average, the cost per kWh for residential electric service in Smithville is between 12-13 cents.

City of Smithville Residential Cost Per kWh - SEPTEMBER



Note: LCRA Fuel & Power Cost Recovery Factor + City Distribution Fee* (\$0.0500) = Cost / kWh

^{*}Residential Distribution Fee = \$0.500/kWh. Non-Resident (i.e., service outside city limit) Distribution Fee = \$0.650/kWh Effective October 1, 2019

City Manager Update – 9/10/21 (continued)

6) COVID-19 Situational Update and Testing Availability in Smithville - The number of COVID-19 cases rose substantially across the County this week. The City of Smithville also experienced an increase in the number of cases with seven (7) employees testing positive for COVID-19. Contingency measures have been implemented to ensure the safety of all personnel and continuity of services provided. Bastrop County opened a FREE test site this week in Smithville behind the Smithville Recreation Center (106 Royston). This site is in partnership with COVAC and Bastrop County Cares and will be open 3-7 p.m. Wednesday thru Saturday continuing the following week until Saturday, September 18. The Testing Site is mobile so it will move around the County as other locations are identified. A schedule is provided on both the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Facebook Page and the Bastrop County COVID-19 website → https://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/em.coronavirus

Hospitalizations for Trauma Service Area O continue to increase (17.35%) putting a strain on hospital and emergency services. This week, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has begun reporting pediatric hospitalizations due to COVID-19 as well as number of pediatric ICU beds available. Pfizer still hopes to have children ages 6-11 approved under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) around the end of October. Vaccines are already being given pursuant to the FDA approval under the EUA for both Moderna and Pfizer to be given as a booster to all those that meet the criteria for immunocompromised and pending FDA and ACIP review, boosters are expected to be offered to everyone with a minimum of 8 months since their second dose starting mid-late September. Additional information can be found on the DSHS COVID-19 website \rightarrow https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/AdditionalData.aspx

7) <u>City of Smithville Sales Tax Update</u> - Below are the sales tax allocations for September 2020 vs. September 2021 (retail sales made primarily in July). This data reflects RETAIL sales of goods and services subject to LOCAL sales tax. Our sales tax payment (receipt) for September was \$57,169. This represents a **18.01% INCREASE** in our net payment compared to the same time last year with a year-to-date increase of 15.49%. As a reminder, sales tax dollars are used to make street / road repairs and help pay for community services like FIRE and POLICE. Remember...SHOP LOCAL - it makes a difference!!!

Bastrop County Sales Tax Allocation - SEPTEMBER 2021

County/City	Current Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	2021 Payments To Date	2020 Payments	% Change
Bastrop	1.50%	\$869,998	\$691,631	25.78%	\$7,361,548	\$6,041,809	21.84%
Elgin	1.50%	\$267,366	\$223,347	19.70%	\$2,234,171	\$2,080,243	7.39%
Smithville	1.50%	\$57,169	\$48,442	18.01%	\$563,754	\$488,102	15.49%
Bastrop County	0.50%	\$557,987	\$429,052	30.05%	\$4,729,162	\$3,998,754	18.26%

There are several activities, meetings, and events scheduled in Smithville over the next several weeks:

- The next CITY COUNCIL meeting will be held on **September 13, 2021** at City Hall (317 Main) beginning at 6:00 pm. Citizens can access the meeting via YouTube → (<u>www.youtube.com/channel/UCN7rJz0wVkS4zWV9EvKcH5w</u>). Click → <u>HERE</u> for agenda.
- The next CHAMBER MIXER will be held on **Thursday, September 16, 2021** at Mixologie (located at 660 NE Loop 230) from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
- The next HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) COLLECTION EVENT will be held on **Saturday, September 18, 2021** from 9:00 am to Noon at 109 Taylor Street in Smithville. Must have voucher to participate. Click on the following link for more information → https://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/ds.household_waste
- The Smithville WINGFEST & CHILI COOK-A-ROO will be held on **Saturday, September 25, 2021** from 10am-5pm, in downtown Smithville Register your wing, cornhole or chili team or be a sponsor at: www.smithvillewingfest.com
- Planning & Zoning Commission will meet on **Tuesday, October 5, 2021**.
- City Offices will be CLOSED **Monday, October 11, 2021** in observance of Columbus Day.

PHOTOS - 9/10/21

Sidewalk Repair at the Methodist Church on Olive Street







Drainage Improvements at the City Barn located at 1000 MLK Blvd (DR-4272 FEMA Grant)







Free COVID Testing Behind Rec Center



Brookshire Brothers Store #55 Expansion





Bishop Street Road Repair



STOP

RIP Judge Ron "Bumper" Jones



20th Anniversary of 911

