



MESSENGER

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2020

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No Trash Collection

City offices will be closed on:

- **Monday, Sept. 7 - Labor Day**
- **Thursday & Friday, Nov. 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving Holiday**

Curbside collection of rubbish will not be available on these days. Service will resume on your next regular collection day following the holiday. Garbage should not be placed out for pick up earlier than 6 p.m. on the evening before the scheduled collection day. All rubbish must be in a bag and put out at curbside by 8 a.m. on your scheduled pickup day. Please place garbage between the curb and the sidewalk, not in the street.

Please note that the Transfer Station will also be closed on **Saturday, Nov. 28.**

City's General Election - November 3

City Council approved an ordinance amending Ordinance 4141, which rescheduled a General Election for 3 Council members – Positions 4, 5, and 6 – from May 2, 2020 to November 3, 2020. The election will be conducted jointly with Harris County. The ordinance provides information regarding polling places and hours for Election Day, as well as early voting as determined by the county.

Per the ordinance, Early Voting by Personal Appearance will be held from October 13th through October 30th, in accordance with the schedules adopted by Harris County. Call (713) 755-4983 or visit www.Harrisvotes.com to determine voting locations for Early Voting and Election Day.

The last day to submit an application by mail is October 23, 2020. Send your application to Chris Hollins, Harris County Clerk, 1001 Preston, 4th Floor, Room 440, Houston, Texas 77002.

Trash Bag Distribution

The City of Deer Park will operate its trash bag distribution center in the west parking lot of the Jimmy Burke Activity Center at 500 W. 13th Street, October 1st through 17th. The distribution center will be open on weekdays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays (Oct. 3, 10 & 17) from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.



In late September, residential customers will receive a coupon in the mail, which will be required to redeem the boxes of trash bags. Through Oct. 17th, residents will be able to drive through and pick up 2 free boxes of trash bags. Beginning Oct. 19th through Nov. 20th, residents that have not obtained their trash bags will be able to redeem their coupon for 2 free boxes of bags by visiting the utility counter at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please use the back entrance to City Hall when picking up your trash bags.

After the Nov. 20th deadline, trash bags will be available for purchase at the utility counter, subject to availability, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

City of Deer Park

710 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, TX 77536
(281) 479-2394
www.deerparktx.gov



www.facebook.com/deerparktx



[@deerparktxgov](https://twitter.com/deerparktxgov)



[deerparktxgov](https://www.instagram.com/deerparktxgov)

General Information

The Mission of the City of Deer Park is to deliver exemplary municipal services that provide the community a high quality of life consistent with our history, culture, and unique character.

Elected Officials

Jerry Mouton, Jr.	Mayor
Sherry Garrison	Council Member - Position 1
TJ Haight	Council Member - Position 2
Tommy Ginn	Council Member - Position 3
Bill Patterson	Council Member - Position 4
Ron Martin	Council Member - Position 5
Rae A. Sinor	Council Member - Position 6

Contact Mayor and City Council Members by e-mail at cityhall@deerparktx.org.

Department Directors

James J. Stokes	City Manager
Gary M. Jackson	Assistant City Manager
Shannon Bennett	City Secretary
Donna Todd	Director, Finance
Bill Philibert	Director, Human Resources
Bill Pedersen	Director, Public Works
Charlie Sandberg	Director, Parks and Recreation
Rebecca Pool	Director, Library
Robert Hemminger	Director, Emergency Services
Greg Grigg	Chief of Police
James Lewis	Director, Information Technology

Other Appointed Officials

Jim Fox	City Attorney
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City Facilities

Animal Shelter	281-478-7274	4221 Luella
Art Park Players Dinner Theater	281-478-7288	1302 Center
Avon Recreation Center	281-478-7216	601 W. 8 th Street
Battleground Golf Course	281-478-2080	1600 Georgia
City Hall	281-479-2394	710 E. San Augustine
Claude Burgess Recreation Center	281-478-2060	4200 Kalwick
Community Center	281-478-2050	610 E. San Augustine
Fire Station #1	281-478-2043	1302 Center
Fire Station #2	281-478-7269	711 E. Pasadena Blvd.
Fire Station #3	281-478-7281	2211 East X
Jimmy Burke Activity Center	281-478-2049	500 W. 13 th Street
Kingsdale Center	281-478-7215	2218 Kingsdale
Maxwell Adult Center	281-478-7276	1201 Center
Municipal Court	281-478-7238	1302 Center
Police Station	281-479-1511	2911 Center
Public Library	281-478-7208	3009 Center
Swimming Pool	281-478-2055	610 E. San Augustine
Transfer Station	281-478-7213	610 Underwood
Visitors Center	832-780-0973	203 Ivy Ave., Suite 606

September

- 1 City Council Meeting
- 5 Siren Test - Noon
- 7 City Services Closed - Holiday
- 12 Siren Test - Noon
- 14 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 15 City Council Meeting
- 19 Siren Test - Noon
- 21 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 22 LEPC Meeting
- 26 Siren Test - Noon

October

- 3 Siren Test - Noon
- 5 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 6 City Council Meeting
- 10 Siren Test - Noon
- 17 Siren Test - Noon
- 19 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 20 City Council Meeting
- 24 Siren Test - Noon
- 27 LEPC Meeting
- 31 Siren Test - Noon

November

- 2 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 3 City Council Meeting
- 7 Siren Test - Noon
- 14 Siren Test - Noon
- 16 Planning & Zoning Meeting
- 17 City Council Meeting
- 21 Siren Test - Noon
- 26 City Offices Closed - Holiday
- 27 City Offices Closed - Holiday
- 28 Siren Test - Noon

Please note that meeting dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

City Hall

Open Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Notify Me

Subscribe to receive city news and the Messenger newsletter by e-mail at www.deerparktx.gov.

Economic Development

- **JSC Federal Credit Union** has closed their branch office at 120 E. 8th Street. The building was sold to the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce. You can still visit JSC FCU at their Deer Park branch located at 2200 East 13th Street.
- Deer Park will soon be home to one of **Bank of America's** new "virtual banks" at 9315 Spencer Highway. These automated branches are rather like ATM vestibules, equipped with several ATM machines, plus they offer a video-conference room where customers can have a private, Skype-style meeting with mortgage loan officers and other specialists. Security guards are also in place and other security measures are enforced.
- **Tots & Teens Pediatric Dental Specialists** has opened at 3317 Center Street. Pediatric dentist, Dr. Sandra Mbibi, DDS, is passionate about catering to children and providing healthy smiles throughout their childhood. Her goal is to make your child's dental visits as comfortable as possible by providing an office with fun amenities and a playful demeanor. They offer pediatric and general dentistry, and plan to offer orthodontics in the near future. Find out more at www.tntdentistry.com.
- Deer Park's Chad Milner is the owner of **Lawn Vets LLC**, a lawn service company that employs only veterans. After graduating from Deer Park High School in 1993, Chad was in the U.S. Marine Corps for 8 years - serving in Afghanistan. His lawn business, Lawn Vets, was up and running successfully until someone decided to steal all of his equipment from a storage lot last October. The story was featured on Houston's local news. The community generously responded with equipment donations and cash. As a result, Chad was able to quickly restore all of his stolen equipment and put his crew back to work. Support a great



local business and our vets by calling Chad today for your lawn service. You can reach him at (832) 247-7050 or (832) 777-5266. You can also send

him an e-mail at chad@lawnvetsusa.com. Check out his website at www.lawnvetsusa.com or find him on Facebook @Lawn Vets LLC.

- **Bibi's House of Kabob** at 3121 Center Street has reopened the restaurant after completing the repairs caused by an electrical fire late last year.



For questions, contact Debbie Westbeld, Economic Development Administrator, at (281) 478-2042 or dwestbeld@deerparktx.org. For business news, go to www.deerparktx.gov/ed.

Garage Sales

Garage sale permits are required in Deer Park. The permit fee is \$5 and may be obtained from the Utilities Dept. at City Hall only once within a 6-month period for the same address or same person and cannot exceed 10 consecutive days. A garage sale sign permit is available for an additional \$5. Also, \$25 is required as a deposit to guarantee the city that you will pick up your signs.

Prescription Discount Program



The City of Deer Park, in collaboration with

the National League of Cities, offers a prescription discount card program, *My Healthy Hometown*, that may save residents an average of 24% off the regular retail price of prescription drugs at participating pharmacies. Prescription discounts are for city residents and their pets. Registration is not required and there are no forms to complete.

The card is free to all Deer Park residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health insurance. For more information, call toll-free (888) 620-1749 or go to www.deerparktx.gov, hover over *Residents*, and click on *Prescription Program*.

The *My Healthy Hometown* Prescription Discount Program is NOT insurance.

Streetlight Out?

CenterPoint Energy maintains streetlights in our area. To report a street light outage, call (713) 207-2222 or visit www.centerpointenergy.com/outage. Simply click on *Report Streetlight Outages* from the menu on the left and complete the online form. You will be asked to provide the 6-digit stenciled number on the pole to identify the exact location.



Deer Park Police Department

Safe Firearm Storage

Firearm owners are responsible for ensuring guns in their homes are always stored where they are inaccessible to children or other unauthorized persons. Hiding a gun in a closet, drawer, or similar location is not safe storage. Safe storage is employing precautions and multiple safeguards to provide additional barriers against unauthorized use. Failure to do so can result in tragedy and criminal penalties. Gun owners should always be properly trained and have a clear understanding of safe handling and storage.

Guidelines for Safe Storage

- Store unloaded firearms in a locked cabinet, safe, gun vault, or storage case inaccessible to children.
- Gun locking devices, such as cable-style locks, should be used along with safe storage methods. The lock is intended to discourage unauthorized access to a firearm, particularly by young children. However, it should not be considered a high-security device. If firearms are disassembled, parts should be securely stored in separate locations.
- Store ammunition in a locked location separate from firearms.
- Confirm firearms are unloaded when you remove them from storage.

Keeping a firearm in your home is a serious responsibility. Create measures so that the firearm is readily available to you, yet inaccessible or inoperative to others. Special lockable cases that can be quickly opened only by authorized individuals are options to consider.

Document Your Property

Traveling for the holidays? Being away means your home is empty and your valuables are unattended. No one is immune from being a victim of theft or burglary, so take the time to document your valuables. Doing so will greatly increase the likelihood of recovering any stolen property. Pick a day out of the year to record serial numbers, model numbers, and take note of unique characteristics, such as damage marks, missing pieces, etc. Take clear digital photographs of the items. Keep this information in a safe place so that you can provide this documentation to the police in the event of a burglary.

Vacation House Check Program

Are you going on vacation? If you will be away from home for at least 3 days but no longer than 30 days, simply complete a form to have your residence checked by a Deer Park Police Department (DPPD) employee. While you are gone, a DPPD employee inspects the residence for obvious signs of burglary, mischief or other crimes, as well as any suspicious or subtle signs of criminal activity. A log of the inspections is maintained by the police department and provided to the resident upon cancellation of the watch. For more information, call (281) 478-2000.

Home Safety Tips

- Examine the area surrounding your home at night and during daylight hours. Attempt to gain access into your home with the doors and windows secured and locked in order to identify issues that require your attention. Carry identification with you in case your neighbors call the police.

- Always lock your doors and windows. Install doors made of wood or metal and utilize deadbolt locks. Install guards on windows that prevent them from being raised more than a few inches.
- When you aren't home, even if it's only for an evening, use programmable timers to turn lights on inside your home and keep a TV or radio on.
- Install motion sensor lights outside your home and out of reach so burglars cannot unscrew the light bulbs.
- Never prop open the door or let someone in behind you if you live in an apartment building. If the building has a main entrance, request for security to be enforced.
- If you notice suspicious activity around your home or in your neighborhood, report it to the police immediately by calling (281) 478-1511 or dial 9-1-1.

Power Outage Tracker

The dispatch center is frequently inundated with calls regarding power outages. Unfortunately, the dispatchers can only call CenterPoint Energy to report outages like any other customer. Emergencies require a high degree of attention and multitasking from a limited number of personnel. Fielding calls regarding power outages impacts the dispatcher's ability to handle other emergency calls. CenterPoint Energy now offers customers tools, such as the Outage Tracker and Power Alert Service. The Outage Tracker identifies the location of the outage, the number of customers affected, and an estimated restoration time. The Power Alert Service sends notifications about service outages and the restoration progress to up to 5 texts, 5 e-mails, and 5 phone numbers

Deer Park Police Department

per account. To access these services, as well as report streetlight outages, go to www.centerpointenergy.com/outage and select *Texas* for your state, as well as *Houston Metro* for your region. You can also find more details at <http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker>.

Crime Prevention

October is National Crime Prevention month. Crime prevention is the attempt to reduce and deter crimes. Criminals commit crimes when there is desire, ability, and opportunity. We have no control over a criminal's desire and ability, but we can reduce the opportunity to commit crimes. Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility.

Crime Prevention Tips

- Vehicle burglary - Conceal belongings, secure the vehicle, and remove the keys from the vehicle. Park your vehicle in the garage. If you must park in the driveway or on the street, make sure there is adequate lighting.
- Burglary of habitation/building - Lock all the doors and windows. Consider installing an alarm system.
- Identity theft/fraud/credit card abuse - Shred all documents with identifying information. Don't give out personal information to strangers over the phone. Check bank and credit card statements, as well as credit reports, frequently.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and take extra precautions when pumping gas at a gas station, walking or driving from the bank or ATM, and exercising outdoors at night.

The DPPD offers many programs to aid in crime prevention:

- Neighborhood and Business Watch Program
- Bicycle Registration Program
- Vacation House Check
- Vacation Safety School
- Citizen's Police Academy

Contact Officer K.L. Zheng at kzheng@deerparktx.org or (281) 930-2123 for more information.

Emergency Siren Protocols

The City of Deer Park tests its emergency sirens every Saturday at noon. The sound of the siren during the test is the same as you'll hear in an actual emergency except that the siren will sound for a longer period of time during an emergency. The sound of the siren means for you to shelter-in-place because of a chemical emergency or to seek shelter during a tornado warning. The city does not have a public address (PA) system on the sirens. A verbal message will not be communicated to citizens via a speaker on the siren. Citizens should refer to the city's website and social media outlets, as well as the local news, for more information. Make sure you are enrolled in the city's emergency notification system, CodeRED, for ongoing updates during an emergency. To find out more about CodeRED, go to www.deerparktx.gov/338/Emergency-Notifications.

The History of the Deer Park Police Department

The Deer Park Police Department (DPPD) was formed on August 30, 1949 with a marshal and 2 deputies. In 1950, the DPPD officed in the 1st City Hall located on Eighth Street. By 1962, the city provided 24-hour protection for its residents with a police department of 5 sworn officers and 4 radio dispatchers. In 1969, the city's population was approximately 12,000. At this point, the city began to experience rapid population growth, which could potentially stretch city services thin. As a result, a new building was built at 1410 Center Street to be used for the police department and municipal court staff at a cost of \$144,000. By 1974, the DPPD had 25 employees, while continuing to share the office space with the municipal court staff. In 1986, the municipal court offices moved to their new home at the Municipal Court and Theater Building. The facility eventually was unable to accommodate the growth in the police force. By the year 2000, there were over 85 employees in the police department, including an Investigations Division, which was moved into the Municipal Court and Theater Building due to space constraints in the existing building. In 2001, the citizens of Deer Park approved construction of a new police station located at 2911 Center Street at a cost of \$5,500,000. The new Deer Park Police Department building opened in October 2004. The state-of-the-art building now accommodates 114 employees and features an Emergency Operations Center, a modern communications area, a large records area, administration offices, computer rooms, identification laboratory and storage area, convenient work spaces for officers, physical training area, and jail facility. The city also has a new training

Deer Park Police Department

facility that houses the police department gun range.

On November 18, 2019, the Deer Park Police Department was presented with the Certificate of Advanced Accreditation, 5th Award, by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA). This accomplishment came after 16 years and 4 previous accreditation awards. CALEA accreditation holds the Deer Park Police Department to higher standards of professionalism.

Still going strong after 71 years, the DPPD continues to provide 24-hour police protection and service, in addition to embracing the ideals of community-oriented policing in which the department focuses on building ties and working closely with members of the community. More than security patrol, our department has teams of officers to service the needs of our citizens with units, such as Investigation, Hostage Negotiation, S.W.A.T., Crime Prevention, School Resource Officers, Mutual Aid services to surrounding agencies, and more.

City Marshal

May 9, 1949 - October 6, 1949

October 16, 1949 - March 3, 1951

April 19, 1951 - February 9, 1953

April 13, 1953 - February 20, 1956

Herman Dalme

James W. Miller

W.C. "Claude" Burgess

Ben Royall

Chief of Police

May 28, 1956 - September 2, 1958

September 2, 1958 - April 12, 1960

April 18, 1960 - July 1, 1960

July 1, 1960 - October 1, 1960

October 6, 1960 - June 24, 1966

July 1, 1966 - December 12, 1988

December 12, 1988 - January 31, 2000

February 7, 2000 - May 4, 2008

January 5, 2009 - Present

Harold R. Snell

James Early

K.B. Green

J.L. Wood

J.C. Bickerstaff

Kenneth Gage

Donald L. Little

William A. "Bill" Young

Gregory L. Grigg



National Night Out

On Oct. 6, neighborhoods throughout Deer Park are invited to join thousands of communities nationwide for the 37th Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Deer Park Police Dept. Over 16,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world will participate.

National Night Out, a year-long community building campaign, is designed to: (1) heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs, (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and (4) send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and plan to fight back. On Oct. 6, residents in neighborhoods throughout Deer Park and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on the outside lights, and spend the evening visiting with neighbors and police.

National Night Out emphasizes the importance of partnerships between police and the community, as well as citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. Contact Sheila Plovanich, Community Liaison, at splovanich@deerparktx.org or (281) 930-2118 for more information.

Road Safety Reminders

Rules for Passing a Loading/Unloading School Bus

Vehicles traveling in both directions must stop for a flashing school bus if it is either a two-lane road or a multi-lane paved across (meaning there is only a center lane).

Two-Lane:
Vehicles traveling in both directions must stop.

Multi-Lane Paved Across:
Vehicles traveling in both directions must stop.

Divided Highway:
(Unpaved space, min. of 5 feet, or any raised median or physical barrier.)
Vehicles behind the bus must stop. Vehicles traveling in the opposite direction can proceed with caution.

Deer Park Public Library

Fall Owl Craft, for ages 5-12

Craft materials are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting September 11. On September 15 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.

Just Craftin' Around-Teen September Craft, for ages 12 & over

Do you want to try hydro dipping! Please note that registration is required for this activity and space is limited. Registration opens on September 1. Beginning materials for those who have registered will be available for pick up at the library free of charge starting September 22. On September 24 at 4 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library.

Halloween Craft, for ages 5-12

Ready for a spooky Halloween craft? Materials for this craft are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting October 23. On October 27 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.

Thanksgiving Craft, for ages 5-12

It's time for a Thanksgiving craft! Materials are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting Nov. 20. On Nov. 24 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.



Tweens & Teens Cook, for ages 7-18, Sept. 14, Oct. 12 & Nov. 9

The cooking series this fall will explore new meal in a mug recipes. We'll be cooking with a mug and a microwave! Ingredients for each recipe will be shared ahead of time. At 4 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month, watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. For more information, call (281) 478-7208 or send an e-mail to youthlibrarian@deerparktx.org.

T.A.B. Meeting, for ages 12 to 18, 1st Tuesday of the month, 4:15 p.m.

Join the Teen Advisory Board and help plan for teen programs. We'll be meeting virtually this fall. You'll discuss reading trends and make suggestions for the teen collection. If you are interested, contact Robert at youthlibrarian@deerparktx.org.

Teen Halloween Costume & Makeup Ideas Session and Costume Contest, for ages 12 & over

Join us for a virtual session on October 7 at 4 p.m. to discuss Halloween costumes and masks, as well as share makeup tips. You'll be invited to submit a photo of your Halloween costume, October 12 through 23, for a chance to win a prize! The winning costume will be announced on October 30. Check out the library's Facebook page and website in early October for more information on contest rules.

Google Docs & Google Drive, for teens and adults, September 23, 2:30-4 p.m.

Be ready to learn about online storage space available with a Google or Gmail account. Become familiar with the word processing program to create and edit documents, such as resumes and letters. Join this online class from your computer at home. Login or create a Google account prior to the class. Registration begins September 1. To register, call (281) 478-7208.

Mysteries & More Book Club

The Mysteries & More Book Club plans to continue to meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. to discuss books from a variety of genres. Depending on circumstances at the time, we will meet outside, online or in person, if possible. Check out Facebook for updates on upcoming meetings. Future titles will be selected at upcoming meetings. Go to www.deerparktx.gov/library or call (281) 478-7208 for details.

Sept. 8, Gothic thriller - *Stranger Diaries* by Ellie Griffiths

Oct. 13, Gulf Coast Reads - *Gods of Jade and Shadow* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Adult Programs

Beginning Spanish Class

Interested in learning another language? Join the Beginning Spanish Class at the Deer Park Public Library. We combine 2 ways of learning, which includes practice with each other along with a teacher in a small online class and use the Rosetta Stone language learning program available at www.deerparktx.gov/library for self-study. The class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 10 a.m. For more information or to register, please (281) 478-7208.

Deer Park Public Library

Resume Help

Do you need help creating or printing your resume? Make an appointment with a library staff member. Our staff can help you create and format your resume using your smart phone or computer and Google Docs, as well as print it using the MobilePrint Service™ for library patrons. To make an appointment, call (281) 478-7208.

Nonfiction Book Discussion

Join us to discuss *Midnight in Chernobyl* by Adam Higginbotham about the 1986 nuclear plant disaster in the Soviet Union. The book is available for download through Overdrive, as well as in print at the library. The online discussion is on September 22 at 10 a.m. To register or for assistance finding the book, call (281) 478-7208.

For details on other online classes featuring crafts, computer/technology skills and guest speaker presentations, call (281) 478-7208.

New Books for Adults

September

- *Chaos* by Iris Johansen
- *The Coast-to-Coast Murders* by James Patterson & J. D. Barker
- *One by One* by Ruth Ware

October

- *The Sentinel: A Jack Reacher Novel* by Lee Child & Andrew Child
- *Troubles in Paradise* by Elin Hilderbrand
- *The Christmas Table: A Novel (Christmas Hope)* by Donna VanLiere

November

- *Piece of My Heart* by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke
- *The Law of Innocence (Lincoln Lawyer)* by Michael Connelly
- *Fortune & Glory: A Novel (A Stephanie Plum Novel)* by Janet Evanovich
- *The Searcher: A Novel* by Tana French

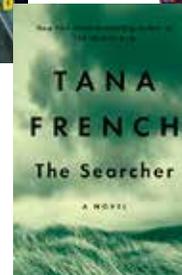
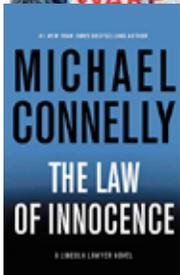
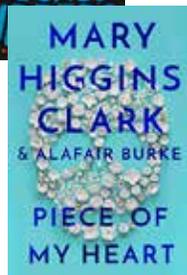
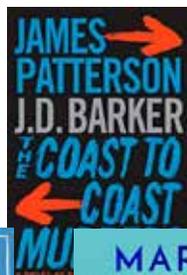
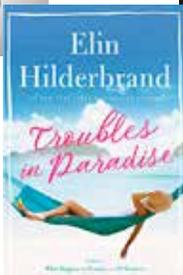
Storytime

Starts August 20

Preschool Storytime (for ages 0 to 6), **Thursdays at 11 a.m.**, whether presented virtually or in-person, is designed to encourage a love for books and language. It incorporates books, fingerplays, songs, and activities to promote interest in reading and lifelong learning. Caregivers are encouraged to watch with the children and encourage participation.

A special **Halloween Storytime** for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is planned for October 29 at 10:15 a.m. The format, whether virtual or in-person, is to be determined. Wear your Halloween costume and join us at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Goodie bags will be available for pick up at the library, starting October 28!

*Storytime will be assessed on a continual basis to determine the safest method of delivery. Check out our social media outlets for the latest updates.



Parks & Recreation

Visiting Our Parks

Deer Park has over 20 parks for you and your family to enjoy. Each park features something unique, such as walking trails, play-scapes, picnic tables and so much more! Go to www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec and check out the list of parks under the *Facilities & Rentals* menu option. Please remember to continue to social distance.



Virtual Programming

Looking for activities to do from the comfort of your own home? The Deer Park Parks and Recreation Department is offering programming through our website and YouTube, such as:

- **Make it Mondays** - Quick printable activities to do at home.
- **Try it Tuesdays** - Instructions for trying something new.
- **Wildlife Wednesdays** - Explores nature in Deer Park.
- **Fitness Fridays** - Provides tips on staying healthy and fit.

Updates and new programming announcements are made through Facebook, Instagram, and the virtual programming website at www.deerparktx.gov/1873/Virtual-Programming.

Maxwell Center *A Division of the Parks & Rec. Dept.*

Senior Holiday Banquet

City staff is awaiting clearance from state and local officials to move forward with the Senior Holiday Banquet. The plan is to host the banquet on Monday, December 14 at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center, located at 500 W. 13th Street. There will be dinner, door prizes, and entertainment by Vince King as Elvis Presley. For more information, contact the Maxwell Adult Center at (281) 478-7276. We appreciate your patience and apologize for the inconvenience.

DISCLAIMER: Events are subject to change based on guidelines related to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Please follow our social media outlets for the most up-to-date information.

Emergency Assistance

Do you need assistance during an emergency or disaster event? The State of Texas offers Texans the option to register with the STEAR program, a free registry that provides local emergency planners and responders with additional information on the needs in their community. To register, go to <https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov> or call 2-1-1.



The Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is a non-profit, cooperative partnership of community residents, emergency responders, and chemical industry leaders. The committee works together to protect the health and safety of plant workers, community residents, and our environment. For more information, go to www.deerparklepc.org. A schedule of the monthly LEPC meetings, which are open to the public, is also available.



Wally is a wise turtle because he knows that whenever there is danger, he's safe when he goes inside

his shell. During a chemical emergency, be sure to remember the following safety tips:

1. Go inside your home. Seek shelter in your vehicle if you are traveling.
2. Close all doors and windows, plus turn off your air conditioner or heater.
3. Stay informed by phone, social media, television, or radio.

For updates, check out CAER Online (www.ehcma.org/caeronline), Facebook ([deerparktx.oem](https://www.facebook.com/deerparktx.oem)), Twitter ([@deerparkoem](https://twitter.com/deerparkoem)), Deer Park's Government Access Channel (DPTV) on Comcast Cable Channel 16 or AT&T U-Verse Channel 99, or local news stations.

To register for the city's emergency notification service, go to www.deerparktx.gov/oem, click on the *Emergency Notifications* icon on the bottom left of the screen, and then click on the *CodeRED* icon.

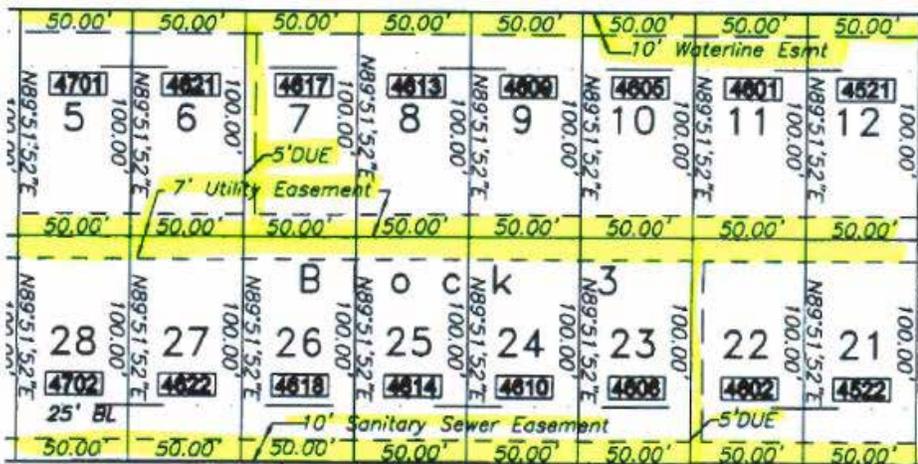
Public Works

What You Need to Know About Easements

An easement is a legal right to use another's land for a specific purpose. When someone is granted an easement, he or she is granted the legal right to use the property, but the legal title to the land itself remains with the owner of the land. Generally, public utility easements are granted to cities and utility companies for running power, water, sewer or storm lines on the property. However, you may grant an access easement to a neighbor if the property is in the way of the access road or to anyone else who needs to have a legal right to access the land.

Property owners maintain the easement just like the rest of their property. However, to protect the underground utilities from damage, there are certain limitations on what the property owners can do within the easement area. Construction and utility workers need to continue to have access to the easement area. Acceptable use of an easement area includes planting ground covers, grasses, field crops, and gardens, as well as installing a fence or vehicle access. Other limited uses may be allowed, as long as utility workers have access to the easement. Planting trees or shrubbery of any size or installing permanent structures is not an acceptable use of the easement area. Anything that property owners install within an easement may be removed if the utility agency needs access for installation, operations, inspections, maintenance, or utility line repair. The city's utility crews make every effort to work with the property owner, notify them in advance of the work that needs to be done within the easement, and give them the opportunity to move personal items. On occasion, emergency utility work may be necessary and advance notice is not possible, so it's best to avoid storing items in the easement. Whenever personal items, such as portable buildings, are left in the easement, construction and utility maintenance staff carefully remove the items and set them aside. Personal items will not be placed back into the utility easement area. Staff is also not responsible for damage to your personal items.

The property owner is responsible for maintaining the easement. Look at your site survey to determine if your property has an easement. The city's Engineering Dept. has maps to confirm the type, width, and location of the easement. Contact the Engineering Dept. at (281) 478-7234 or (281) 478-7236 for details. Below is an example of a parcel map with easements.



Resident Reminder

Keep Sidewalks Clear

It's important to keep sidewalks clear for pedestrians, especially for our children walking to and from school. Please do not block the sidewalk with vehicles, boats, campers, etc. A blocked sidewalk means a child must walk in the street and risk being hit by a vehicle.

Also, as required by the city's Code of Ordinances, keep all trees and bushes trimmed so that the path on sidewalks remains clear. Any low hanging branches should be trimmed. Low hanging branches should not block stop signs or obstruct the line of sight for drivers.

Don't Bag Your Recyclables

When it comes to recyclables in the bin, loose is best. One of the most common recycling mistakes is placing recyclables in plastic bags. It has become a major issue at our facility and resulted in an increase in operation costs. While you may see a plastic bag with a triangle recycling symbol printed on it, it may not be recyclable like you think. The triangle with a number inside is called a resin identification code, which indicates the types of plastics used in the product. Plastic bags cannot be recycled using our current single-stream system. The recycling center accepting our recyclable materials, such as bottles, cans, paper, cardboard, etc., normally operate using conveyor belts and other machinery that can only function properly when items are loose. Plastic bags and other problem items, such as cords, ropes, etc. get caught up in the machinery, causing costly breakdowns and delays.

Public Works

Where can you recycle plastic bags? Plastic bags can be dropped off at participating local retail stores, which usually have a plastic bag deposit bin near the front door entrance. The plastic bags then get recycled at a facility that can handle the material. If not recycled, plastic bags at home should be placed in the bin with your regular household trash.



**RECYCLE OFTEN.
RECYCLE RIGHT.™**



RECYCLE OFTEN:



Metal Cans

Steel, tin & aluminum soda, vegetable, fruit & tuna cans



Plastic Bottles & Containers #1-5 & 7



Paper

Brown paper bags, non-confidential office paper, newspaper, magazines



Paper Cardboard, Dairy & Juice Containers



Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard

RECYCLE RIGHT:

Things you can do to ensure quality material is recycled:



DO NOT INCLUDE: Food waste, plastic bags, or polystyrene foam cups & containers

Paper and cardboard must be dry and free of food debris.

Paper food containers must be rinsed out, no caps.

Tissues, paper towels or other paper that has been in contact with food is not acceptable.

Make sure food contamination and caps are removed from cans and plastics and all containers are empty.

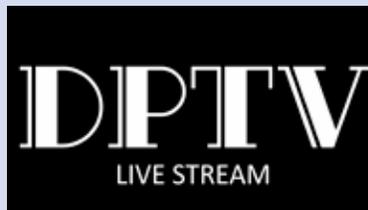
Separate plastic lids from plastic bottles (often made from different materials)

Keep medical waste (syringes, needles) out of recycling containers or place in safe disposal containers like Waste Management's MedWaste Tracker® box.

Need to report a concern?

Citizens can submit concerns directly to the appropriate city personnel. Simply go to www.deerparktx.gov and click on the *Report a Concern* icon. Then select the appropriate form, such as Park Maintenance Request, Report City Maintenance Issues, Report Loud Barking Dogs, Request Sidewalk Maintenance, Billing Information or Meter Read Work Request, etc.

Once you click on the form, you will be sent to the *Sign In* screen. There you can choose to sign in using your existing CivicPlus login or creating an account. You can also sign in using your Facebook or Yahoo account. After signing in and agreeing to the terms of use, you can enter the details into the online form fields and submit your concern. You can later log into your account to check on the status of your request.



Watch the City of Deer Park Government Access Channel (DPTV) on Comcast channel 16, AT&T U-Verse channel 99, our website, or your ROKU streaming device! To watch DPTV online, go to www.deerparktx.gov/DPTV. The

audio default is set to mute, so you must click on the speaker in the lower right corner to unmute the audio. To add DPTV to your ROKU streaming device, go to <https://roku.streamsource.tv/add/dptv>. You will need to sign into your ROKU account. Once you are logged in, you will see a pop up. You must click *ok* to continue. Then click *Yes, add to channel* to add DPTV to your ROKU home screen.

Programming on DPTV focuses on matters pertaining to city services, workshops and meetings, special events, public service announcements, and topics deemed to be of benefit or interest to our residents. For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/dptv.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TYPE B DEDICATED SALES TAX PROJECTS

Hike and Bike Trails, Phase 1 - On February 5, 2019, City Council approved a contract with Burditt Consultants, LLC for professional services in the development of the comprehensive hike and bike trail system. Burditt Consultants is working on project design and management, as well as other services as required by the scope of work for site feasibility and trail master plan implementation. Anticipated cost for this project is \$500,000. The committee, consisting of members from City Council, the Deer Park Community Development Corporation, Parks and Recreation Commission, and City staff, selected Phase 1 as a 1.04 mile Tributary B to Willowspring Creek. Contract for construction design services with Burditt Consultants, LLC for Phase 1 was approved by the Community Development Corporation on October 28, 2019 and by City Council on November 5, 2019. Design for Phase 1 is underway and is about 75% complete. The City of Deer Park, along with Burditt Consultants, is working with CenterPoint Energy on the terms for trail access in the easement. The City is also working with Midtown Engineering on a plan for crosswalk safety. Project design is expected to be completed and able to go out for bid in late fall 2020.

Community Recreation Center and Aquatic Study – On November 6, 2018, City Council authorized a professional services agreement with Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects for the development of a community center and aquatic needs assessment. The assessment would include 3 conceptual project options, as well as the budgets, conceptual site plan assessments, study assumptions, and a schedule of meetings. Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects made several presentations to City Council, the Deer Park Community Development Corporation, and the Parks and Recreation Commission. At the January 13, 2020 joint meeting of City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Deer Park Community Development Corporation, Stephen Springs of Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects, along with City Staff, presented a conceptual design and rendering of a proposed Community/Recreation Center with indoor pool, gym, indoor walking track, as well as bathhouse replacement for the outdoor swimming pool. Projected construction and operating costs, cost recovery options, and funding options were presented and discussed. This was the 8th joint meeting held to discuss the community center. The consensus was to pursue a Type B sales tax continuation election to provide funding.

Note: Other Type B projects previously completed include the Maxwell Adult Center, Girls Softball Complex, Spencerview Athletic Complex, Dow Park Pavilion, and the Deer Park Soccer Complex.

OTHER PROJECTS

The City of Deer Park received a grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the future **Northeast Hike and Bike Trail**. RVi Planning was selected as the landscape architecture firm to develop the design and layout of the trail. According to the preliminary conceptual design, the trail will begin at Park Green Park and extend south to Runningbrook Park, offering several trail and path connections along the way. Surveyors gathered data from the trail site to use in the final design and construction documents. Design is about 90% complete. A plan regarding crosswalk safety is also being discussed at this time. With the completion of design expected soon, City staff plans to go out for bid this fall.

The condition of the **Irrigation Pumps at the Battleground Golf Course** was reviewed in June 2019. This project will remain an ongoing part of maintenance. A water feature/backup pump was installed. The main irrigation pumps were manufactured and completed this spring. A back-up irrigation pump was temporarily taking the place of the additional pumps until the new pumps were completed. The installation of the new pumps was unexpectedly delayed this summer due to unforeseen issues. This project is anticipated to be completed by fall 2020 and provide the Battleground Golf Course with the proper irrigation amounts for turf growth.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

The **Dow Park Concession and Storage Building** was in poor condition due to normal wear and tear and had to be demolished. JTB Services, Inc. performed the demolition, which was completed in September 2019. Carnes Engineering was hired to design the new structure. City Council authorized City Staff to seek bids for the construction of a new 1,200 square foot Dow Park concession stand on December 17, 2019. The project is being funded by General Funds. City staff, along with Carnes Engineering, revised the scope of the project to better meet demands for the facility. The complete architectural design is anticipated to be reviewed before the end of summer and go out for bid in fall 2020. The project is expected to be completed by spring of 2021.

One of the exterior columns in the **Front Entry at the Court and Theater Building** was damaged. After further evaluation, a structural engineer determined that deterioration damaged the structural integrity of the columns. The recommendation was to completely remove the column structures. Plans were prepared for the removal of the columns, as well as drainage improvements. Frost Construction was awarded the project at a cost of \$51,000. Approximately 95% of the project has been completed. The drainage issue is being addressed by diverting water away from the facility. The scope of the project was revised to include installation of new glass doors. Options for art and a canopy are still being considered for the building's entrance to portray a modern appeal.

Work continues on the development of plans for the **Spencerview Bridge**, a bridge to connect the Spencerview Sports Complex (Durant Fields) to the adjoining property donated to the City of Deer for development of additional parking and a park/playground area. CobbFendley & Associates was hired to assist with the design and study the floodplain requirement for approval by the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). The data is being prepared to be submitted to the HCFCD Commission.

The **Adult Complex Soccer/Football Field Renovation** consists of removing 18,000 square feet of sod from the crown of the field, laser grading and adding sand, adjusting sprinkler heads, applying fertilizer, installing new big roll 419 sod, as well as rolling and top dressing. The project will enhance playability for safety and allow for better drainage. City staff is currently working with the contractor to start by early fall 2020. The project is anticipated to be complete before winter 2020.

The Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of replacing 2 of the bridges in Dow Park with new 8' x 23' bridges. The **New Dow Park Bridges** are expected to be completed by winter 2020. City staff is working out all of the details. A construction meeting has been scheduled.

A **New Outdoor Electronic Message Center** for the Jimmy Burke Activity Center is scheduled for this fall. The old message sign will be replaced with a new Galaxy Outdoor Electronic Message Center GS6 Series. The sign will be used to provide program information and emergency notifications to the general public. City staff is in the process of coordinating with National Signs and Daktronics for the removal of the old sign and installation of the new sign. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2020.

Note: Projects previously completed include the Deer Park Nature Preserve, Wayfinding Program - Phase I, the Pony Field/P Street Parking Lot, and the Dow Park Municipal Pool Replaster Project.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

IN PROGRESS

Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project, Phase 2

Started: August 2017
Anticipated Completion:
August/September 2020
Cost: \$13,636,685

This project is identified in the 10-year Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plan. The project was split into two phases and is being funded with Certificates of Obligation. Phase I of the project was awarded to CSA Construction and was completed in February 2017 at a cost of \$4,998,654. In June 2017, Phase II of the project was awarded to LEM Construction in the amount of \$13,636,685. The project is on track. All major construction is complete. Only minor finishing touches remain to be completed by September 2020.

2020 Waterline Rehab

Started: May 2020
Anticipated Completion:
August/September 2020
Cost: \$672,883.79

This project is part of the city's ongoing mission to rehabilitate the water system to reduce water loss, as well as maintain optimal water pressure and superb water quality. The project consists of pipe-bursting 5,600 linear feet of various waterlines across town ranging from 6" to 12" in diameter. The locations identified for rehabilitation are E. 13th from Luella to Deer Avenue, Luella Avenue from Arbor Dr. to Pasadena Blvd., Henderson Lane from Lufkin/Tyler Lane to San Augustine Street, and Texas Avenue between Pasadena Blvd. and Brookhaven Avenue. These waterlines are in degraded condition and need to be rehabilitated due to severe leaks or upsized to improve water pressure for the area they serve. Services for this project were purchased from SKE Construction, LLC through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$672,883.79. Roughly 50 to 60% of the project has been completed.

2020 Sidewalk Improvement Project

Started: July 2020
Anticipated Completion: October 2020
Cost: \$300,000

The 2020 Sidewalk Improvement Project involves installing new sidewalk and wheelchair ramps in various areas around town that currently do not have any, as well as replacing a few in poor condition. New sidewalk on East Boulevard from HEB to Heritage Elementary School, Green Valley Drive alongside the park, by the intersection of East X Street, as well as S. Battleground Road alongside the Nature Preserve, a portion of Hillshire Drive from Havana Drive to Catalina Avenue, and on Pasadena Boulevard alongside the Deer Park Adult Softball Field. Sidewalk repairs are anticipated for E. 13th, San Augustine, and E. P Street, with handicap ramps to be installed on Georgia Ave. from San Augustine to Pasadena Blvd. and on San Augustine. The project was awarded to Teamwork Construction Services, Inc. on July 21, 2020 in the amount of \$245,588. Construction is expected to begin in August and completed in 90 days.

Coy Street Elevated Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation

Started: Fall 2020
Anticipated Completion: Winter 2020
Cost: \$419,000

This project is for the rehabilitation of the interior and exterior of the 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tank. It is being funded out of the Series 2019 Certificates of Obligation. Dunham Engineering was hired to prepare the engineering design work for the rehabilitation of the tank and perform the inspections on the tank at a cost of \$85,000. On August 4, 2020, DSP Industrial was awarded the project at a cost of \$419,000. Construction is anticipated to begin in November 2020.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

Sanitary Sewer Project, X Street

Started: Undetermined
Anticipated Completion:
Undetermined
Cost: \$441,447.92

The project consists of pipe-bursting 3,500 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer pipe along X Street due to pipe failure under the pavement and rehabilitation sanitary lines within the Parkview Subdivision - Section 1 (Maxwell Lane area). Pipe-bursting services were purchased from Vaught Services, LLC (A Vortex Company) through the TIPS Cooperative Purchasing Program. The total cost of the project is \$441,447.92. The project is being funded with Water/Sewer Series 2018 Certificate of Obligation Bond funds. Due to some minor set backs, the project did not start in June. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

Hurricane Harvey, Storm Drainage Projects

Started: June 2018
Anticipated Completion:
Undetermined
Engineering Services Cost: \$504,290

CobbFendley was hired to perform engineering services to develop ways to alleviate flooding associated with the 2017 Hurricane Harvey rain event. In June 2018, the initial agreement focused engineering design services on Heritage Addition and Deer Meadows Subdivisions. Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine Subdivisions were added in February 2019. In June 2019, the agreement was amended to also include an analysis of historical repetitive flooded areas in the city. CobbFendley reported the findings of their study to City Council on November 19, 2019. The proposed locations are in different phases of the study.

- Heritage Addition, Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine Subdivisions:
 - » Heritage Addition - Construction plans are complete and include lining corrugated metal arch pipes south of Lambuth, upsized storm sewer on Lincoln and Lambuth, new detention pond on Lambuth, and storm sewer improvements at Travis & N. Crockett. The project was awarded to Mar-Con Services in the amount of \$1,989,739.09 on July 7, 2020. Construction started in August 2020 and is expected to be completed in 10 to 12 months. The project is anticipated to be funded jointly by the City of Deer Park and Harris County Precinct 2, as well as the Harris County Flood Control District, through a Partnership Project Program. Funds to the City of Deer Park are contingent on approval by the Harris County Commissioner's Court. The City of Deer Park has met with Harris County participants regarding the Partnership Project Program.
 - » Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine - Construction plans are complete and include new storm sewer and outfall on Kitty Street, new storm sewer, channel and outfall on Luella Ave., and new detention pond on Pasadena Blvd. Cost estimate is \$1.3 million. The construction bid items and contract are in development. The project is expected to go out for bid this fall or winter. Construction is anticipated to begin 30 days after the review of bids. The project has a completion time of approximately 10 months.
- College Park: Study Phase - Presented existing, proposed, and mitigation scenario models. Cost estimate is \$5.3 million to \$5.9 million for pavement and drainage items.
- Intersection of P Street and Center Street: Study Phase - Presented

existing, proposed, and mitigation scenario models. Cost estimate is \$11 million for pavement and drainage items.

- Deer Park Gardens: Design Phase - Presented existing scenario models. Cost estimate is \$12 million for pavement and drainage items. CobbFendley is currently working on construction plans.
- Boggy Bayou: On June 2, 2020, the City of Deer Park entered into an agreement with CobbFendley to perform engineering analysis services at a cost of \$84,560. Preliminary results of the study are expected by fall 2020.
- Parkview West: Study Phase - Presented existing, proposed, and mitigation scenario models. Cost estimate is \$6.9 million for pavement and drainage items. Note that the initial study area was expanded after it was determined that downstream water was backing up due to the elevation of the adjacent Boggy Bayou. The Parkview West area, as well as areas within and adjacent to the 100-year flood plain, are being studied by CobbFendley through an interlocal agreement with Deer Park and the Harris County Flood Control District in a new “Boggy Bayou” Watershed Study. The project study start-up, existing condition analysis, and proposed condition analysis started this summer. Preliminary results and recommendations are expected by fall 2020.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

On July 27, the City Manager presented to the Mayor and City Council a proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins on October 1, 2020 (FY 2020-2021). The City Manager’s proposed operating budget totals \$71,012,212. The proposed operating budget expenditures for the major City funds are as follows:

General Fund.....	\$44,847,108
Water & Sewer Fund.....	11,689,129
Debt Service Fund	6,197,672
Special Revenue Fund.....	4,127,211
Storm Water Utility Fund.....	230,482
Golf Course Lease Fund.....	502,050
Capital Improvements Fund.....	3,288,560
Chapter 380 Reimbursement Fund.....	130,000
Total.....	\$71,012,212

As submitted, the operating budget anticipates a proposed tax rate of \$0.720000/\$100 of valuation, which is the same tax rate as was levied in FY 2019-2020. As in the past, all residential property owners will continue to receive a 20% value reduction on their homestead property for the purpose of computing the property tax. By way of example, the owner of a

home valued at \$150,000 will pay property taxes on \$120,000 of that value. Additionally, senior citizens, age 65 and older, will continue receiving an additional exemption of \$50,000 on the value of their homestead. Utilizing the same example of a residence valued at \$150,000, a senior citizen will pay property tax on \$70,000 of the value of the residence. As a further benefit for senior citizens age 65 and older, the amount of property taxes paid to the City is capped as of the year in which they turn 65. Unless a senior citizen makes improvements to their home, such as adding a room or putting in a swimming pool, they will never pay more in property taxes to the City than the amount they paid in the year they turn 65 years of age, even if their existing residence increases in value. For more information on these exemptions and the tax cap for senior citizens, please contact

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

the City's Tax Department at (281) 478-7222.

The City uses a variety of funds to pay for its operations. The General Fund includes monies for the general operation of the City, including services such as Police, Fire/EMS, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Library, and Administration. The proposed FY 2020-2021 General Fund budget calls for the same tax rate as levied in FY 2019-2020, and no new full-time staff positions. While no cost of labor increase for full-time City employees is included, the proposed budget does include merit-based increases for eligible full-time employees in accordance with the City's approved salary scale, optional sick leave buyback of 5%, and longevity pay of \$4 per month of service with a cap of 300 months.

The City will continue addressing water and sewer capital improvements designated as part of a 10-year capital improvements program. These include major improvements at our Surface Water Treatment Plant, along with the rehabilitation of water and sewer lines throughout Deer Park. FY 2020-2021 is the tenth year of this program. These costs will be funded through the issuance in FY 2020-2021 of nearly \$5,600,000 in certificates of obligation. The City's Water & Sewer Fund operates as an enterprise fund, which means it derives revenue from water and sewer rates, not property taxes. Water and sewer rates are projected to increase 5% to support the FY 2020-2021 costs of operations and debt service. This necessary increase follows an extensive analysis by the City's water and sewer rate consultant, and is driven primarily by the need to service debt issued to rehabilitate old infrastructure. No new full-time positions are included in the proposed FY 2020-2021 Water & Sewer Fund budget. While no cost of labor increase for full-time City employees is included, the proposed budget does include merit-based increases for eligible full-time employees in accordance with the City's approved salary scale, optional sick leave buyback of 5%, and longevity pay of \$4 per month of service with a cap of 300 months.

Funds in the Debt Service Fund are used to pay the annual interest and principal payments on the City's outstanding bonds, including for FY 2020-2021, a portion of the annual debt obligations for the water and sewer system, as well as the related paying agent fees and any financing costs on the new debt issued. These expenditures in FY 2020-2021 are estimated to be \$6,197,672.

Special Revenue Funds have been established to record the revenue and expenditures related to Hotel Occupancy Tax, Municipal Court fees, Police Forfeiture funds, and Grant funds. For FY 2020-2021, proposed Hotel Occupancy Tax expenditures total \$631,580. Several City events and projects are funded through Hotel Occupancy Tax proceeds, including the annual Reindeer Park, partial co-sponsorship of the San Jacinto Day Festival and Battle Reenactment, and various activities of the Art Park Players. Municipal Court fees will fund related Court expenditures of \$265,397 in FY 2020-2021, and Police Forfeiture funds will cover \$21,734 of Police Department expenditures.

The Capital Improvements Fund is for the purpose of funding capital

improvements on a cash or pay-as-you-go basis, which reduces the use of long-term debt financing. Projects totaling \$3,288,560 in the FY 2020-2021 budget include \$1,500,000 for drainage improvements, \$300,000 for new sidewalks, and almost \$534,000 related to traffic signalization projects. There is also a \$450,000 contingency for unforeseen capital needs.

The Storm Water Utility Fund allows the City to cover expenses associated with the unfunded federal mandate known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The NPDES mandate requires cities to implement programs and practices to control polluted storm water runoff through a permitting program. These expenses in FY 2020-2021 total \$230,482, and include lease-purchase payments toward an excavator, which will be paid off in December 2020. Revenues to support this fund are derived from a fee of \$1.60 per month per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), the same rate charged in the current fiscal year.

The Golf Course Lease Fund is used to record the expenditures associated with operating and maintaining The Battleground Golf Course and Republic Grill through a lease agreement with Touchstone Golf. For FY 2020-2021, the Golf Course Lease Fund expenditures are budgeted at \$502,050.

In May 2016, Deer Park voters re-authorized a dedicated ¼ cent sales tax for continuation of the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) and a dedicated ¼ cent sales tax for continuation of the Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District (FCPEMSD). These districts are component units of the

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

City, led by their respective Board of Directors. The FY 2020-2021 budgets of both districts provide resources beyond the City's General Fund, which allow for the purchase of many other items to be utilized by the Deer Park Police Department and the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department. FY 2020-2021 budgeted expenditures for the CCPD are \$5,601,509. The FCPEMSD's FY 2020-2021 budgeted expenditures total \$1,568,172.

In May 2015, Deer Park voters approved the Deer Park Community Development Corporation (DPCDC), a Type B sales tax corporation supported by a dedicated ½ cent sales tax. The DPCDC operates under the direction of its own Board of Directors and exists to support seven (7) specific public parks improvement initiatives. For FY 2020-2021, DPCDC expenditures total \$1,909,430.

For more information about the proposed budget, please contact the City Manager's Office at (281) 478-7245. You may also view the proposed budget at www.deerparktx.gov, or visit the City Secretary's Office or the Deer Park Public Library.

Code of Ordinances

The City of Deer Park contracts with Municipal Code Corporation to make the City of Deer Park Code of Ordinances available online. By following the link on our website, you can access our code and also that of other cities across Texas and the United States. The search engine allows you to search by topic. Go to www.deerparktx.gov, hover over the menu option *How Do I?*, click on *City Code* under *View*, and then follow the link to the *Code of Ordinances*.

Council Actions

Regular City Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Special meetings and workshops are held as needed. To view full agendas and meeting minutes or to listen to the audio recordings, go to <https://cityofdeerpark.legistar.com/calendar.aspx>.

May 2020

- Authorized staff to seek proposals for the Maxwell Adult Center meals.
- Authorized the Deer Park High School Project Graduation signage on Center Street from May 24th through 31st, 2020.
- Approved the application submission of a grant through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act.
- Approved an interlocal agreement with Harris County Flood Control District to jointly fund a drainage study of the Boggy Bayou watershed.
- Approved an agreement for engineering services for the rehabilitation of the Coy Street 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tank in the amount of \$85,000.
- Approved an ordinance appointing a member to the Crime Control and Prevention District of the City of Deer Park.
- Authorized staff to advertise and seek bids for a one-year supply of sodium hexametaphosphate for the Water Treatment Plant.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for drainage improvements for Heritage Addition, Sections 1 and 2.
- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending March 31, 2020.
- Authorized the amendment to the agreement with OnSolve relating to the CodeRED Emergency Notification System.
- Approved the purchase of an electronic marquee sign for EMS and Fire Station #3 from Daktronics under BuyBoard Contract #592-19 in the amount of \$89,665.
- Approved the extension of the 2019 Sports Organization Utilization Agreements until June 30, 2020.
- Approved a resolution adopting the updated Harris County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Plan.
- Approved the recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission of an ordinance for a Specific Use Permit to construct an addition to the Wheelhouse at 210 W. Helgra.
- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Planning & Zoning Commission/Board of Adjustments.
- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Board of Health.
- Approved an ordinance

Council Actions

appointing Judge Larry Wilson.

- Approved an ordinance amending Section 66-180 Schedule I, of the Code of Ordinances concerning No Parking on W. 5th Street.

June 2020

- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of refuse bags to Houston Poly Bag in the amount of \$158,200.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of gasoline and diesel fuel to Sun Coast Resources, Inc.
- Awarded the bid to lease purchase finance a new 2021 Freightliner garbage truck for the Sanitation Division to US Bancorp.
- Authorized staff to reject and rebid the Dow Park concession stand project.
- Accepted the completion and release of retainage to SKE Construction for the repairs to the storm outfalls on the South Golf Course Ditch project. Final cost was \$125,482.10.
- Accepted the Deer Park Community Development Corporation's quarterly report for the period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020.
- Authorized the purchase of vehicle cameras and installation for emergency vehicles in the amount of \$95,257.41.
- Approved an agreement with Ardurra Group, LLC for professional engineering services related to the Clearwell and disinfection improvements at the Surface Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$677,809.50.
- Approved an agreement with CobbFendley for the engineering analysis on the Boggy Bayou Watershed project in the amount of \$42,280.
- Approved a contract with SKE Construction, LLC for concrete paving and parking at Fire Station #2 and the Firemen's Recreation Hall in the amount of \$223,451.
- Approved an ordinance appointing a member to the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District of the City of Deer Park.
- Approved an ordinance removing Sections 14-153 and 14-154 of the Code of Ordinances concerning mandatory annual registration of privately-owned dogs and cats.
- Awarded the bid for the Surface Water Treatment Plant Solids Handling Improvement project to CSA Construction in the amount of \$4,453,685.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for the rehabilitation of the Coy Street 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tank.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for the 2020 Sidewalk Improvement project.
- Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 2nd quarter ending March 31, 2020.
- Approved the purchase and installation of 2 pedestrian bridges in Dow Park from T.F. Harper & Associates in the amount of \$79,154.83.
- Approved a referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a Specific Use Permit to conduct church services at 1305 W. Pasadena Blvd.
- Approved an ordinance adding Article XI; Sections 66-275 through 66-282 to the Code of Ordinances requiring the operator of a vehicle involved in an accident within the city limits to file a report with the

Deer Park Police Department.

July 2020

- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of sodium hexametaphosphate for the Water Treatment Plant with the option to renew for an additional year to Carus Chemical.
- Awarded the bid for the Heritage Addition Drainage Improvement project to Mar-Con Construction in the amount of \$1,989,739.09.
- Accepted the completion of the repairs to the Police Firearms Training Facility. Final cost was \$742,746.78.
- Accepted the completion of the Hurricane Harvey Storm Outfall Replacement project. Final cost was \$88,395.
- Accepted the completion of the Dow Park pool replastering project. Final cost was \$174,465.
- Approved a performance evaluation for the City Manager.
- Awarded the bid for the Maxwell Adult Center Meal Program contract to KHSS Ventures (Skillet's Restaurant).
- Authorized the purchase of an outdoor electronic message center for the Jimmy Burke Activity Center from National Signs in the amount of \$54,305.
- Approved an agreement to complete field re-crowning at the Adult Sports Complex multi-purpose field with Athletic Field Specialists in the amount of \$76,000.
- Awarded the bid for the 2020 Sidewalk Improvement project to Teamwork Construction Services, Inc. in the amount of \$245,588.
- Awarded the bid for the lease purchase financing of a new Ford F-550 Chassis 4x2 SD regular cab with Versa Lift SST-40-EIH to US Bancorp for 36



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Continued from page 19, Council Actions

- months at 1.39%.
- Accepted the certification of the anticipated Tax Collection Rate.
- Approved a fence on the west side of the pedestrian bridge that connects the Deer Meadows Subdivision - Section 3 to Deer Park High School South Campus.
- Approved the calling of a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2020-2021 Crime Control & Prevention District budget.
- Approved the calling of a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2020-2021 Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District budget.
- Approved an ordinance appointing a member to the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District of the City of Deer Park.

Agenda & Minutes
Click on the *Agenda & Minutes* icon at www.deerparktx.gov to view City Council agendas and meeting minutes or to listen to the audio recordings.


1600 Georgia Ave.
www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com
Golf Course 281-478-2080
Republic Grill 281-478-2089

1834 Headstone

Join us

Texas Historical Marker Dedication
October 20, 2020
Dow Park - 610 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, Texas 77536

Commemorating early Deer Park settlers,
Mary Wilson Jackson and William Wilson.

 Historical Committee



Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on programming and services, this event is subject to change.



Deer Park Animal Shelter

Dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Deer Park Animal Shelter after a holding period of 3 business days. There is a \$50 adoption fee, plus you must prepay for the spaying or neutering of the animal and a rabies vaccination. To view the pets currently available for adoption, visit the Deer Park Animal Shelter's Facebook page. For more information, call (281) 478-7274. The Deer Park Animal Shelter hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.