



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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Council Holds Public Hearing and Receives FY 2016-2017 Budget Presentation

At the August 23 meeting, the Council held a public hearing and received the FY 2016-2017 Budget presentation. The City of Highland Village ad valorem tax rate has remained unchanged since 2000. Assessed valuations came in at a 4.9% increase, allowing identified supplemental items to be addressed. The proposed base General Fund Budget expenditures total \$15,842,050, only a .1% increase from 2015-2016. A Supplemental Budget is also included totaling \$482,800, resulting in a total increase of 3.2%. Initiatives this budget year are focused on public safety, technology, personnel, city facilities and city parks. In public safety, training and implementation of the Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) program to provide medical emergency response by police officers trained to provide initial emergency aid, the continued development of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system installed in FY 2016 and new equipment for the Fire Department which provides continuous mechanical compressions on patients requiring CPR. Technology enhancements are included to replace or update the security camera system in all City facilities and parks, implementation of online Permitting, and set up off-site back up of the City network. In personnel, an adjustment is proposed to address market adjustments, certifications, employee increases and provide a \$15 compensation floor. City Hall will receive exterior and interior repairs and a dry fire suppression system will be installed in the IT equipment room at the Public Works Service Center. A design for future development of Sunset Point Park is proposed as well as a hydraulic study of the ponds at Unity Park to determine options for future use and associated maintenance. Another public hearing on the budget will be held on September 13 and the final read of the budget will take place on September 27.

Council approved a replat and the site plan for Neighborhood Credit Union to be located at 2760 Justin Road which is on the northeast corner of FM 407 and Barnett Boulevard. The site plan includes building elevations, signage, lighting plan and landscape plans.

An update on the 35Express Project was given during the City Manager Report. Highland Village Road at I-35E will be closed for a two week period between 6 a.m. August 25 and 6 a.m. September 9. The closure is needed to raise Highland Village Road eight feet to meet the new I-35E frontage road.

Also during the Report, the [HVTV Update](#) featured a segment by Hayley Orrantia, former Highland Village resident turned actor, reminding students to stay true to themselves, stand up to bullying and be nice to those around them. The update also informed residents of the annual Punt, Pass and Kick event, the Fall Family Camp Out and National Preparedness Month.

The City Council early work session and regular session is available on HVTV (Time Warner 16; Verizon 43) and via the website streaming by clicking HVTV. The meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the city website.