

Rockport Transcript

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT

Timely Crime Report Information Online

Did you know that the City has a real-time, crime report program on its web site? It includes an easy to use map where citizens can filter crime information to see when (time, day), where (neighborhoods), and what types of crime are being reported, as well as draw further insights from basic trend graphs and analytics.

Citizens can share tips and register private security cameras with police, as well as sign up for email alerts on any device, including user-friendly mobile applications. Designed to help law enforcement agencies communicate local activi-

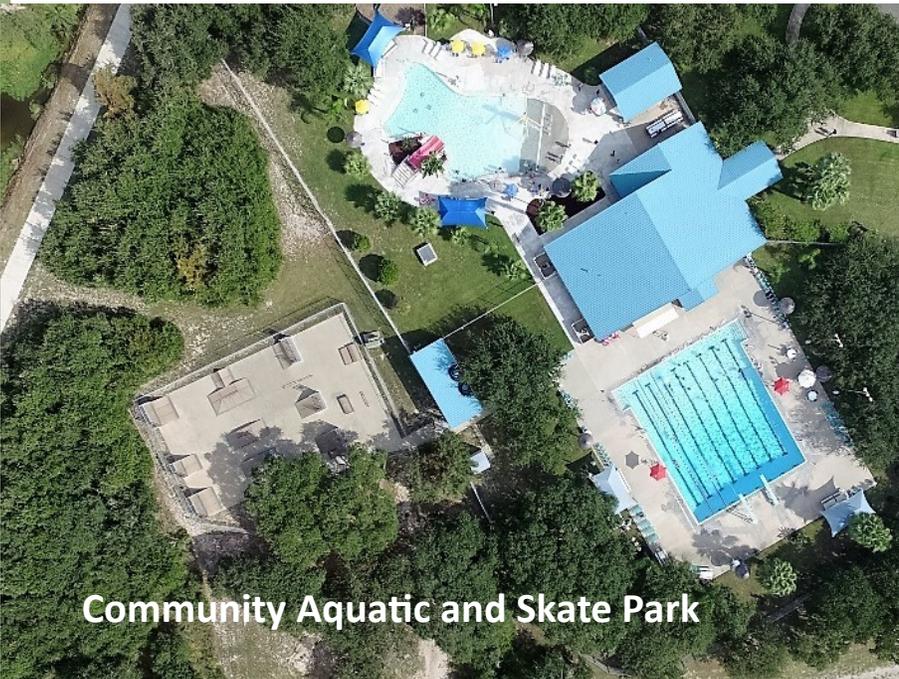
ty, CrimeReports™ is available to help citizens find, explore, and interact with crime data, trends, and statistics.

CrimeReports™ is another venue for the City to demonstrate its commitment towards openness,

transparency, and an informed citizenry. You can find it in the “About Rockport” tab or on the Police Department page of the City’s web site – www.cityofrockport.com



What a View!



Community Aquatic and Skate Park

2016-2017 Tax Rate Announced

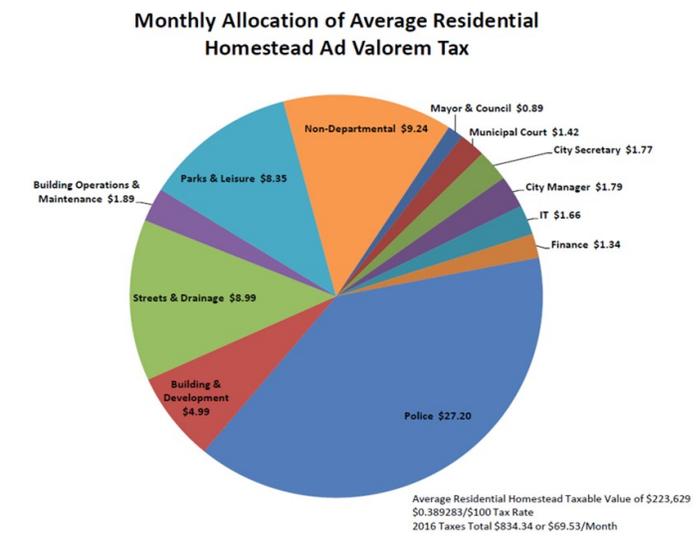
The City of Rockport conducted public hearings on August 23 and September 13 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the City of Rockport from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year. The proposal was approved on September 20. The total tax revenue anticipated to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.389283 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$4,664,465.

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2016-2017 Tax Rate Announced (continued from front page)

Approximately \$0.23 per \$100 will be used for general City purposes and to pay the current operating expenses of the City of Rockport, Texas, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. The remaining \$0.15 is levied for

the purpose of creating an Interest and Sinking Fund with which to pay the interest and principal of the valid bonded indebtedness, and related fees of the City of Rockport.



Kudos for Budget and Parks Dept.

For the 14th consecutive year, the City of Rockport has received the “Distinguished Budget Presentation” Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

The City and its Park Department was recognized as a “Steward of Nature” in the History Center of Aransas County’s exhibit, which continues through November 12. The Friends of the History Center recognized individuals and organizations that have promoted a conservation ethic by preservation, protection or restoration of nature in Aransas County.

Other honorees included Connie Hagar, Friends of Aransas and Matagorda Island (Aransas National Wildlife Refuge), Aransas First, Aransas Pathways, Aransas County Bird and Nature Club, the Aquarium at Rockport Harbor, Coastal Conservation Association Texas, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of Connie Hagar (C. Hagar Cottage Sanctuary), the Marine Lab (TPWD), and Master Naturalists- Mid-Coast Chapter.

Annexation Plans Underway

City Council recently passed a resolution seeking to annex three areas that abut current city limits. Typically, municipalities may annex up to 10% of its geographic size on an annual basis. Because the City has not annexed property over the past three years, regulations allow it to carry over the unused allocation up to 30% of its total size. As a result, the City will gain approximately 250 new residents and 1,294 acres of land.

The annexation would incorporate a primarily commercial corridor along Market Street/FM 1069 from Steart west to the Bypass;

adjoining Bypass property from 18th Street south to FM 188; and adjacent Bypass property from Alexander Drive to Griffith Drive.

Capital improvement projects, installation of street lights, public safety, service plans, maintenance and personnel costs have been budgeted. A copy of the plan is available on the City’s web site at www.cityofrockport.com.

Public hearings will be held on Tuesday, November 8 at 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Think it's Flushable – Maybe Not

For decades, the toilet also served as a convenient garbage can for refuse like medications, chemicals, kitty litter, cigarette butts, and more. These items not only took a toll on the sewer systems and wastewater plant equipment, but also the final by-product of the treatment – the effluent, itself.

Over the years, stories have been written about all the things that should not be flushed ... including items like medications, which were once approved for disposal through the toilet. The newest controversial item is the “wipe,” which includes baby, sanitary, makeup remover and household products.

Municipal sewer systems across the country are getting clogged by wipe items. Unlike toilet pa-



Flushable wipes pulled out of the sewer system. Photo courtesy of San Antonio Water System.

per, wipes do not break apart or disperse. This causes downstream issues for the collection system or the treatment plant.

The associations which represent the flushable wipes manufacturers have created voluntary guidelines to prove flushability, but there are no enforcement efforts against violators. The Association of

Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (INDA) estimates only eight percent of all wipes are truly flushable. And, many products that had once been labeled “flushable” have changed their manufacturing process and may no longer suggest that means of disposal.

Veterans Day — Friday, November 11 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park

Veterans Day 2016 is a federal holiday (prior to 1954 known as Armistice Day) observed annually on November 11, not only in the United States but in many other countries throughout the world. In the United States, it is a day that honors all men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Additionally, Veterans Day 2016 is the 98th anniversary of the signing of the armistice, which ended the World War I hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in 1918. Veterans Day 2016 should not be mistaken with Memorial Day; Veterans Day celebrates the service of all United States military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who died while in military service.

The keynote speaker for this year's service is Rockport Police Department Commander Larry Sinclair.



Shop Rockport—
Keep your retail sales taxes
working at home

Rockport City Council

Mayor



C.J. Wax

Ward 1



Rusty Day

Ward 2



J.D. Villa

Ward 3



Pat Rios

Ward 4



Barbara Gurtner

Save the Date — Tropical Christmas Saturday, December 3

Tropical Christmas is a day-long extravaganza kicking off the holiday season with fun, festivities, fireworks and more in Historical Rockport. Among the featured events are an illuminated night parade, children's programs, tour of historic homes, decorating contests, pet costume contest, arts and crafts festival, performances by nationally-known Cast in Bronze, food and entertainment, and, of course, a visit with "Tropical Santa." Top-

ping off the annual event will be a spectacular fireworks display.

For additional information on the event, including parade entries, call the City of Rockport's Parks and Leisure Services Department at 361-727-2158 or go to www.cityofrockport.com.



Who Do I Call If ...

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Public Safety	729-1111
Utility Bill Questions/Concerns	729-2213 x 234
Street Issues and Repairs	790-1160
Sewer, Water and Gas Issues	790-1160
Trash Pick-Up	729-2213 x 234
City Administrative Offices	729-2213 x 221
Building and Development Dept.	790-1125
County Mosquito Hotline	727- 0606 x 29

For additional questions or concerns, visit the "FAQs" or "Fix It" sections on the City's web site (www.cityofrockport.com) or call City Hall at 729-2213.



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