



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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Council Sets Public Hearing Date and Proposed Tax Rate for FY 2023-2024

At the August 8 meeting, Council set the public hearing for September 12 for the proposed tax rate for fiscal year 2023-2024. The tax rate is proposed to decrease from \$0.546825 to \$0.501394, which represents the Voter Approved rate. While the proposed tax rate will be reduced from last year's rate, it will still exceed the No New Revenue rate of \$0.485019.

Council also received a presentation on the Utility Fund Budget. The Highland Village utility rate structure provides for a wholesale water and sewer pass-through component. This represents the cost associated with obtaining water from the Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD), also including treatment of wastewater. These rates are adjusted periodically to ensure sufficient revenues to match the associated expenditures, without markup. For the FY 2023-2024 Budget, there is no change for the City portion of the rates, but the wholesale revenues / expenditures will be reconciled this winter, likely providing a modest increase for wholesale water rates resulting from increased UTRWD costs. Budget presentations will continue in August and September with the recommended budget posted to the City website on September 8.

Parks Director Phil Lozano presented an additional supplemental item for the FY 2023-24 Budget to convert the Unity Tennis Courts into Pickleball Courts. There has been an increased demand for pickleball courts in recent years. The City has overlaid pickleball lines on tennis courts at Unity and Sellmeyer and has provided temporary nets, which has worked up to now. Staff received a request to provide a dedicated venue for pickleball. Unity Park Tennis was selected as the dedicated venue due to its distance from the neighborhoods and location to FM 407 and the business community. Unity currently has six temporary pickleball courts and has grown in popularity to where pickleball is played more than tennis. Converting Unity Tennis to Pickleball will still leave six tennis courts in the city, four at Highland Village Tennis Center and two at Sellmeyer Tennis. The City is conducting a community survey and seeking public input on the proposed conversion at the August 21 Parks Board meeting, with results shared with Council at the August 22 meeting.

Council approved an ordinance repealing the City's Code of Ordinances Article 12.02 relating to juvenile curfew regulations. The 88th State Legislature approved House Bill 1819, which prohibits political subdivisions from adopting or enforcing an order, ordinance, or other measure that imposes a curfew to regulate the movements or actions of person younger than 18 years of age. Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 6-1, with Mayor Jaworski voting in opposition.

The City Council early work session and regular session is available on HVTV (Frontier 43) and via website live streaming at www.highlandvillage.org/hvtv and on the City's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/highlandvillagetx. The meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the city [website](#).