



ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 5

March 2018

ARANSAS PASS WEBPAGE TO GET COMPLETE REDO

Below is a snapshot of the current Aransas Pass webpage. At the instruction of city management, it soon will be changed. It has served it's purpose well, but every few years it is advisable to update this important form of communication. Each year, thousands of people from around the world, nationwide, statewide and locally access the City site.

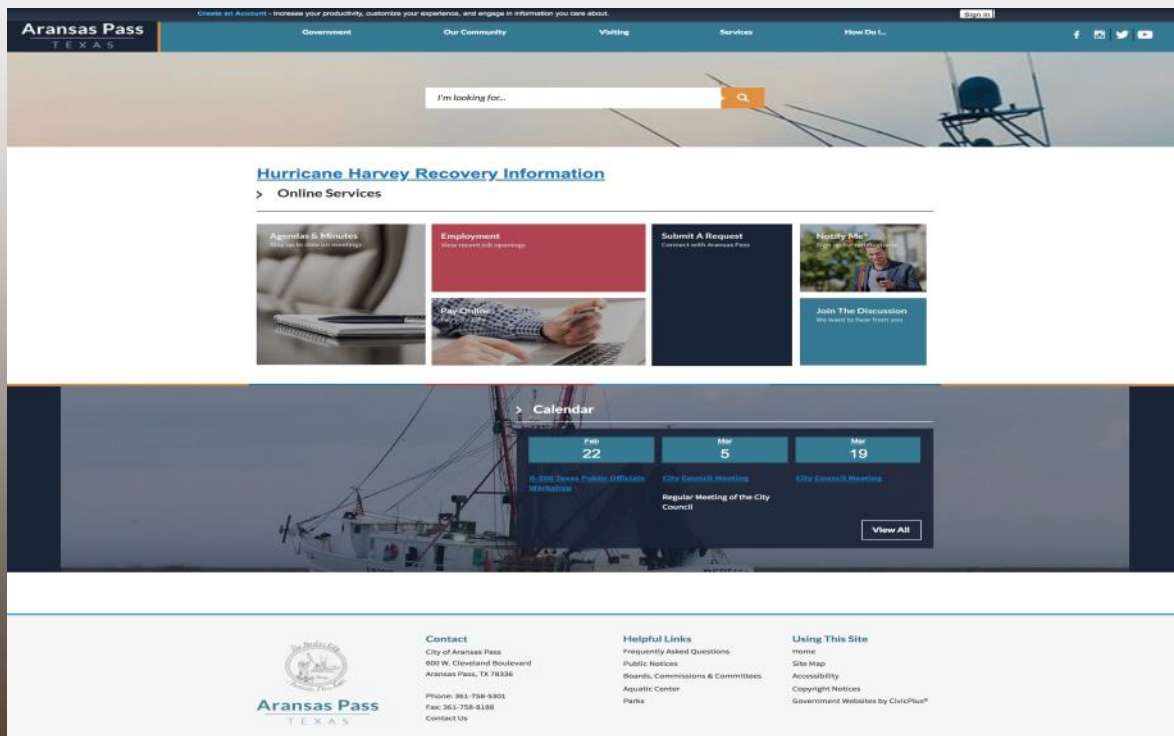
"It is important to have a site that is not only visually appealing to viewers from around the world, but it must be a site that easy to maneuver for local citizens and statewide," said City I.T. Director Jeff Martin, who is supervising the changes. A committee has been set up to oversee this important task.

"If there is a water leak or similar utility problem after hours, I want to know immediately who to call by accessing the City Webpage," said Carol Salinas, a citizen committee member. All City services must be readily accessible through the webpage.

Additionally, the City webpage must be impressive to look at and do a good job selling the City. These are some of the goals being undertaken by the webpage redesign Committee. They meet every other week. The new webpage should be in on-line this Summer.

"If there is a water leak or similar utility problem after hours, I want to know immediately who to call by accessing the City webpage."

Carol Salinas, Citizen Member of the webpage redesign committee





EDA Official Visits Aransas Pass

Jorge Ayala, the Regional Director for the Economic Development Administration (EDA), visited the Aransas Pass City Hall on February 15th to ask how EDA could help with the Hurricane Harvey recovery. A city staff committee met with Mr. Ayala. With the EDA director were Russell Franques, Director of the Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center of Texas A&M at Corpus Christi and Richard Bullock, Director of Planning and Development of the Coastal Bend Council of Governments. See photo below.

LONGTIME CITY ATTORNEY TO RETIRE

Aransas Pass City Attorney, Allen Lawrence, will retire after being associated with the City for over 47 years. See photo above. Mr. Lawrence began his duties with the City in 1970 as Municipal Court Judge. In 1979 he was appointed City Attorney and has continued in that position, with the exception of a short break. Mr. Lawrence has served 13 Mayors, all of whom served multiple terms, 10 City Managers, 8 City Secretaries and a large number of Council Members. His last day as City Attorney is April 30, 2018. In his Letter of Resignation, Attorney Lawrence said, "Many, many things have been accomplished and the sky is the limit for the future."

COMMUNITY PARK CLEAN-UP DAY

A large number of volunteers showed up for the Saturday February 24th clean-up day to put final touches on the little league fields before the ball season begins. Seen below is volunteer Naomi Villarreal.



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

The Aransas Pass City Council has started holding monthly work sessions. No legislative decisions are made by the Council during these work periods. The next work session is set for March 12th at 6:00 PM in the City Council chambers. The public is welcome to attend.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTEND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

In February, Council members attended a local three hour course designed to introduce the Mayor and Council Members and appointed city officials to Emergency Management in Texas. The session also looked at local responsibilities during the four phases of emergency management—mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.



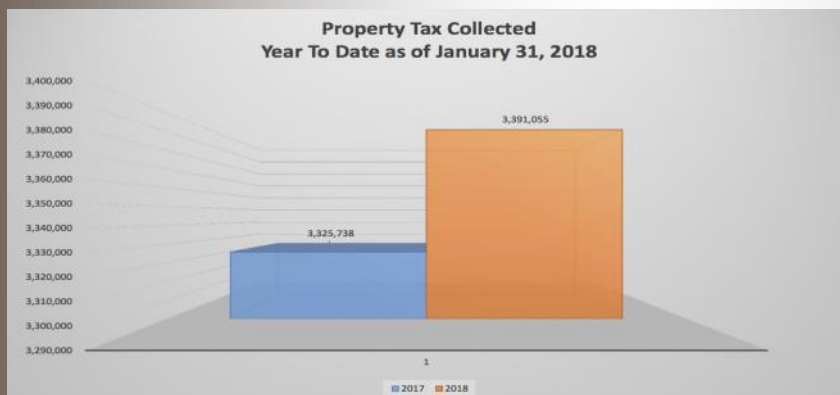
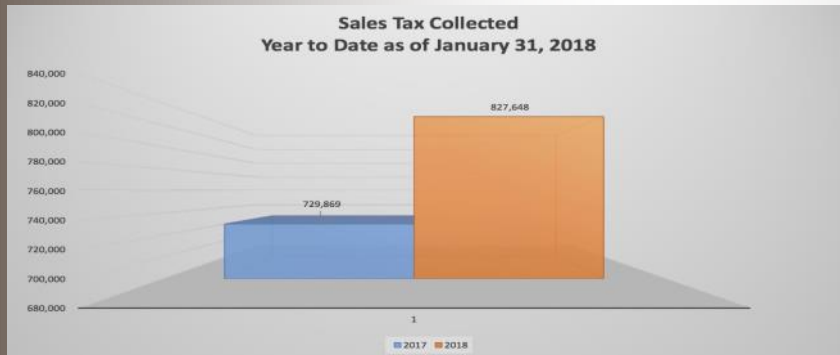
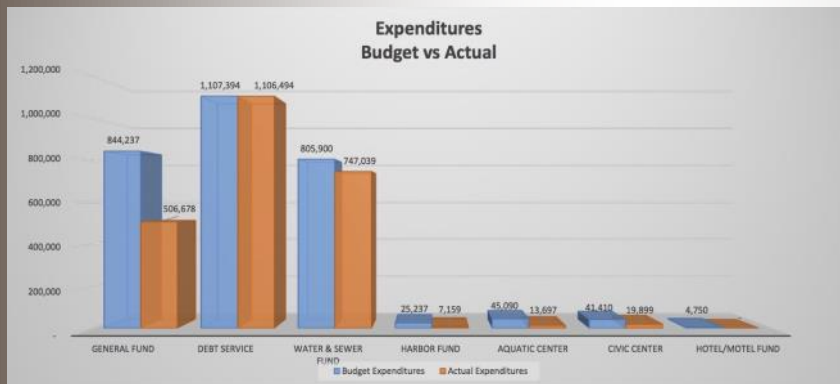
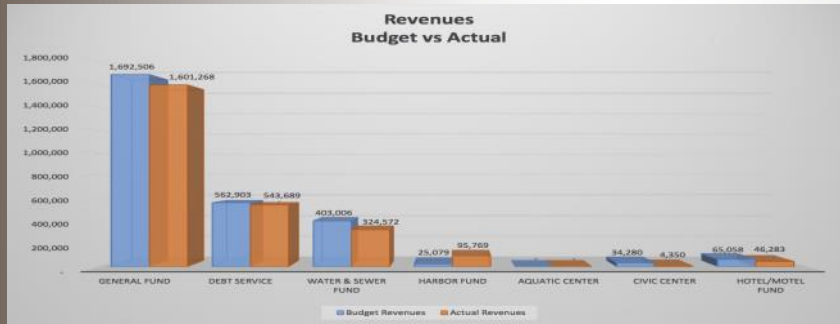
City Staff And TxDot Meet With Citizens

In early February City Staff and TxDot met with Citizens of the Palm Drive area to discuss questions residents had concerning the Safe Route To School Sidewalk project. See photo above and see route of the 10' wide sidewalk below (in red). City Public Works Director Fernando Quintanilla and TxDot representatives were able to answer most questions, including those dealing with access to an alley type area. The project is being paid for with grant dollars.



MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The graphs below show the status of monthly City finances as presented by Finance Director Sandra Garcia during the February 19th City Council meeting. In the case of revenues and expenditures, the blue bar shows the budget amount and the orange shows the actual amounts collected or expended. In the case of the sales tax and property tax, the blue bar represents 2017 and the orange bar represents 2018. In sum, the revenue picture so far this year is stable to good, however, it still is early in the fiscal year, and it is possible property taxes will end the year less strong.



Contact Us

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CITY MEETS WITH HOA

On Saturday February 10th the City spoke before the Pelican Cove Home Owners Association concerning various City issues that impact the subdivision. This included the anticipated FEMA floodplain map. In the coming weeks, a preliminary Floodplain map will be released to local communities in this area., including Aransas Pass. See photo below.

