

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



JANUARY 10, 2023

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department



- The Library Department hires two new employees. Part Time Library Clerk Alana Quinones Garcia was hired on December 13th and Executive Assistant Angela Sabino was hired on December 19th.
- The Fire Department welcomes two new employees. Firefighter/Paramedic Jeremy Albright and Firefighter/EMT Isaac Perez were hired on January 3rd.
- Pet Adoption Department welcomes a new employee. Kennel Technician Sue Ellen Reynaga was hired on January 3rd.
- The Finance Department hired one new Utility Billing Clerk. Jennifer Abrigo was hired on January 3rd.
- The Public Works Department promoted an employee on December 10th. Eric Jackson was promoted to a Utility Specialist.
- The Police Department will be welcoming three new employees on January 17th. Ryan Ruben, Savannah Christopher and Michelle Fowler will begin working for the City on January 17th.





The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library is ready for the new year with a full slate of services, programs, collections, and initiatives to help you have the best year ever!

Are you ready for a Book Challenge for 2023?

We have a pretty impressive adventure for all of our intrepid readers and audiobook listeners! The Library has a "just for fun" challenge for you for the next year! Just e-mail clink@harkerheights.gov or visit our website at <https://harkerheights.gov/index.php/adult-programs> for the list of categories. What's the prize? Glory -- of course -- and a full year of fun and intriguing reading experiences! Let us know when you've finished by e-mailing clink@harkerheights.gov, and we will definitely make a BIG DEAL about it! The first patron age 16 and up to complete this endeavor will receive a reader's prize package! All ages are welcome! Just print off this challenge, make your own spreadsheet, or just keep a list. Write the name, author, and date completed of the book that you read or listen to. Start TODAY! Audiobooks count! All ages may play along, but only patrons ages 16 and up can receive the prize. Everyone regardless of age can receive a fancy e-mailed certificate for turning in your completed list to clink@harkerheights.gov anytime during 2023!

Let's be creative! What can you make with what you find in the Maker Space? The Library and Activities Center Maker Space has been re-opened! Drop by Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10am-2pm and Saturdays from 3-5pm! You never know what you will find.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

The Library challenges you to try out several hobbies this year! Each month we will focus on a new hobby with in-person and virtual program, book collections, displays, and more! January's hobby is crochet! Check on our Facebook for booklists and classes. Sign up for our in-person crochet class on Tuesday, January 24 at 6pm. Call 254-953-5491 to register. All materials will be provided.

Preschool programs are in full swing at the Library! Join us each Tuesday at 10am for Baby time, a lap sit program for babies ages 0-18 months and their special adult! Children ages 3-6 and their families enjoy stories, songs, and more at Story times on Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 9am! Toddler Time for children ages 0-3 and their families combines music, rhymes, and books for a bonding experience!

- Wednesday, January 11 at 10am – Days of the Week Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy an early literacy treat with music and more at the Library!
- Thursday, January 12 at 9am – Days of the Week Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Thursday, January 12 at 10am – Days of the Week Toddler Time (ages 0-3 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Tuesday, January 17 at 10 am – Baby Time (lap sit) – Bring your baby ages 0-18 for a special time filled with rhymes and songs!
- Wednesday, January 18 at 10am – Yay Stories! Storytime music and more to the Library!
- Thursday, January 19 at 9am – Happy Birthday Storytime for ages 3-6 and their families – Enjoy songs, rhymes, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Thursday, January 19 at 10am – Happy Birthday Time Toddler Time for ages 0-3 and their families – Enjoy songs, rhymes, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!

Families visit the Library Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 6:30 for our Family Story Night! Space is limited and seating is on a first come/first served basis. This program provides stories, activities, and more that will interest a variety of age groups.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

Join Singing Zoologist Lucas Miller for "Bite-sized Science" on our Library's facebook on Saturdays at 2:00 in January 2023! Learn a little about Texas animals with awesome songs, cool videos, and more!



Pokemon card games return on Saturday, January 7, 2023, from 1-3 pm at the Library! Bring your cards, or play with ours! Library volunteers will help you learn and play! The games will occur EVERY SATURDAY! We are also looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in Pokemon card games and would like to teach others how to play, e-mail lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov.



Are you interested in Dungeons and Dragons 5e Role-Playing? Patrons ages 14 and up are invited to join one of our two D&D5E groups. Saturday Dungeons and Dragons meet the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month from 2-5pm. The Dungeons of Drakkenheim Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 4:30 – 7:30 pm. No experience is necessary. All materials are provided. Drop in at the beginning of a session.

Join our Book Discussion Club on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm! Read a different book each month, and get together with other avid readers to discuss! Meet Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 6:30 at the Library to discuss "The Stranger" by Albert Camus. This masterpiece is often considered a representation of existentialism and Western post World War II malaise.

Parks & Recreation Department

ACTIVITIES CENTER

- The Maker Space continues its open times into the school year. (Wednesdays and Thursdays 3-7pm and Saturdays 1-4pm.) Stop by anytime and see the amazing community project the public is building called Cardboard City (located in the hall). This entire city is built from cardboard has so many little surprises in it. The public is encouraged to add their artistic abilities to this ever growing and changing project.



ATHLETICS

- 2022 Ability Basketball for children ages 5 - 22 with special needs finished on Wednesday, December 14th. Thank you to all the participants and UMHB Men's Basketball team who helped make the last night of the activity special by helping cheer on our participants.
- Thank you to the 106 participants in our 8U Basketball season.
- Thank you to Killeen ISD for allowing the use of Nolan Middle and Union Grove Middle school gyms. This partnership allowed us to have a successful 10U Basketball season with 84 participants that will finish on January 21, 2023.
- Thank you to the Armed Services YMCA for allowing the use of their gym for use during our 12U Basketball season with 56 participants.
- Visit the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation website to see the new 2023 Youth Sports Calendar.
- Registration for 2023 Youth Baseball, Softball, and Tee Ball is open until February 1, 2023. Don't miss your opportunity to volunteer to Coach or to Officiate with us!

SENIOR RECREATION

- Senior Membership Renewal: Seniors (50+) can renew or become a member of the Senior Recreation program in person at the Recreation Center or by going online through our Civic Rec portal. Please renew by February 28, 2023.
- Area Agency on Aging of Central Texas is hosting a six week Diabetes Self-Management Program at the Recreation Center every Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (January 4th – February 8th).
- January's BINGO will be on Thursday, January 19 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.
- Ladies Night Out is scheduled for Thursday, January 19 at 5:00 pm. The group will be visiting Black Bear Diner, 401 W. Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.
- Join us for Lunch & Learn on Friday, January 20 at 11:45 am. This free event will be held at the Recreation Center with guest speaker Dr. Shane Isdale, DC (Corrective Chiropractic & Wellness). Please register prior to by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center. Dr. Isdale will be providing food and beverages.
- The Old Glories Granny Basketball Team was invited to play a partial game during the Harker Heights High School vs. Temple High School Varsity Girls Basketball game halftime. This was an opportunity for the team to show their skills as well as recruit players.



Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

- Do you need to destress from the holidays? The Recreation Center offers three types of Yoga. Adaptive Chair Yoga meets on Mondays from 10 am – 11 am for ages 18 and up at \$12/\$10 (ages 50+) per class rate. Feel Good Yoga is offered on Tuesdays for ages 10 and up with a monthly charge of \$48/\$40 (ages 50+) or \$14/\$12 (ages 50+) drop in rate per class. Gentle Flow Yoga is usually offered outdoors at Carl Levin Park on the third Saturday of the month from 10:30 am – 11:30 am at the rate of \$12/\$10 (ages 50+) per Saturday class. For the month of January and February the class will be held at the Recreation Center.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- Be on the lookout for Our Valentine Dances on February 10th and 11th. We will be having our Daddy/Daughter Dance on the 10th followed by our Senior and Family Dances both on the 11th. More details will be posted on Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Facebook.
- The second annual Outdoor and Science Expo will be Saturday February 18th from 9am-1pm at the Activities Center. The expo will include hands-on learning, Outdoor Education, gardening resources and more.



GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- Go Heights started the new year with a First Day Hike at Mother Neff State Park. 20 participants enjoyed hiking the trails and seeing the park's main attractions. The next hike will be on Wednesday, January 14th from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Dana Peak Park. Reservation is encouraged.
- Community Garden Workday at Carl Levin: Volunteers needed to help with weeding and getting plots ready for Spring gardening. Saturday January 21st 10am-12pm
- Garden Education Series: Bell County Master Gardener's will be teaching Spring Gardening Starts Now at the Activities Center Tuesday January 24th 6pm-7:30pm. Registration Required.

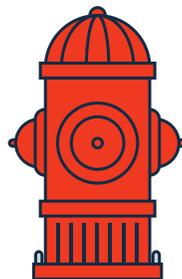
Police Department

- The Healthy Homes Division partnered with Seton Medical Center to assist in providing 100 children with Christmas gifts last year.
- The Healthy Homes Division will begin their Back-to-School Donation Drive this month.
- Four Police Academy Cadets graduated from the Temple Police Academy and were sworn in on December 30th.
- The Community Services Division will begin their 4th round of the B.A.B.Y. program which will begin on the 11th and will run for six weeks.
- The Community Services Division will begin their Spring 2023 Citizen's Police Academy in March.
- The Public Safety Commission made their selection for Police Officer of the Year. The officer selected for the award is Officer Dustin Weaver.



Fire Department

- A citizen came by and dropped off a homemade meal to our C-Shift crew. She said the Harker Heights Fire Department has been out to her house a few times over the years and she has always wanted to bring them something to show her gratitude.
- A local appliance company wished the whole department a Happy New Year and wanted to send their appreciation for everything the department does year-round by dropping off Black Rifle Coffee.





Finance Department



ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
January	\$431,215.89	\$347,598.93	\$294,404.59	\$246,908.71	\$218,947.04
February	\$447,458.01	\$259,558.94	\$259,685.74	\$239,620.03	\$253,982.29
March	\$427,327.54	\$337,154.90	\$260,569.11	\$267,408.59	\$250,722.14
April	\$450,611.99	\$341,911.77	\$297,973.05	\$214,513.90	\$210,496.91
May	\$457,447.36	\$455,951.18*	\$337,662.28	\$311,719.63	\$281,788.14
June	\$559,624.69	\$457,853.17	\$291,251.93	\$271,114.94	\$320,454.59
July	\$593,523.31	\$474,837.86	\$433,747.64	\$285,381.75	\$300,335.69
August	\$626,576.19	\$473,342.17	\$380,976.99	\$356,562.37	\$394,788.59
September	\$733,557.95	\$575,867.17	\$466,173.61	\$320,090.38	\$364,257.96
October	\$550,329.57	\$615,499.23	\$433,650.72	\$399,497.35	\$306,871.13
November	\$597,938.12	\$488,924.69	\$305,732.61	\$358,146.37	\$286,085.34
December	\$529,760.67	\$540,030.51	\$380,537.34	\$275,957.76	\$249,823.02

*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
January	\$110,804.07	\$122,588.54	\$114,100.16	\$85,442.31	\$71,651.41
February	\$107,542.69	\$90,974.33	\$86,917.11	\$73,765.91	\$73,106.50
March	\$112,330.20	\$143,922.62	\$93,411.41	\$71,751.84	\$70,641.47
April	\$110,142.69	\$126,015.15	\$95,350.65	\$65,920.26	\$65,855.79
May	\$111,214.36	\$114,615.29	\$88,860.54	\$88,378.47	\$75,977.68
June	\$126,583.78	\$117,093.13	\$88,539.21	\$74,513.43	\$80,826.26
July	\$127,979.57	\$114,493.61	\$121,025.84	\$93,483.23	\$88,910.75
August	\$136,631.66	\$121,311.92	\$113,130.64	\$107,866.92	\$102,878.90
September	\$153,943.37	\$128,969.57	\$137,771.86	\$106,122.80	\$92,411.37
October	\$120,331.11	\$133,559.38	\$123,306.75	\$120,968.81	\$98,509.88
November	\$131,364.63	\$109,105.34	\$94,961.20	\$97,515.15	\$84,134.74
December	\$114,240.31	\$115,096.07	\$116,508.98	\$99,255.97	\$71,988.89



KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
January	\$9,974.61	\$13,714.61	\$18,735.25	\$16,084.10	\$13,632.13
February	\$12,965.79	\$11,058.25	\$15,342.02	\$16,019.68	\$14,010.94
March	\$13,519.99	\$16,168.18	\$14,213.01	\$12,078.00	\$15,753.68
April	\$13,777.77	\$14,514.82	\$14,165.99	\$11,636.59	\$11,598.52
May	\$14,264.27	\$12,642.08	\$16,670.43	\$15,446.69	\$15,516.51
June	\$17,616.84	\$13,961.69	\$13,795.19	\$14,092.62	\$17,806.76
July	\$19,794.27	\$13,973.86	\$21,778.38	\$18,147.78	\$20,001.21
August	\$17,131.77	\$13,053.66	\$17,566.80	\$20,613.07	\$22,002.97
September	\$21,855.49	\$15,046.80	\$24,119.28	\$18,407.61	\$20,300.64
October	\$17,549.59	\$19,801.71	\$18,037.50	\$19,399.15	\$15,677.88
November	\$17,225.45	\$14,707.98	\$15,206.33	\$20,304.92	\$15,970.14
December	\$19,102.03	\$14,030.94	\$14,953.30	\$15,822.59	\$12,904.99

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
January	3,565	3,245	2,719	2,406	2,506
February	3,566	3,290	2,759	2,471	2,522
March	3,555	3,293	2,880	2,519	2,516
April	3,603	3,321	2,819	2,552	2,502
May	3,654	3,364	2,847	2,533	2,482
June	3,698	3,396	2,931	2,588	2,439
July	3,695	3,461	2,976	2,582	2,407
August	3,747	3,505	3,069	2,622	2,380
September	3,746	3,523	3,072	2,669	2,370
October	3,789	3,536	3,127	2,664	2,305
November	3,757	3,548	3,186	2,695	2,357
December	3,749	3,533	3,201	2,715	2,387

ASSESSMENT BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

PAVING ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Polk, Billy (deceased)/Phillip Sueoka	242 E Cardinal	\$19,415.02
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No payments were made for the Paving Assessments.

WILDEWOOD ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Eaton, Donald (deceased)	921 Ashwood	\$9,504.65
Rickets, Tommie	936/940 Lemonwood	11,640.77
Total Wildewood:		\$21,145.42

No payments were made for the Wildewood Assessment.

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

December 1 thru December 31, 2022

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	79	45.40%
Outside Storage	26	14.94%
Bulk Items	25	14.37%
Grass	12	6.90%
Brush	10	5.75%
Tires	5	2.87%
Junk Vehicle	4	2.30%
Trailer	4	2.30%
Boat	2	1.15%
Basketball Goal	1	0.57%
Building Inspection	1	0.57%
Fencing	1	0.57%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	1	0.57%
Maintenance	1	0.57%
Other*	1	0.57%
Skirting	1	0.57%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Trash	0	0.00%
Tree limbs	0	0.00%
Total	174	100.00%

*For Fiscal Year 21-22 the category "Other" includes the following:
Stormwater Contamination; Illegal Dumping; Storage Containers;
Lack of Permit for Work; Façade Maintenance; Heavy Vehicles;
Parking on the Grass; & Unpermitted Use of Property

**As of May 2022, Heavy Vehicle Parking is longer included in the
"Other" Category.

***As of June 2022, Parking on the Grass (Grass Parking) is no longer
included in the "Other" Category

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

October 1, 2022 thru September 30, 2023

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	235	38.97%
Grass	101	16.75%
Outside Storage	73	12.11%
Bulk Items	72	11.94%
Brush	36	5.97%
Tires	24	3.98%
Trailer	18	2.99%
Basketball Goal	12	1.99%
Junk Vehicle	9	1.49%
Maintenance	5	0.83%
Boat	4	0.66%
Fencing	3	0.50%
Tree limbs	3	0.50%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	2	0.33%
Other*	2	0.33%
Skirting	2	0.33%
Building Inspection	1	0.17%
Trash	1	0.17%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%

Total 603 100.00%

*For Fiscal Year 21-22 the category "Other" includes the following:
Stormwater Contamination; Illegal Dumping; Storage Containers;
Lack of Permit for Work; Façade Maintenance; Heavy Vehicles;
Parking on the Grass; & Unpermitted Use of Property

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***As of June 2022, Parking on the Grass (Grass Parking) is no longer included in the "Other" Category



City of Harker Heights
Planning & Development
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548
planning@harkerheights.gov

Economic Development Report

DECEMBER 2022 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued two (2) commercial construction permits within the month of December.

- 201 W. Central Texas Expressway, Suite 1220, remodel
 - Valued at \$200,000.00
- 3035 Stillhouse Lake Road, tenant finish out
 - Valued at \$1,450,000.00

To date (December 31, 2022) the City has issued a total of twenty (24) commercial permits totaling \$27,915,552.00 in project valuation for calendar year 2022.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **four (4)** permits for single-family residential construction within the month of December.

- 1 Single Family Permit in The Ridge
- 3 Single Family Permit in Cedarbrook Ridge

The City issued a total of **one (1)** permit for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of December.

- 1 Duplex Permit in North Side

To date (December 31, 2022) the City has issued a total of one hundred fifty-seven (157) residential permits, one hundred and five (105) single-family permits, fifty-two (52) two-family permits, and zero (0) multi-family permits in calendar year 2022.

As of December 31, 2022, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **34,834** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020 was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 585 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.