

Rockport Transcript

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT

New Spaces, New Faces

It's official — the former City Hall on Market Street is unusable. But, there are no immediate plans for demolition. The Service Center continues to function as the ex parte City Hall.

In the meantime, the City and Aransas County have received significant federal funding to build City Hall and the Courthouse at the same location to anchor downtown. The process for selecting an architect has just begun.

Former Mayor Pro Tem and Ward 3 Council Member Pat Rios ran unopposed for Mayor. Ward 4 Incumbent Barbara Gurtner was re-elected. Ward 2 Councilman J.D. Villa was elected Mayor Pro



Outgoing Mayor C.J. Wax (right) swears in Mayor Pat Rios as his family looks on. Rios has served on City Council since 2013 as Councilman for Ward 3 and Mayor Pro

Tem. With the vacancy of the Ward 3 seat, Council interviewed three individuals and selected Warren Hassinger to serve the remaining term.

Disaster Preparedness

The ability to safely evacuate residents during a disaster depends on strong disaster preparedness planning and requires the cooperation of all affected citizens.

During periods of heavy rainfall, the City of Rockport's street drainage crew is on-call 24-hour and inspects roadways to monitor flooding. City crews use barricades to close roads that are inundated with water and to discourage traffic from driving

through these areas.

When a Hurricane threatens the City evacuating is the smartest thing to do, and the City and the County will implement the Phased Evacuation Process through the CodeRED Emergency Notification system. Use this link to sign up: <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/C3F2FDDE07FB>. Residents can choose to enter up to a combined total of five different phone numbers or email address-

Office Relocations

City Manager

City Secretary

Finance

Human Resources

Office of the Mayor

Rockport Service Center, 2751 SH Hwy 35 Bypass (on the west side of the access road between Pearl and Market Streets)

Municipal Court

Parks Department

Utility Customer Service

Former Service Center, 402 E. Laurel Street (corner of Laurel and Gagon Streets)

es. For questions and additional information, contact Cmdr. Larry Sinclair at 361-790-1134 .

NOAA Weather Radios also broadcast current local weather information, watches, warnings, and forecasts 24 hours a day, and can be monitored on 162.400 mhz. Times of each phase will be adjusted based on storm speed and intensity. Periods between timelines may be shortened or lengthened depending on the storm. *(Continued on page 2)*

Disaster Preparedness *(continued from front page)*

The City receives information from NOAA Weather Station and from the National Weather Service offices in Corpus Christi, Texas. The local contact number for the National Weather Service is 817-429-2631. Please call in reference to evacuation notices, procedures and shelters.

PHASE 1:

40 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds (Tropical Conditions)

Description: Voluntary Evacuation of all special needs residents, nursing homes, home health care patients, tourists and vacationers in Aransas County.

Hazard: Category 1-5 hurricane

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to IH 37. SH 35 north to FM 239 to US 77 or US 183.

PHASE 2:

32 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds (Tropical Conditions)

Description: Mandatory Evacuation of all special needs residents, nursing homes, home health care patients, tourists and vacationers in Aransas County. All residents living in mobile homes or along the water front/canals or low lying areas that normally flood with heavy rains or high tides.

Hazard: Category 1-5 hurricane

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to IH 37. SH 35 north to FM 239 to US 77 or US 183

PHASE 3

24 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds (Tropical Conditions)

Description: Mandatory Evacuation of all residents and those not deemed essential employees by business such as banks, food service, pharmacies, fuel supply, grocery/emergency supply stores and those in the oil, gas and chemical industry.

Hazard: Category 1-5 hurricane

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to IH 37. SH 35 north to FM 239 to US 77 or US 183

PHASE 4

16 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds (Tropical Conditions)

Description: Mandatory Evacuation of all remaining residents. Essential employees of businesses such as banks, food service, pharmacies, fuel supply, grocery/emergency supply stores and those in the oil, gas and chemical industry begin to reduce staff.

Hazard: Category 1-5 hurricane

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to US 181 or IH 37. SH 35 north or south

PHASE 5

8 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds

Description: Mandatory Evacuation of all residents, employees or volunteers left in Aransas County whether deemed essential or not that have planned to leave.

Hazard: Category 1-5 hurricane

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to US 181 or IH 37. SH 35 north or south

PHASE 6

4 hours prior to the onset of 35 MPH winds



Description: Mandatory Evacuation of all residents, employees or volunteers left in Aransas County.

Hazard: Category 4 or 5 hurricane with possible 20 foot or higher tidal surge

Evacuation Routes: SH 188 to Sinton SH 35 north to FM 774 to Refugio

Please note that a Mandatory Evacuation order by the County Judge and/or Mayor(s) that a state of local disaster exists or is imminent within their jurisdiction, to the extent that emergency services will not be able to respond to assist anyone who has chosen not to follow said order.

Parks Depart. Offers Summer Programs

Be sure to check the City's web site calendar, bi-weekly Mayor's Letter and social media for exciting new programs being offered this summer.

These include Movies in the Park with free admission and popcorn, reduced admission Family Nights at the Pool every other Wednesday, and an End of Summer Blast.

Energy Savings; Installation of New “Smart” Meters

Last year we shared information about an Energy Audit Program the City would be undertaking. Benefits of the program include increased energy savings, greater efficiency and no traditional debt incurred by the City.

A preliminary assessment identified approximately \$400,000 in savings. After completing the certified energy audit, the total annual savings is estimated to be \$556,000.

As with everything else, Hurricane Harvey threw off the schedule for implementation, but we're already seeing results.



Lighting and HVAC controls have been fitted at City buildings. New lights have been installed at the ball fields in Memorial Park and Austin Street downtown.

This summer we will be installing approximately 4,500 gas and 9,000 water “smart” meters and implementing a wireless system. This new endeavor will reduce failure risks, improve billing while reducing errors, and provide a portal for customers to view their historical utility consumption. As the time draws nearer, reminders and information will be posted on the City’s web site, social media, local paper and door hangers at your property.

The replacement project is estimated to take 6–12 months. Upon completion, attention will be focused on the waste water treatment plant’s SCADA system.

City Web Site is Here for YOU



The City’s web site is an invaluable source of information for residents.

Calendars, emergency information, job listings, floodplain management, garbage pickup, recycling items and more are only a click away. Want to know if there has been any criminal activity in your neighborhood? Click on Crime Reports and enter the street or dates in which you’re interested. What’s happening with Long Term Recovery? Click on any one of the Mayor’s Letters

in the Spotlight section. Has a contractor been verified by the City? A continually updated list is on the home page.

There are also ways for you to communicate with the City. The “Fix It Form” allows you the opportunity to request assistance or comment on a problem. Soon, we will be offering a “See and Send” program that allows you to send photos and information on suspicious or criminal activity — either anonymously or by name.

And, if you’re interested in what will be discussed at a City Council or Citizen’s Advisory Committee you may either review the agenda through the Calen-

dar or sign up to receive agendas through the “Notify Me” option. A link to the agenda will be sent to your email or text, depending upon which tool you choose.



Shop Rockport—
Keep your retail
sales taxes working
at home

Rockport City Council

Mayor



Pat Rios

Ward 1



Rusty Day

Ward 2



J.D. Villa

Ward 3



Warren Hassinger

Ward 4



Barbara Gurtner

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Who Do I Call If ...

Illegal Dumping in Progress

729-1111

Illegal Dumping After the Fact

790-1125

Emergency

911

Non-Emergency Public Safety

729-1111

Utility Bill/Trash Questions/Concerns

729-2213 x 234

Street Issues and Repairs

790-1160

Sewer, Water and Gas Issues

790-1160

After-Hours

729-1111

Building and Development Dept.

790-1125

Long Term Recovery

790-9496

County Mosquito Hotline

727-0606 x29



2751 State Hwy 35 Bypass

Rockport, Texas 78382

Phone: (361) 729-2213

www.cityofrockport.com

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 (361) 729-2213.