



ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 4

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STATUS OF HARVEY RELATED CITY PROJECTS

Debris—The final pass through in the City is complete

Water Tower—Being designed. Tower should be completed in 2018

Temporary Housing—Slowly, FEMA and the State GLO are bringing temporary housing into Aransas Pass. Mayor Gomez has testified before State legislative committees about the importance of temporary housing. Meanwhile we are working on attracting more permanent housing to our City.

Civic Center—We will award the repair work bid on March 22nd. Work should start soon afterward.

Little League Ballfields—The fields should be ready in time for the season and we are working to get as many of the field lights as possible operating.

Streets—Many of the streets were damaged by storm related issues. We are working with FEMA to get financial assistance to repair many of these roads.

Aquatics Center—The City's goal is to be open on time for the regular pool season.

The above is a partial list of major projects. This is the status as of publication.

Note: A City Council Work Session is scheduled for February 13th at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Among the several topics of discussion will be the upcoming Comprehensive Plan and the soon-to-be-released new FEMA produced Floodplain Map. We also anticipate a Town Hall Flood map meeting later. Of course, citizens are welcome to attend these meetings.



FEMA OFFICIALS REVIEW CONN BROWN ENVIRONMENTAL SITES

On January 26th FEMA, State and City officials reviewed any damage Hurricane Harvey may have caused to known Conn Brown environmental remediation sites. See picture to the left and story inside.



The Johnson Street paving work, as seen above, is part of a 2014 Bond Project. \$125,675 is budgeted for this task. This work is necessary because Johnson was damaged during extensive utility line installations. This paving job is now complete.

CITY COUNCIL TO ACT ON THREE ENVIRONMENTAL SITES AT CONN BROWN HARBOR

The Aransas Pass City Council is Scheduled to act February 5th on the remediation of three environmental sites at Conn Brown Harbor. The sites are highlighted in yellow, red and black in the aerial photo below. The locations have long been in need of final remediation and closing out. This will allow the conclusion of years of work. The City is working with TCEQ and LNV Engineering on this issue.



CAPTAIN PEARCE NAMED CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

During the annual Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet on January 26th, Captain Lynn Pearce, the Administrative Captain for the Aransas Pass Police Department, was named City Employee of the Year. Capt. Pearce is responsible for Emergency Management. His work prior to, during and following Hurricane Harvey was recognized at the event. In announcing the honor, City Manager Gary Edwards, said it was almost impossible to select someone from a city government that is filled with Hurricane Harvey Heroes. However, Capt. Pearce's work deserves special recognition.

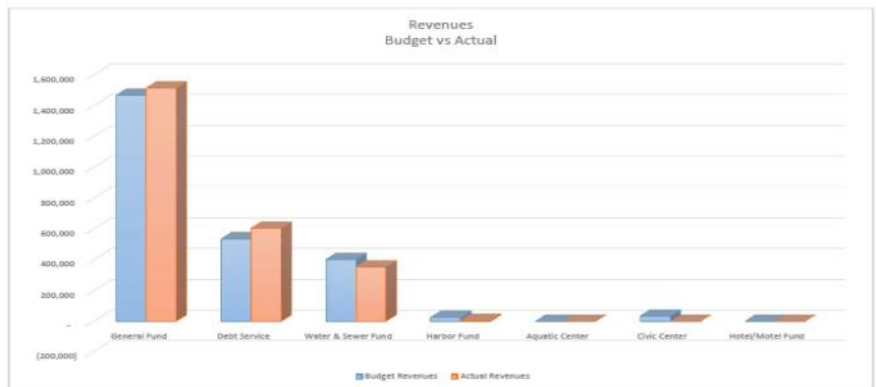
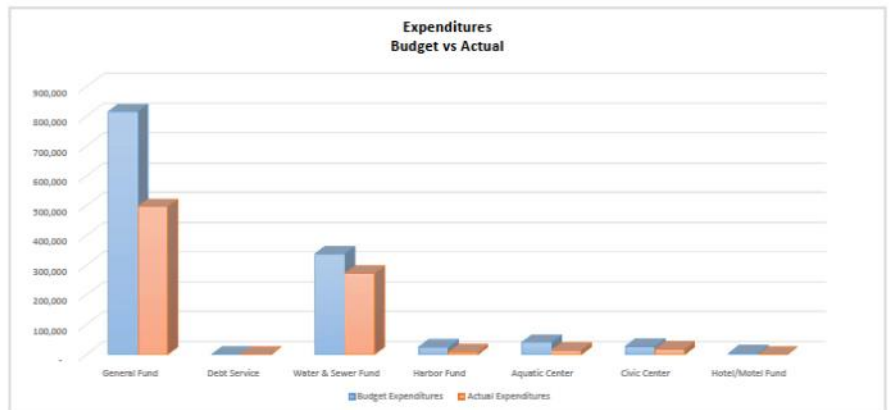
Chief Eric Blanchard said Captain Pearce's efforts in preparing for and management during Hurricane Harvey is recognized statewide.

Left: Capt. Pearce. Right: City Manager Edwards



CITY COUNCIL TOURS WASTEWATER PLANT

On January 8th the City Council toured the wastewater plant (see picture below). The tour provided Public Works Director Fernando Quintanilla an opportunity to point out major challenges facing the aging plant. Other staff members were on hand to update the Council on the status of the various storm related projects .



MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The above graphs were prepared by Finance Director Sandra Garcia. They show how the Aransas Pass revenues and expenditures are tracking. In both charts, the blue represents the amount budgeted and the brown represents the amount actually spent; or in the case of revenues, the amount actually received .

Each month the Finance department gives a verbal and written report to the City Council about the status of City finances. The above charts were used in the January report. Director Garcia also gives a report on the status of City investments.

In this month's report, it is clear that expenditures are doing well, although it is early in the year. Revenues are doing surprisingly well considering we are dealing with a post-Harvey economy. Again, that is the snapshot as of this date.

17 PAGE DOWNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DRAFT REPORT BEING REVIEWED

During the week of January 15th, Linda DiMario reviewed the Aransas Pass downtown. Ms. DiMario, who is the Executive Vice President of the Greater Irvine (Calif) Chamber of Commerce, has an extensive background in economic development, downtown development and post-disaster recovery planning. She has worked in these areas in several states, including Texas. Ms. DiMario was here courtesy of The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA). A 17 page draft of her Aransas Pass downtown analysis currently is being reviewed. Soon after that is completed, a final document will be released to the public. Consideration is being given to including the final document with the upcoming Citywide Comprehensive Plan.

Below: Linda DiMario, center, is talking with the Aransas Pass Library Board. This is one of several groups she addressed while here.



UPCOMING CITY WORKSHOPS FOR CITIZENS , CITY COUNCIL AND CONTRACTORS

The City is planning a workshop or multiple workshops for local citizens, the City Council and area contractors doing business in town. The topics for these planning sessions will include floodplain regulations and the upcoming floodplain map changes; a town hall meeting on the new map which is scheduled to be released on February 16th. Also a workshop for the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the City Council concerning the Comprehensive plan and an overview of zoning and subdivision regulations. A public review on the City's permitting and inspection process also is being planned. These proposed meetings would occur during the month of February.

Contact Us

If you are not on the City newsletter mailing list, let us know and we will add your name and address. Attn: Gary Edwards, City Manager : <gedwards@aransaspass.tx.gov> Also contact us if you want your name withdrawn from the list. The City Hall phone number is 361-758-5301



AN HISTORIC ENDING

Seen above is Emergency Operations Center Director, Capt. Lynn Pierce on January 3rd, closing the Hurricane Harvey EOC central facility in City Hall. Leading up to, during and for one month after Harvey, the EOC had been located in the City Council chambers. For the 3 month period prior to January 3rd, the EOC was in a City Hall Conference room. The closure of the EOC marked an historic day for Aransas Pass.