



Community News

Quarterly Newsletter

City Council Adopts 2016-2017 Budget

Azle City Council adopted the City’s Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget at a special meeting on September 13, 2016. The City of Azle’s Fiscal Year begins October 1 and ends September 30. The goal in preparing this budget was to maintain levels of service and make improvements where possible. Overall, operating revenues are projected to rise moderately across all funds except the Utility Fund. 2015 appraised ad valorem property values increased \$50,920,883 (7.58%) from 2014 values, of which \$30,100,626 was new construction. As a result, Council approved a combined tax rate of \$0.6795 per \$100 for FY2016-2017. This is the same adopted tax rate as FY2015-2016; however, it will raise \$346,007 more in property tax revenue due to increased property values and new construction. The City continues to be on a solid financial foundation as we prepare for the coming year.

Council and Staff continued their efforts this past year to improve the quality of life of Azle residents:

- ✓ Created the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #1
- ✓ Enhanced communications with Azle residents by installing RAIDS Online – a crime mapping tool that allows citizens to see where and when crime is occurring; and launching Nixle service to alert citizens via email or text about alerts for missing children or elderly, severe weather, major street closures, and public safety emergencies
- ✓ Reconstructed the parking lot at Cross Timbers Golf Course and expanded the parking lot at Central Park
- ✓ Completed reclamation of four streets – Industrial Ave, Golfers Way, Kerry Ln (from Redbud to Jackson Trl) and Wells Burnett Rd
- ✓ Provided improvements at Shady Grove Park – reconstructed JD Johnson Dr and Lancaster Dr; and reconstructed the pier and added lighting
- ✓ Enhanced online bill pay and provided customer’s access to their utility accounts
- ✓ Conducted a community-wide survey regarding the park system

FY 2016-2017 Budget includes:

- ✓ Funding for a new City Hall/Police Station joint facility
- ✓ Capital projects include drainage projects on Wilshire, and slip-line/pipe burst sewer lines on Skylark, Glenhaven, and Ferndale
- ✓ Through the Street Maintenance Fund, improvements will be made to Lakeside Dr, Jarvis North & South, and Nation Dr; and a transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund will allow for reclamation of Park St from Denver Trl to Ash Ave
- ✓ Engineering and design of a water line extension on FM 730S
- ✓ Purchase two new police cars, new ambulance partially funded by the Emergency Services District, a video surveillance system for the Animal Shelter, and replace the floor in the BJ Clark Annex Building
- ✓ 2% cost of living increase for employees
- ✓ Purchase and installation of an advanced meter reading and reporting system

The City’s future looks bright with new home construction continuing to be very active and new residential subdivisions on the horizon. Every effort is being made to let developers know about the community. The creation of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #1, the Façade and Signage Improvement Program, and other economic development incentives will assist in growing the city in a positive manner that maintains and improves the quality of life in Azle. For a complete look at the FY2016-2017 budget, visit the city’s website.

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CITY HOLIDAYS

Azle Municipal Offices will close:

THANKSGIVING
November 24 & 25 

CHRISTMAS
December 26 

NEW YEAR’S
January 2 

Police and Fire services will be available by calling (817) 444-3221, or 9-1-1 in case of emergency. For water/sewer emergencies, please call (817) 444-3221.

Community Waste Disposal will **NOT** run their regular trash route on these holidays.

WHO TO CALL

City Hall/Utilities 817-444-2541
 Police/Fire 911
 (Non-emergency) 817-444-3221
 Animal Control 817-444-8215
 Permits 817-444-4128
 Public Library 817-444-7216
 Senior Center 817-444-0070

Mayor:

Alan Brundrett 817-800-5199
 azlemayor@gmail.com

Mayor Pro-Tem:

Bill Jones 817-444-8544
 Billjones_1@charter.net

Councilmembers:

Dr. William Chambers 817-270-3627
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Public Meetings

City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. Agendas are posted the Friday before a meeting on the website and on the bulletin board at City Hall. Agendas for upcoming meetings and minutes of previous meetings are available on the city website.

Other Monthly Meetings

Planning & Zoning meets the first and third Thursday of the month.

Crime Control & Prevention District meets the second Thursday of each month.

Municipal Development District meets the second Tuesday of each month.

Parks & Recreation meets the third Monday of each month.

Meetings listed above are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 613 SE Parkway.

Library Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 1pm in the Azle Memorial Library.



November 8, 2016 General and Special Election



The November General and Special Election will take place Tuesday, November 8. Early Voting will be held October 24 - November 4.

In addition to the General Election, Azle voters will also be able to cast their vote in the Azle Independent School District Bond Election and the Parker County Transportation Bond Election.

For more information go to: www.cityofazle.org/index.aspx?nid=556

Make your voice heard - VOTE!



Azle Residents will have the option to choose Blue Recycling Carts!

Azle City Council has renewed the contract with Community Waste Disposal to provide garbage service to Azle residents for the next seven (7) years. Included in the renewal is the option for residents to use 65 gallon blue carts or 18 gallon bins for recycling beginning February 2017.

If you would like to switch to the blue cart for recycling, you will need to sign up by using one of the following methods. Residents have until January 13, 2017, at 5:00 pm to sign up.

How do I sign up to get a Blue Cart? Three Easy Ways

1. Sign up using the form provided in the quick link section on the front page of the City web site, www.cityofazle.org
2. Call CWD's Customer Service Department at 817-795-9300 from 7:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday; or
3. Visit Azle City Hall - Customer Service from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

What do I do with the old 18 gallon bins if I get a blue cart?

Please place out for service starting the week of January 24 and CWD will pick up; or place in your new recycling cart for collection.

Key Dates for new recycling option:

Cart Delivery: January 24 - February 3
 First Service Date with Recycling Carts: February 6



City Receives Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting has been presented to the City of Azle by the Government Finance Officers Association for its annual financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015. The award is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

To receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal. To view the PAFR on the City's website, go to www.cityofazle.org/DocumentCenter/Index/17

SH 199 Groundbreaking Held In Azle

On Oct. 19, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Tarrant County and the City of Azle held a groundbreaking on the upcoming State Highway 199 project. This \$56 million project will complete the 3-mile section of SH 199 between Western Center Boulevard and Nine Mile Bridge Road adding six freeway lanes (three in each direction), ramps and three bridges at Western Center Boulevard, Hanger Cut-Off and Nine Mile Bridge Road. This project is part of the \$1.3 billion effort, initiated by Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Legislature, to improve mobility.

"This project has been a top priority in Azle for many years," said Texas Representative Charlie Geren. "The additional highway lanes and bridges being constructed here will vastly improve mobility and safety along Highway 199. I am thankful for the hard work TxDOT has done to make this project possible."

The SH 199 project will be awarded next month. For information on how TxDOT and local partners are further improving mobility, go to: texasclearlanes.com.

Azle PD Notification Service



Last September, Azle Police Department launched a notification service called Nixle, to improve communication with those who live, work, and visit our area. Through Nixle, authorized members of the Police Department will deliver messages securely by email and text to subscribers regarding alerts for missing children or elderly, severe weather, major street closures, a public safety emergency requiring people to stay in or remain away from their homes, or situations where timely information is necessary. If you would like more information or to register for Nixle, visit the City's website at www.cityofazle.org and use the quick link on the front page.

Reporting Street Light Problems



Citizens can report street light problems directly to [Oncor](http://www.oncor.com/EN/Pages/Report-Streetlight-Issues.aspx) online at www.oncor.com/EN/Pages/Report-Streetlight-Issues.aspx; or by contacting the Street Department at 817-444-4128 between 8 am and 5 pm.

Staff will contact Oncor to provide maintenance on their lights. It may take 5-7 days for them to repair the street light once notified. If the light is not repaired within seven (7) working days after the complaint, please contact the Street Department.

To report an outage in the Tri-County Electric area, please call 817-444-3201.

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on November 6.



Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends you schedule battery replacement for your smoke detectors the same day you change your clocks from daylight saving time to standard time in the fall.



Azle Memorial Library News & Events

333 W. Main St. | 817-444-7216

www.azlelibrary.org



Free Programs @ the Azle Memorial Library:

The Cinema Comes to Azle!

Did you know the Library offers two free movies on the big screen in our Community Room each month? Join us! Movies and popcorn sponsored by the Azle Library Trust. Call the Library or visit our website for movie titles.

Family Film Friday: Fun movie that the whole family can enjoy. First Friday of each month at 4 PM.

Senior Cinema: Hit new releases that appeal to adults of all ages. Last Monday of each month at 2 PM.

Main Street Book Club

Adults of all ages are invited to join us for a lively discussion of the month's book choice. Meets in the Library Community Room on the third Tuesday of every month at 6 PM.

11/15: *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf

Non Fiction Addiction Book Club

Adults of all ages and interests are welcome. Meets in the Library Community Room on the first Thursday of every month at 6 PM.

11/3: *Alexander Hamilton*, Part I by Ron Chernow

12/1: *Alexander Hamilton*, Part II by Ron Chernow

What's Cookin'?

Learn about food history and cooking tips, get tested recipes, and try tasty samples. Meets on the second Monday of every OTHER month at 4:30 PM in the Library Community Room. Free!



11/14: Crazy for Nuts!

12/12: Annual Cookie Exchange (bring 2 dozen homemade cookies to share)

Free Programs Just for Kids & Teens:

READ to a Dog:

Children of all ages can read to a certified reading therapy dog on the second Saturday of each month from 2-3:30 PM.

Storytime:

Toddler Tales for ages 18 months-36 months begins at 10 AM on Wednesdays. Preschool Storytime for ages 3-6 years begins at 10:45 AM on Wednesdays. Programs are repeated on Thursdays.



LEGO Club:

Kids ages 5-12 are invited to come on the third Wednesday of each month at 4 PM and build awesome things with LEGOs supplied by the Library.

Snap Circuits

Our newest monthly club for ages 8-12! Make cool stuff and learn about electronics. Meets the second Tuesday of every month, from 4:30-5:30 PM in the Library Community Room.

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

For teens ages 13-18 (junior and senior high). Get involved with the Library, meet new teens, and eat free snacks! Meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 5 PM.

Special Holiday Performance!

Everyone is invited to a free holiday performance by the flute choir, Flutissimo, in the Library Community Room on December 15 at 6:00 PM. Their performance will include an assortment of holiday tunes. Space will be limited, so be sure to arrive early.