



Community News

Quarterly Newsletter

City Council Adopts 2012-2013 Budget

Azle City Council adopted the City's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget at a special meeting on September 11, 2012. The City of Azle's Fiscal Year begins October 1 and ends September 30. The slow economic recovery continues to impact the budget. For the third year in a row, ad valorem property values have dropped. 2012 values decreased \$3,850,866 from 2011 values. As a result, Council approved a combined tax rate of \$0.6495 per \$100 for FY2012-2013. This represents a 0.57 cent increase over the FY 2011-2012 rate and will generate \$10,837 more in property tax revenue. This budget maintains all current service levels and attempts to restore some services that were reduced in previous years.

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

- ✓ Construction continued on the Ash Creek Wastewater Plant upgrade and expansion
- ✓ Completed the drainage project on Elm St and began the Jarvis project
- ✓ Began construction of a new fire station and animal shelter expansion which should be completed Fall 2012
- ✓ Completed reclamation and overlaying of over 1.3 miles of streets
- ✓ Continue to enhance communication efforts by providing Twitter updates for events occurring in the city
- ✓ Began redesign of city website

FY 2012-2013 Budget includes:

- ✓ Capital projects - remodel of City Hall, replace roof on the old Library building, relocation of a sewer line under the Stewart St Bridge, replace and upgrade water lines on Kerry Ln, Sunset and in the Eagle Heights area, and complete construction of the Ash Creek Wastewater Plant.
- ✓ Through the Street Maintenance Fund, seven streets will be improved this budget year; North & South Broadway, Scotland, Robinwood, Kimbrough, Lynn Dr, and Woodward
- ✓ Increase in water and sewer usage rates
- ✓ Purchase two new police cars, three new pickups for utility department and one pickup for Streets Dept
- ✓ 2.5% cost of living increase for employees
- ✓ Construct a 9 hole disc golf course in Ash Creek Park
- ✓ Construction to finish addressing the initial flooding hot spots
- ✓ Creation of a new part time oil change technician position for Maintenance, a part time Training Administrator for the Fire Department and increases part time funding for the Library and the seasonal mowing crew.

The City continues to be on a solid financial foundation, even during these difficult economic times. The good news is the economy is starting to show signs of improvement. While we hope for better times ahead, we will continue to prepare for tough times. For a complete look at the FY2012-2013 budget, visit the city's website.

CITY HOLIDAYS

Azle Municipal Offices will close:

THANKSGIVING
November 22 & 23



CHRISTMAS
December 25



NEW YEAR'S
January 1



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.

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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
 ABrundrett@aol.com

Mayor Pro-Tem:

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

Councilmembers:

Dr. William Chambers 817-270-3627
 doctorsoffice@drwilliamchambers.com
 Paul Crabtree 817-444-2277
 paul@crabtreeandassociates.com
 Rouel Rothenberger 817-237-6819
 rouelj@charter.net
 Jeffrey Wise 817-455-0921
 jwise65@hotmail.com
 David McClure 972-880-7495
 david76020@charter.net

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 online at www.cityofazle.org.

Other Monthly Meetings

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

Traffic & Transportation meets the second Tuesday of each month

Crime Control & Prevention District meets the second Thursday 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.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



October 23

**Fall Festival-Azle Memorial Library 11am - 2 pm**

Join us for a fun filled afternoon of crafts, games, educational booths, snacks and more! FREE for the entire family! The festival will take place in the Azle Memorial Library and Central Park. Visit the Library or their website, www.azlelibrary.org, for more information.

November 22

FREE Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be offered at Azle First Assembly of God located at 1020 SE Pkwy in Azle from 11:30am-2:00 pm. This will be a traditional dinner with all the trimmings and everyone is invited! For more information, please call Linda Smith at 817-891-0065 or AFA administrative assistant Noel Smith at 817-237-4903 ext. 300.

December 1

**Azle Christmas Parade Main Street 4 pm**

Join the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations as they bring you a celebration of the Christmas Season with the annual Christmas parade, tree lighting festivities, activities for the kids, story time with Mrs. Claus, pictures with Santa, and much more. For more information, please call the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce at 817-444-1112 or visit their website at www.azlechamber.com.

Transportation Services for Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities



The City of Azle recently renewed its contract with Tarrant County Transportation Services (TCTS) to provide transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities.

Something new...beginning September 1, Catholic Charities Fort Worth began handling the operations for **Wheels**, the transportation provider. Now when you call, Catholic Charities will be the ones scheduling the ride. The phone number you call to schedule a ride has remained the same - 817-336-8714.

Operating hours are Monday-Friday 5 am - 7 pm. Call from 7 am - 5:30 pm Monday-Friday to set up a ride.

- Must be 65 years of age or older or have a disability.
- Monday is the designated day for Azle with guaranteed space availability.
- Destinations may be anywhere in Tarrant County.
- Transportation may be used for any need. \$2.50 one way fare

Public Transit Services provides transportation service for older adults and disabled residents of Parker County.

- \$4 one way (\$2 for seniors over 65)– anywhere in Parker County (call for information on transportation to other destinations)
- Service hours 8 am - 5 pm
- 24 hour advance notice for reservations
- No holiday/weekend service

For reservations call 940-328-1391 or Toll Free at 866-521-1391 ext 2.

Hours: 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Monday - Friday



Clean It Up – Green It Up

Azle City-Wide clean up and recycling event
Saturday, September 29 8:00 am-1:00 pm
City Garage 470 Denver Trail



The City of Azle, in partnership with Community Waste Disposal (CWD), will be conducting a **FREE** city-wide clean-up. Residents can drop off brush, furniture, bulky items, appliances, metal for recycling and small amounts of construction materials from do-it-yourself projects.

CWD will be on site to collect Household Hazardous Waste (paints, chemicals, cleaners, used motor oil and batteries), used tires and E*waste (computers, printers, electronic devices, old television sets). A document shredder will be on site for any sensitive documents.

We ask that you pre-sort as much as possible; this will help keep traffic moving and allow our staff to work as efficiently as possible. This is a *free* event for Azle residents (**who reside inside the city limits**) and proof of Azle residency will be required by presenting your utility bill and drivers license.

Items Not Accepted: Ammunition, asbestos, building materials, butane cylinders, explosives, medical waste, PCBs, propane cylinders, radioactive material, smoke detectors.

If you have questions, please contact Jimmy Duvall, Storm Water Manager, at 817-444-4511, or Community Waste Disposal at 817-795-9300.



National Night Out

Tuesday, October 2, is National Night Out in Texas. Neighborhoods throughout Azle are invited to join forces with communities nationwide for the “29th Annual National Night Out” (NNO) crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Visit our city website: cityofazle.org the latter part of September for times and neighborhood locations. You may also contact Azle Police Det. Wingate at (817) 444-3221 for more information. For additional information on National Night Out, go to: www.nationalnightout.org.

Quarterly Blood Drive

Red Cross will kick off their quarterly blood drive during the Azle Memorial Library Fall Festival on October 20 from 11 am-2 pm at the Library. Additional blood drives will be held at the Library from 2 pm-6:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. For more information, please call the Library at (817) 444-7216 or visit their website at www.azlelibrary.org.

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on November 4.



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.



NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION

Early Voting will be held October 22 thru November 2. The November General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Eligible Texans who are not registered to vote must register by October 9, 2012 to vote in the November 6, 2012 election.

For additional voter information regarding Tarrant County, please go to www.tarrantcounty.com/elections or call (817) 831-8683. For Parker County information, call (817) 598-6185. Detailed information for both counties will be available on our city website: cityofazle.org by mid-October. For Texas voter information in general, visit: www.sos.state.tx.us/elections.

Azle Memorial Library News and Events

For more information about the Azle Memorial Library, please call 817-444-7216
or visit www.azlelibrary.org



2012 FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 20 (11am - 2 pm)
Azle Memorial Library & Central Park



Join us for a FREE afternoon of games, arts & crafts, information booths and more! Be sure to enter the pie bakeoff by bringing a (pre-baked) homemade dessert pie! A suggested donation of one (1) non-perishable food item per attendee is requested to benefit the Community Caring Center. Also, come ready to roll up your sleeves as the Red Cross will be on hand from 10 am - 2 pm for a blood drive (walk-ins welcome). For more information, pick up a flyer in the library or visit the library's website (listed above).

Main Street Book Club

Join the library's Main Street Book Club for a rousing literary discussion on the third Tuesday of every month at 6 pm in the Library Community Room. Please note, the Book Club will be meeting on the SECOND Tuesday in November due to Thanksgiving.

October 16 – *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak

November 13 (special date)– *Theme: "Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover"* – stop by the Library Information Desk after October 16 for full details on this month's selection.

What's Cookin'?

Join us for cooking demonstrations, culinary history, recipes, samples and more on the second Monday of each month at 4:30pm in the Library Community Room. Foodies of all ages are invited!

October 8 – Quick Breads

November 12 – Sugar Free Cooking (for Diabetes and health)

December 10 – Annual Cookie Exchange

Storytime

We've got a terrific time planned for you and your toddler or preschooler. Programs are repeated on Wednesdays and Thursdays so that you may choose the day that best suits your needs. All storytime programs will be held in the Library Community Room.

Toddler Tales (ages 18-36 months): Wednesdays/Thursdays, 10:00-10:30am

Preschool Storytime (ages 3-6 years): Wednesdays/Thursdays, 10:45-11:15am

New! Scrapbooking Club

Calling all scrapbookers! If you're new to scrapbooking or an expert, join our new Scrapbooking Club the first and third Monday of every month from 9 am - 12 pm in the Library Community Room. Participants can exchange ideas and get inspired by others' creativity.

Ready to learn a new language?

Get started with *Mango Languages*, an online language learning program offered by the Azle Memorial Library that features 44 different languages. Visit www.azlelibrary.org and click on *Online Resources*, then *Mango Languages*. Be sure to have your library card number on hand to log in. Mango Languages is free to use thanks to generous funding by the Azle Library Trust.

Stay connected with the Azle Memorial Library

To sign up for the Library's monthly eNewsletter visit www.cityofazle.org, click on the "Notify Me" link and follow the on-screen instructions. Also follow our blog at: azlememorallibrary.wordpress.com.

Azle Memorial Library
333 W. Main Street
Ph : 817/444-7216
Fax: :817/444-7064

Hours
Mon / Wed / Fri
9 am - 6 pm
Tues / Thurs
9 am - 8 pm
Saturdays: 9 am-2 pm
Sundays: 2 pm - 5 pm

Scan to go directly to the
Library
Programs and
Events Page



Water and Sewer Usage Rates to Increase October 1, 2012

The City of Azle FY 2012-2013 budget includes an 8% increase to the water and sewer usage rates; the base rates remain unchanged. The last time rates were increased was 2004; and while rates have not changed for 8 years, operating costs have increased. With the increase in operating costs, at the current rate, revenue will fall below expenses. The following tables show the current usage rates as compared to the proposed rates.

Water – Inside the City Customers	Current Usage Rate	New Usage Rate
276 – 1500 cubic feet (cf)	\$2.53	\$2.73
1,501 cf or greater	\$3.40	\$3.67
	Rates are per 100 cubic feet	

Water – Outside the City Customers	Current Usage Rate	New Usage Rate
276 – 1500 cubic feet (cf)	\$3.79	\$4.09
1,501 cf or greater	\$5.10	\$5.51
	Rates are per 100 cubic feet	

Sewer – All Customers	Current Usage Rate	New Usage Rate
Per 100 cubic feet	\$2.29	\$2.47

Every effort was made to keep the increase to a minimum. Since the increase is tied directly to usage, the more one uses, the more they pay and the less they use, the less they pay. The water base rate includes 275 cubic feet of water which is equal to 2,057 gallons. So those customers using that amount or less will see no water increase and only a 50 cent increase for sewer. While rates will go into effect on October 1, 2012, the actual increase will not be reflected until the November utility bill.

The following three tables show the increases at different usage volumes for in city water customers, outside the city water customers and sewer customers:

In City Water Customers

Cubic Feet	Gallons	Current Usage Cost	Proposed Usage Cost	Monthly Increase
275	2057	0.00	0.00	0.00
500	3740	5.69	6.21	0.52
1000	7481	18.34	20.01	1.67
1500	11221	30.99	33.81	2.82
2000	14961	47.99	52.31	4.32
2500	18701	64.99	70.81	5.82
5000	37403	149.99	163.31	13.32
10000	74805	319.99	348.31	28.32

Outside the City Water Customers

Cubic Feet	Gallons	Current Usage Cost	Proposed Usage Cost	Monthly Increase
275	2057	0.00	0.00	0.00
500	3740	8.53	9.20	0.68
1000	7481	27.48	29.65	2.18
1500	11221	46.43	50.10	3.68
2000	14961	71.93	77.65	5.72
2500	18701	97.43	105.20	7.77
5000	37403	224.93	242.95	18.02
10000	74805	479.93	518.45	38.52

Sewer Customers

Cubic Feet	Gallons	Current Usage Cost	Proposed Usage Cost	Monthly Increase
275	2057	6.29	6.79	0.50
500	3740	11.45	12.35	0.90
1000	7481	22.90	24.70	1.80
1500	11221	34.35	37.05	2.70
2000	14961	45.80	49.40	3.60
2500	18701	57.25	61.75	4.50
5000	37403	114.50	123.50	9.00

