



CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

Watch the City's Website, Facebook Page and Next Month's Newsletter for Holiday Plans!

OCTOBER
2020

2020-2021 TOTAL AD VALORUM TAX RATE: \$1.999669



FY 2020-2021 CITY BUDGET APPROVED

The City Council adopted the FY 2020-2021 City of Heath Annual Budget at a Special Meeting with a Public Hearing on September 8. The action followed months of work held in open meetings.

The budget becomes effective October 1 and is based upon a tax rate of \$0.376569 which is lower than last year's tax rate of \$0.379325 by 0.2756 cents. This is the third consecutive year the City's tax rate has been lowered for a total decrease of 4.0742 cents.

Services in the new budget include increased funding for pay-as-you-go programs; additional funding for street repairs; and a citizens on patrol program. You can view the budget at heathtx.com under the Finance Department.

"This is the third year in a row that we have achieved a balanced budget that addresses needs without raising taxes," said Mayor Kelson Elam. "As property values have increased, we have decreased the tax rate in order to stay flat, and I thank our Council and staff for their hard work on behalf of our citizens."

HEATH REMEMBER TO **SHOP LOCAL** In Town & Online

When you support local businesses, your sales tax stays at work in Heath. That includes not only shopping, dining and receiving services at "brick and mortar" locations in town, but also when you shop online. Be sure to input "Heath" as the city and your zip code when completing the billing and shipping information.

HEATH DPS CITIZENS CONNECT: FOLLOW HEATH DPS ACTIVITY ONLINE

Heath DPS embraces technology and has introduced numerous new programs including Heath DPS Citizens Connect, a live online tracking system that shows patrol and incident activity. You can find the link at heathtx.com under the Department of Public Safety tab.

HEATH DPS OFFICERS MICHAEL MORGAN AND DALLAS TALLEY PROMOTED TO RANK OF SERGEANT

Heath Department of Public Safety Officers Michael Morgan and Dallas Talley were promoted to the rank of sergeant September 1 during a swearing in ceremony led by Interim DPS Chief Brandon Seery at Heath City Hall.

“We thank Sergeant Talley, Sergeant Morgan and their families for the hard work and time each has sacrificed to achieve the rank of sergeant,” said Interim Chief Seery. “We are confident in their abilities and look forward to all that they will bring to the department and community in these important leadership positions.”

“Mayor Kelson Elam, the City Council and I echo Chief Seery’s appreciation and confidence in our new sergeants and all of our Heath DPS officers for their commitment to the community,” said City Manager Aretha Adams. “This was an extremely competitive process due to the caliber of officers who applied. Each exemplified the professionalism and talent we have at Heath DPS.”



SERGEANT MICHAEL MORGAN

Sergeant Morgan joined Heath DPS in 2016 with 12 years of law enforcement experience that began with the Dallas County Sheriff’s Office and includes the Balch Spring Police Department. In Heath, Sergeant Morgan has worked in the patrol and School Resource Officer units, where he helped develop the Standard Response Protocol for schools and played a key role in revamping the DPS Citizens Academy and the new DPS Citizens on Patrol. In 2017, Sergeant Morgan received the Heath DPS Taylor Luther Officer of the Year award. Sergeant Morgan has been assigned to Criminal Investigations.



SERGEANT DALLAS TALLEY

Sergeant Talley joined Heath DPS in 2016 with 12 years of law enforcement experience that began with the Rockwall County Sheriff’s Office. In Heath, Sergeant Talley has trained eight new officers as a Field Training Officer. The 2019 recipient of the Heath DPS Taylor Luther Officer of the year Award, Sergeant Talley also oversees traffic data with radar monitors and electronic speed signs. Sergeant Talley has been assigned to the B Shift.

The families of both sergeants participated in the swearing in ceremonies.





Pictured above from left: DPS Officers Nicholas Schulz; Casey Nation; Kenny Griffith; Erik Wiedeman and Blake Mokiao.

HEATH DPS OFFICERS RECEIVE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMENDATION AWARD

During the September 8 City Council meeting, Interim DPS Chief Brandon Seery presented the Heath DPS B Shift with a Public Safety Commendation Award for their swift action on August 18 to rescue 15 individuals comprised of women, men and children whose boat had capsized 200 yards off the shore of Lake Ray Hubbard at approximately 9 p.m.

The Heath DPS officers were the first on the scene, established incident command, and entered the water to begin rescue efforts. The officers continued alone until the Rockwall and Dallas Fire Department rescue boats arrived. With the combined efforts of the Heath DPS, Rockwall County Fire, Dallas Fire and Rockwall County EMS, all 15 individuals were rescued and able to go home after being medically cleared by Rockwall County EMS. The City and Heath DPS thank the many Antigua Bay home owners who also provided support and assistance during the rescue.

CITY OF HEATH HONORS STEVE MCKIMMEY FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mayor Kelson Elam and the City Council honored Steve McKimney at the September 8 City Council meeting for his service and dedication to the City.

“During the 20 years that Steve has served Heath as an elected or appointed official, he has made a lasting mark on our City through his exceptional leadership, proven wisdom, thoughtful deliberation and a genuine kindness and respect for all that has helped our City successfully navigate the opportunities and challenges of growth,” said Mayor Elam.

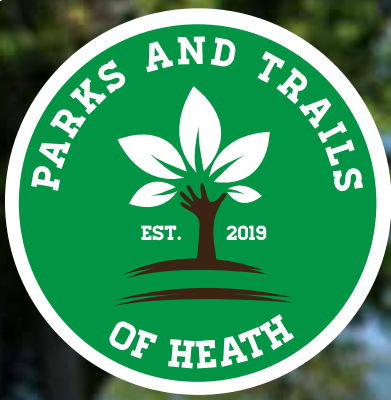
Steve and his wife of 37 years, Laurie, moved to Heath in 1993. The couple raised three daughters, all of whom attended Amy Parks Elementary School and graduated from Rockwall or Rockwall-Heath High School. Steve’s deep commitment to his family led to a passion for serving their hometown and an appointment to the Park Board in 2000.

Steve served on the Park Board until 2005, when he was elected to his first term on City Council and went on to fulfill three terms before taking a break in 2011. The break lasted no more than a year. The City had the good fortune of gaining Steve back on the Planning and Zoning Commission in 2012, where he served as Chairman from 2016 to July 2020 as well as a member of the CMMD Board of Directors.

“On behalf of the entire Council and citizens we serve, we extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Steve McKimney,” said Mayor Elam.



Pictured above from left: daughter, Kirsten, son-in-law Robert Ruiz and daughter Allison Ruiz; daughter, Sarah, and wife, Laurie, and Steve McKimney with grandchild, Hayden Ruiz.



PARKS AND TRAILS OF HEATH (PATH) UPDATE

The first project of the new Parks And Trails of Heath (PATH) fund raising program to increase shade in Towne Center Park is underway. More than 25 shade trees will be planted this fall, and new park benches and a water bottle filler and pet water bowl will also be installed. You can be a part of this progress by simply signing up to donate \$5 or \$10 to PATH each month with your utility bill. Several support levels are also available for one-time donations. Learn more at heathtx.com/PATH.



CHARTER PATH DONORS AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

PATH PATRON
\$10,000 Donation



PATH FUNDER
\$1,000 Donation



RHONDA HOLLOWAY

**HEATH FLAG SERVICE
BURROW FAMILY**

PATH PAVER
\$500 Donation

- Ernie & Becky Burkett
- Chris & Angela Cass
- Russell & Patricia Clark
- Dennis Close
- Renee & Scott Clover
- Tom & Margaret Davidson
- Jon-Paul & Crystal Dixon
- Kathy Farrington
- Rich Koepke
- Mark & Lisa Misheck
- McCutcheon Farms
- Rick & Kathy Spletter

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION
Tom & Charlene Norris (\$250)
Gary & Tracy Allen (\$100)

PATH FINDER - \$10 per Month

- Gary & Tracy Allen
- Councilmember John Beaman
- Anthony & Julie Berg
- Dean & Christine Brand
- Mark & Suzanne Brooke
- Ernie & Becky Burkett
- Jim & Beatrice Chester
- Patrick & Lindsey Cummins
- John & Janie Curtis
- Ralph & Mary DeMott Family
- John & Katie Dyer
- Mayor Kelson & Brenda Elam
- Kevin and Tracy Enoch
- Ryan & Ashley Farha Family
- David & Laura Gartling
- Mark & Toni George
- Ken & Lorrie Gray
- Robert & Dana Hensley
- Ken & Ginny Jackson
- Lorrie Kasper
- Wes & Sarah Keith
- Kathryn Klepak

- Councilman Rich Krause
- David & Debbie Lane
- Brian & Lea Lashley
- Mike & Ruth Miller
- Bob Petka
- Bryan Ramey
- John & Janet Reed
- David Roe
- The Farha Family
- Tony & Councilmember Donna Rolater
- Gini Seely
- Tom & Diane Smith
- Cameron & Michelle Slocum
- Justin & Jennifer Saunders
- Lillian & Councilmember Brent Weaver
- William & Wendy Wilbanks
- Michaela Wood
- Craig & Julie Zurek

PATH MAKER - \$5 per Month

- Gary & Kellie Anderson
- Randy & Lana Dodgen
- Calvin and Linda O'Glee
- Candee Smith

VISIT HEATHTX.COM/PATH TO FIND CHARTER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND SIGN UP ONLINE, OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE.