

# City Manager Update – 10/18/24

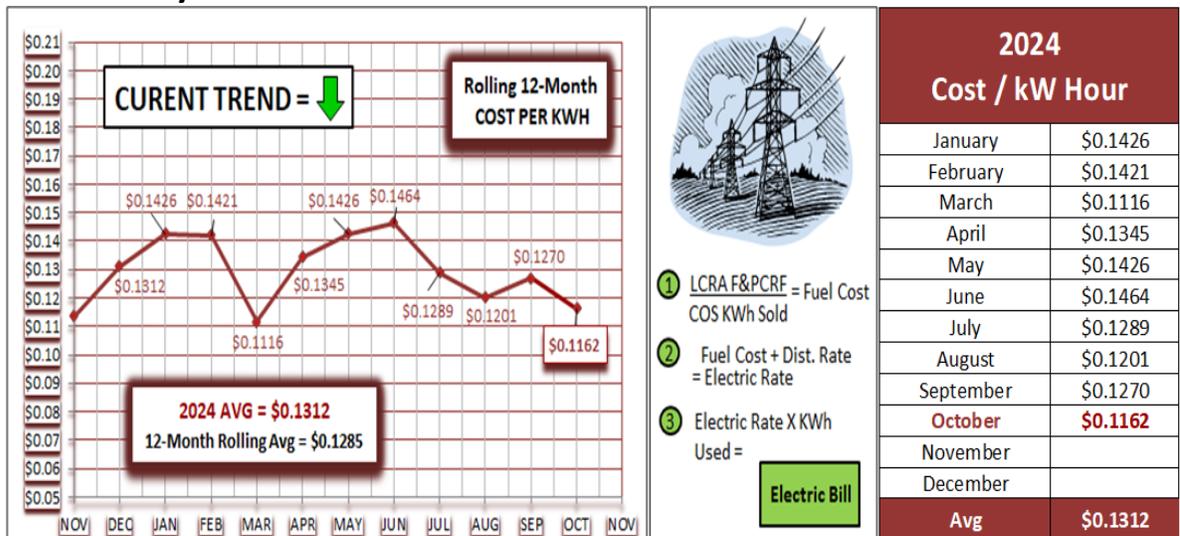
Daylight Saving time will end at 2:00 am on **Sunday, November 3, 2024**. Be sure to change your clocks. “Spring Forward – Fall Back”. It’s also a good time to change out the batteries in your smoke detectors. Most areas of the United States observe daylight saving time, the exceptions being Arizona, Hawaii, and the overseas territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 established the system of uniform daylight savings time throughout the US. Click on the following link for more information → [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daylight\\_saving\\_time](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daylight_saving_time). Whether you are a fan of daylight savings time or not.....I’m looking forward to the extra hour of sleep!

Early voting for the 2024 General and Special Election(s) will be held at the Smithville Recreation Center (106 Gazley) and will began on **Monday, October 21, 2024** and end on **Friday, November 1, 2024 at 7:00 pm**. Election Day is on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Please note that you can early vote at any of the locations listed no matter which Precinct you reside. However, if you wait until Election Day on November 5th, you must vote at the Precinct location where you are registered. Here is a link to the Bastrop County votes website → <https://www.bastropvotes.org/> for more information about the voting schedule and polling locations. Also, click on the following link for a sample ballot → [2024 General Election Sample Ballot - Bastrop County](#).

Below you will find a list of significant accomplishments, events, and activities since my last update:

- 1) Bastrop County Commissioner’s Court Extends BURN BAN** - A BURN BAN for Bastrop County will remain in effect until Monday, October 28, 2024. State law prohibits outdoor burning at this time. For more information on the BURN BAN or outdoor burning, go to [https://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/em.outdoor\\_burning](https://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/em.outdoor_burning).
- 2) FY23/24 Financial Audit Completed** - The FY23/24 financial audit (conducted by Singleton, Clark & Company) is complete. The annual audit focused on internal financial controls, payroll, employee records, and accounts payable/receivable, etc. The official audit report will be available in April 2025. Cynthia has finalized our FY23/24 budget amendments. Revenues exceeded expenditures by approximately \$80k on a \$15.7M budget (this is within 1/2% of our commit “to the good”). These “extra” funds will be added to our FY24/25 reserve account. Approval of the FY23/24 budget amendments will be an item for discussion/action during the October 21, 2024 council meeting.
- 3) Residential Cost Per Kilowatt Hour (kWh) Calculated** - An analysis of LCRA billing data was conducted to determine residential cost per kilowatt hour (kWh) in OCTOBER. Fuel costs vary month to month and are based upon electric utility generation, transmission, line loss, and service fees. The fuel cost per kWh for October is \$ 0.0612. Adding the City's distribution fee of \$0.055, the cost per kWh for residential service in Smithville during OCTOBER will be \$0.1162. This represents an **8.50% DECREASE** compared to September's \$ 0.1270 cost / kWh. Below you will find a "rolling" 12-month residential cost per kWh comparison chart. On average, the cost per kWh for residential electric service in Smithville is between 13-14 cents.

## City of Smithville Residential Cost Per kWh – OCTOBER 2024



Note: Fuel & Power Cost Recovery Factor + City Distribution Fee\* (\$0.0550) = Cost / kWh

\*Residential Distribution Fee = \$0.0550/kWh (Effective October 1, 2023). Non-Resident (i.e., service outside city limit) Distribution Fee = \$0.0650/kWh

## City Manager Update - 10/18/24 (continued)

- 4) **City Hall CLOSED (1/2 Day) / Downtown Road Closure Scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024** – A production company will be filming a [Marcus Efron](#) feature movie called “PEARL” at City Hall on Wednesday, October 23, 2024. City Hall will be open from 8:00 am until NOON but CLOSED in the afternoon. Businesses in the 300 block of Main Street will remain OPEN but there will be intermittent road closures and limited parking available (Click on link for → [MAP](#)). Contact **Kacey Chapin** (Pearl Locations) on 508-944-8309 to report any issues / concerns.
- 5) **2024 Notice-To-Airman (NOTAM) Authorization for Smithville Municipal Airport Submitted** - The City updated its annual FAA Notice-to-Airman (NOTAM) authorization to provide the names and contact phone numbers of the individuals authorized to submit a NOTAM. A NOTAM is a notice filed with an aviation authority to alert aircraft pilots of potential hazards along a flight route or at a location that could affect the safety of the flight. NOTAMs are unclassified notices or advisories that contain information concerning the establishment, conditions or change in any aeronautical facility, service, procedure or hazard, the timely knowledge of which is essential to personnel and systems concerned with flight operations. NOTAMs are issued (and reported) for a number of reasons, such as:
- Hazards such as air shows, parachute jumps, kite flying, lasers, rocket launches, etc.
  - Flights by important people such as POTUS (sometimes referred to as Temporary Flight Restrictions, TFRs)
  - Closed runways for refurbishment / repairs
  - Inoperable radio navigational aids
  - Military exercises with resulting airspace restrictions
  - Inoperable lights on tall obstructions (e.g., beacon)
  - Temporary erection of obstacles near airfields (e.g., cranes)

**Sandy Meyerson, Ken Peck, and JD Casteel** have been assigned and have agreed to assist the Airport Manager with establishing, modifying, or cancelling of Class D NOTAMS (Notice-To-Airmen) affecting Smithville-Crawford Municipal Airport (identifier 84R), in Smithville, Texas.

- 6) **Ameresco Measurement & Verification (M&V) Audit Conducted** - Ameresco completed our annual Measurement & Verification (M&V) audit to validate the annual savings for each of the Energy Conservation Measures (ECM) associated with our utility infrastructure. The audit report will be available in January and will validate the year-to-date project cost savings. The anticipated cost savings over the next 7-years will more than cover the principal and interest associated with the lease/purchase agreement for our “smart meter” infrastructure upgrade. The M&V audit is performed each year and is a requirement of our Ameresco lease/purchase agreement.
- 7) **City of Smithville Sales Tax Update** - Below are the sales tax allocations for October 2024 vs. October 2023 (retail sales made primarily in August). This data reflects RETAIL sales of goods and services subject to LOCAL sales tax. Our sales tax payment (receipt) for October was \$69,136. This represents a **10.61% INCREASE** in our net payment compared to the same time last year. Total year-to-date payments are \$717,650. The state collects 8.25% on every dollar of which the City gets 1.5%. A very rough calculation would show that for every \$1M spent, the State gets \$67.5k and the City receives \$15k. So, for the City to receive \$70k in sales tax revenue, approximately \$4,667,000 of local goods and services would need to be sold. This sounds like a lot but one needs to consider all the goods and services the businesses operating in this town provide to consumers in any given month (e.g., restaurants, grocers, C-stores, furniture stores, auto parts, retail shops, professional services, and Amazon Prime deliveries, etc.). Remember...SHOP LOCAL - it makes a difference!!!

### Bastrop County Sales Tax Allocation - October 2024

County/City	Current Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	2024 Payments To Date	2023 Payments	% Change
<b>Bastrop</b>	1.50%	\$931,579	\$1,060,649	-12.16%	\$10,544,135	\$10,232,505	3.04%
<b>Elgin</b>	1.50%	\$375,896	\$313,198	20.01%	\$3,519,042	\$3,172,423	10.92%
<b>Smithville</b>	1.50%	\$69,136	\$62,501	10.61%	\$733,442	\$717,650	2.20%
<b>Bastrop County</b>	0.50%	\$693,180	\$715,896	-3.17%	\$7,323,050	\$6,946,525	5.42%

## City Manager Update - 10/18/24 (continued)

There are several events and/or meetings scheduled the next few weeks:

The Smithville Recreation Center will be hosting their annual [FALL FESTIVAL](#) on **Saturday, October 19, 2024** from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be live music, face painting, petting zoo, games, craft vendors, and food.

The [SMITHVILLE WINGFEST 2024](#) will be held on **Saturday, October 19, 2024** from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Railroad Park downtown. Please contact Cathy Meek, Chamber Secretary at 512-420-6755 or Erika O'Neal, Chamber President at 512-237-2313 or email with any questions.

The next CITY COUNCIL meeting will be held on **Monday, October 21, 2024** at City Hall (317 Main) beginning at 6:00 pm. Click → [HERE](#) for a copy of the agenda.

Bastrop County Early Voting BEGINS on **Monday, October 21, 2024**.

CITY HALL will be CLOSED at NOON on **Wednesday, October 23, 2024** for filming of feature movie.

The next CHAMBER OF COMMERCE QUARTERLY LUNCHEON will be held at the VFW Post 1309 (557 NW Loop 230) from 11:15 am to 1:00 pm on **Wednesday, October 23, 2024**. The luncheon is being hosted by the Smithville Community Clinic (also the keynote speaker). REGISTER HERE: [CHAMBER QUARTERLY LUNCHEON](#) or call 512-237-2313.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY will be held on **Saturday, October 26, 2024** from 10 am to 2 pm at City Hall. Out of date prescription drugs (or drugs you are no longer taking) will be collected and discarded. For questions or information contact Sharlene Scheler RN Wesley Nurse at 210-259-3733 or e-mail at [sscheler@mh.org](mailto:sscheler@mh.org).

Halloween is **Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Please be mindful of Trick or Treaters!

Bastrop County Early Voting ENDS on **Friday, November 1, 2024**.

Daylight Savings Time ENDS @ 2:00 am **Sunday, November 3, 2024**.

ELECTION DAY is **Tuesday, November 5, 2024**. Polls will be open 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

The next P&Z COMMISSION meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 5, 2024** @ at City Hall (6:00 pm).

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Wishing you a HAPPY and SAFE HALLOWEEN.

-- Robert --

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!



# PHOTOS – 10/18/24

## 2024 National Night Out – Taking a Bite out of Crime!



Compass Rose @ 84R Painted by S. Meyerson

TFS Helicopter Staged at 84R



Tub Grinding and Mulch Removal at the City Brush Dump



NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Draining Improvement / ADA Ramps / Sidewalk Project



Riverbend Park Entry / Exit Sign (LCRA Grant)

