

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



OCTOBER 10, 2023

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department

The Pet Adoption Center welcomed a new employee on October 10th. Jessica McCoy was hired for the position of Animal Services Officer.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- Telecommunicator



The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library started the year off right with new programs and initiatives, and we are happy to keep going!

October offers our community many opportunities for education, information, and recreation at the Library.

Join us for the Annular Eclipse Viewing Party at the Library and Activities Center on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 10am-1pm. Enjoy this free family event! From books, to games, to crafts – this interactive program presents a variety of fun and enriching activities designed to encourage exploration and spark imagination. Get ready for the two coming eclipse events with strategies, booklists, projects, and more.



October 9-14, 2023 is Killeen ISD **Fall Break**, and the Library is excited to offer programs for everyone all week long. There's still time to get in on the fun for kids! Come whether you go to Killeen ISD, homeschool, or attend another school!

Solar Science -Tuesday, October 10th at 2 pm

Children ages five to twelve learn the science behind the coming annual eclipse and make their own indirect viewing devices! No registration is necessary.

National Fire Prevention Week -- Meet Firefighters and View Fire Engines - Wednesday, October 11th at 10 am & 2 pm

Celebrate Fire Prevention with the Harker Heights Fire Department. Take a look at their vehicles and the equipment worn by Firefighters. No registration is necessary.



Orange You Glad It's Storytime - Thursday, October 12th at 9 am

Children ages 3-6 years old and their families enjoy songs, stories, rhymes, activities, and more! No registration is necessary.

Orange You Glad It's Toddler Time - Thursday, October 12th at 10 am

Children ages 0-3 years old and their families enjoy songs, stories, rhymes, activities, and more! No registration is necessary.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

Fall Break Maker Space - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 10 am-1 pm; Saturdays 10 am-1 pm

Bring the whole family to see what you can make out of what is in the room! No registration is necessary. Just come and go!

Pokemon and Yu-Gi-Oh! Games - Saturdays 1-3pm

All ages bring your cards or play with ours to battle! Do you want to learn? Volunteers will help! No purchasing, selling, or trading cards is allowed on Library property. No registration is necessary. Just drop in!



Dungeons and Dragons for Kids ages 10-14 yrs - 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month 9 am-12 pm OR 2-5 pm

Are you interested in fantasy role-playing? Are you looking for a new gaming group? No experience is necessary! The Library's D&D 5e games are run by experienced Library volunteers. All materials will be provided! Please e-mail lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov for more information or to register. Registration is required. Call 254-953-5491 to register.



Check out the City of Harker Heights' Eclipse website at <https://www.harkerheights.gov/eclipse>. Here you will find educational resources, tips for residents and businesses, and updates on upcoming programs regarding the two eclipse events! The annular eclipse will be on Saturday, October 14, 2023, and the total eclipse will be on Monday, April 8, 2024.

Our City looks forward to this community experience and encourages everyone to be prepared!

Join us at the Library and Activities Center on Saturday, October 14, 2023, for a Viewing Party

from 10am-1pm. There you will learn more about the science of the eclipse and you can view with our community. Check the website often for updates!



The Library's catalog of books, e-books, audiobooks, and more is available online! You can check your account, see what titles are available, and place items on hold. Check out the Library's Atrium online catalog at our Virtual Library at <https://harkerheights.gov/library>! Visit for education, information, entertainment, and more! All you need is your Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library Card!



Citywide Trick-or-Treating hours will be

Tuesday, October 31 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.!

ACTIVITIES CENTER

- **The Activities Center is looking to expand its offerings and needs your help! Volunteers are needed for all programs and event. If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to Sara Gibbs at sgibbs@harkerheights.gov or 254.953.5493.**

ATHLETICS



Ability Sports for Children with Special Needs

- **Ability Soccer for children with special needs kicked off on Monday, September 18.**
- **Ability Skateboarding was on Saturday, September 23rd with six participants!**



Schedule for 2024 Sports League will be out to the public in November 2023.

- **Youth Basketball registration opened on October 4th and will go until November 15th.**
 - **Basketball season will run December 2023 to February 2024. Assessments will be on November 18th and we have partnered with the HHHS Basketball team to send players that will help run assessments.**



Parks & Recreation Department

SENIOR RECREATION

- Travel with us as we watch videos of many destinations around the world from the comfort of your chair at the Recreation Center. Join us on Tuesdays from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm for Armchair Travelers. Don't worry about the long waits at airports or the many miles in a car.



- Active Seniors (50+) are invited to PLAY a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm at the Recreation Center. Each month will be a new activity to keep you moving and having fun. This is a great opportunity to exercise and socialize with friends. October's activity will be Pickleball.



- October's BINGO will be Thursday, October 19 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



- Ladies Night Out is on Thursday, October 19 at 5:00 pm. The ladies will be visiting Zum Edelweiss in Harker Heights. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper.

Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.



- Join us for Crafty Connection on Monday, October 30 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Seniors can bring a craft project they are working on at home to socialize and show other crafters. If participants don't have a craft project they don't have to worry a craft will be available for them at the Recreation Center.

Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

- **Open Gym Fall Hours are:**

- **Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball**



- **Thursdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: 12U Open Gym**

- **Fridays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Wheelchair Basketball**



- **To participate in open gym you must obtain a Civic Rec check in card; which is free to open an account and get a card. If you are a resident of Harker Heights there is no fee and you would need to bring proof of residency. Non-resident do have to pay a fee and they are 17 yrs. old & Under: \$3, 18-49 yrs. old: \$5, and Seniors (50+): \$3.**

Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- The Harker Heights Farmers Market season continues through October every Saturday from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at City Hall (305 Miller's Crossing). For more information, contact Sara Gibbs at 254-953-5493.



- Harker Heights: Día de Los Muertos Festival will be held at Carl Levin Park on October 28, 2023 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. There will be candy, music, dance groups, cultural activities, crafts, vendors, and more. If you are interested in performing or volunteering for this event please reach out to Sara Gibbs at sgibbs@harkerheights.gov or 254.953.5493.



- Thank you to all who participated in the Day of Play at Peaceable Kingdom by Variety in Killeen. Families, friends, and community members were able to participate in archery, a low ropes course, local food trucks, arts & crafts, water activities, carnival games, and more.

GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- Community Gardens: Did you know you can grow food through winter? Fight the heat by planting in the Fall. Plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden & Kern Park (Free) Community Garden. Rentals are for six months or one year. To pay and register for your plot, please go to the Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.



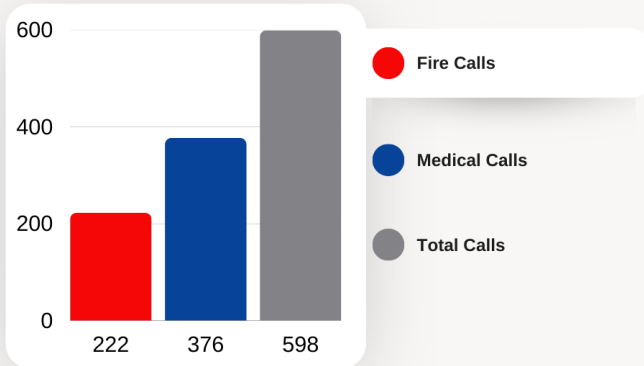
POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The Community Services Division is collecting new children's bicycles for our Blue Santa program from now until December 10th.

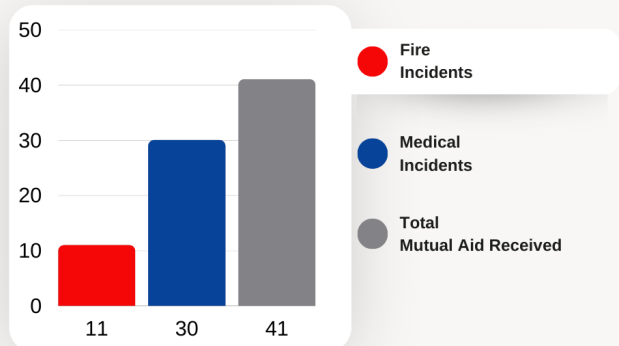


FIRE DEPARTMENT

Total Calls September 2023



Mutual Aid Received September 2023





Finance Department



ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
January	\$425,468.44	\$431,215.89	\$347,598.93	\$294,404.59	\$246,908.71
February	\$473,232.50	\$447,458.01	\$259,558.94	\$259,685.74	\$239,620.03
March	\$457,827.45	\$427,327.54	\$337,154.90	\$260,569.11	\$267,408.59
April	\$404,428.51	\$450,611.99	\$341,911.77	\$297,973.05	\$214,513.90
May	\$577,032.32	\$457,447.36	\$455,951.18*	\$337,662.28	\$311,719.63
June	\$508,923.56	\$559,624.69	\$457,853.17	\$291,251.93	\$271,114.94
July	\$549,266.57	\$593,523.31	\$474,837.86	\$433,747.64	\$285,381.75
August	\$700,084.97	\$626,576.19	\$473,342.17	\$380,976.99	\$356,562.37
September	\$732,809.66	\$733,557.95	\$575,867.17	\$466,173.61	\$320,090.38
October		\$550,329.57	\$615,499.23	\$433,650.72	\$399,497.35
November		\$597,938.12	\$488,924.69	\$305,732.61	\$358,146.37
December		\$529,760.67	\$540,030.51	\$380,537.34	\$275,957.76

*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
January	\$104,768.73	\$110,804.07	\$122,588.54	\$114,100.16	\$85,442.31
February	\$120,067.52	\$107,542.69	\$90,974.33	\$86,917.11	\$73,765.91
March	\$114,106.26	\$112,330.20	\$143,922.62	\$93,411.41	\$71,751.84
April	\$98,130.13	\$110,142.69	\$126,015.15	\$95,350.65	\$65,920.26
May	\$128,587.47	\$111,214.36	\$114,615.29	\$88,860.54	\$88,378.47
June	\$117,678.21	\$126,583.78	\$117,093.13	\$88,539.21	\$74,513.43
July	\$116,990.27	\$127,979.57	\$114,493.61	\$121,025.84	\$93,483.23
August	\$160,801.83	\$136,631.66	\$121,311.92	\$113,130.64	\$107,866.92
September	\$149,676.66	\$153,943.37	\$128,969.57	\$137,771.86	\$106,122.80
October		\$120,331.11	\$133,559.38	\$123,306.75	\$120,968.81
November		\$131,364.63	\$109,105.34	\$94,961.20	\$97,515.15
December		\$114,240.31	\$115,096.07	\$116,508.98	\$99,255.97



KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
January	\$14,230.92	\$9,974.61	\$13,714.61	\$18,735.25	\$16,084.10
February	\$17,296.49	\$12,965.79	\$11,058.25	\$15,342.02	\$16,019.68
March	\$13,010.92	\$13,519.99	\$16,168.18	\$14,213.01	\$12,078.00
April	\$12,552.09	\$13,777.77	\$14,514.82	\$14,165.99	\$11,636.59
May	\$16,807.66	\$14,264.27	\$12,642.08	\$16,670.43	\$15,446.69
June	\$16,308.52	\$17,616.84	\$13,961.69	\$13,795.19	\$14,092.62
July	\$16,201.62	\$19,794.27	\$13,973.86	\$21,778.38	\$18,147.78
August	\$21,416.32	\$17,131.77	\$13,053.66	\$17,566.80	\$20,613.07
September	\$21,162.07	\$21,855.49	\$15,046.80	\$24,119.28	\$18,407.61
October		\$17,549.59	\$19,801.71	\$18,037.50	\$19,399.15
November		\$17,225.45	\$14,707.98	\$15,206.33	\$20,304.92
December		\$19,102.03	\$14,030.94	\$14,953.30	\$15,822.59

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
January	3,798	3,565	3,245	2,719	2,406
February	3,811	3,566	3,290	2,759	2,471
March	3,852	3,555	3,293	2,880	2,519
April	3,922	3,603	3,321	2,819	2,552
May	3,927	3,654	3,364	2,847	2,533
June	3,960	3,698	3,396	2,931	2,588
July	4,061	3,695	3,461	2,976	2,582
August	4,021	3,747	3,505	3,069	2,622
September	4,054	3,746	3,523	3,072	2,669
October		3,789	3,536	3,127	2,664
November		3,757	3,548	3,186	2,695
December		3,749	3,533	3,201	2,715

ASSESSMENT BALANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

PAVING ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Polk, Billy (deceased)/Phillip Sueoka 936/940 Lemonwood \$20,617.62

No payments were made for the Paving Assessment.

WILDEWOOD ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Rickets, Tommie 936/940 Lemonwood \$12,361.81

No payments were made for the Wildewood Assessment.