

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

May 12, 2020

FINANCE:

ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
January	\$294,404.59	\$246,908.71	\$218,947.04	\$206,796.66	\$188,942.42
February	\$259,685.74	\$239,620.03	\$253,982.29	\$236,977.51	\$183,918.76
March	\$260,569.11	\$267,408.59	\$250,722.14	\$235,074.35	\$200,989.31
April	\$297,973.05	\$214,513.90	\$210,496.91	\$222,213.44	\$222,897.07
May		\$311,719.63	\$281,788.14	\$237,661.01	\$204,829.53
June		\$271,114.94	\$320,454.59	\$277,447.25	\$242,454.29
July		\$285,381.75	\$300,335.69	\$264,027.39	\$276,901.85
August		\$356,562.37	\$394,788.59	\$315,042.76	\$301,078.78
September		\$320,090.38	\$364,257.96	\$335,909.50	\$326,144.59
October		\$399,497.35	\$306,871.13	\$259,944.22	\$267,652.05
November		\$358,146.37	\$286,085.34	\$304,085.96	\$301,947.77
December		\$275,957.76	\$249,823.02	\$288,913.21	\$258,818.63

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
January	\$114,100.16	\$85,442.31	\$71,651.41	\$63,517.28	\$7,858.87
February	\$86,917.11	\$73,765.91	\$73,106.50	\$65,287.37	\$48,976.87
March	\$93,411.41	\$71,751.84	\$70,641.47	\$63,132.72	\$47,546.76
April	\$95,350.65	\$65,920.26	\$65,855.79	\$53,341.98	\$46,355.10
May*		\$88,378.47	\$75,977.68	\$69,002.02	\$28,265.10
June		\$74,513.43	\$80,826.26	\$73,118.18	\$61,325.79
July		\$93,483.23	\$88,910.75	\$68,079.48	\$59,073.49
August		\$107,866.92	\$102,878.90	\$82,558.92	\$71,207.69
September		\$106,122.80	\$92,411.37	\$81,133.99	\$81,096.95
October		\$120,968.81	\$98,509.88	\$74,733.23	\$66,016.85
November		\$97,515.15	\$84,134.74	\$82,189.99	\$75,988.93
December		\$99,255.97	\$71,988.89	\$67,035.66	\$66,118.88

*The IVR system was down for two weeks following an INCODE software upgrade in May 2016.

KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
January	\$18,735.25	\$16,084.10	\$13,632.13	\$9,827.05	
February	\$15,342.02	\$16,019.68	\$14,010.94	\$9,177.19	
March	\$14,213.01	\$12,078.00	\$15,753.68	\$8,907.02	
April	\$14,165.99	\$11,636.59	\$11,598.52	\$10,716.67	
May		\$15,446.69	\$15,516.51	\$14,330.94	
June		\$14,092.62	\$17,806.76	\$16,168.08	
July		\$18,147.78	\$20,001.21	\$13,094.46	
August		\$20,613.07	\$22,002.97	\$14,250.07	
September		\$18,407.61	\$20,300.64	\$17,280.54	
October		\$19,399.15	\$15,677.88	\$14,414.46	
November		\$20,304.92	\$15,970.14	\$16,433.70	
December		\$15,822.59	\$12,904.99	\$16,649.96	\$6,425.87

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
January	2,719	2,406	2,506	2,171	1,771
February	2,759	2,471	2,522	2,161	1,776
March	2,880	2,519	2,516	2,199	1,806
April	2,819	2,552	2,502	2,248	1,838
May		2,533	2,482	2,301	1,880
June		2,588	2,439	2,326	1,898
July		2,582	2,407	2,411	1,918
August		2,622	2,380	2,370	1,990
September		2,669	2,370	2,373	2,010
October		2,664	2,305	2,443	2,048
November		2,695	2,357	2,433	2,094
December		2,715	2,387	2,458	2,122

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The City is currently taking applications for the position of **Firefighter/EMT, Paramedic Preferred**.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant Randy Stefek received a card from a citizen thanking him for his assistance with her car. She said he was very understanding and even though she was scared, she said she looked up at him and felt so safe.

The **Police Department** received a very touching letter from a family who recently lost their father. Our Department assisted with escorting them from the funeral home to the Veterans Cemetery. The letter stated, "our dad would have gotten such a kick out of being escorted to the cemetery in high fashion with the police escort; the lights flashing and police cars racing to the intersections would have absolutely made his year." The family said it was so comforting, very moving, and a beautiful sight to see.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Department gave out **FREE Wildflower and Monarch Butterfly Kits** to the first 25 families that registered on May 6. The kits included Sunflower Seed Packets (the kind you grow) and some fun wildflower and monarch activities for children as. The kits were then distributed one-by-one (to remain properly socially distanced) on May 8. Thanks to all who participated!

The **Virtual Running Challenge** is officially under way and will run through the month of May! 47 runners have signed up for the inaugural running challenge!

Visit our **Virtual Recreation Center** for tips on getting outdoors while social distancing, at-home sports drills, ways to stay active, craft projects, virtual tours of parks and museums, and MUCH MORE!

Parks are OPEN but please remember to **#keepyourdistance** and be aware of facility closures

- Restrooms, Pavilions, Playgrounds, Courts, Water Fountains, and Workout Stations are CLOSED
- When using trails, observe the CDC's minimum distancing of 6' from other persons at all times

Unfortunately, the **Carl Levin Park Pool** will **not** open on Memorial Day Weekend, as it typically does, and a reopening date or whether the pool can open has yet to be determined. Swim lessons have been cancelled for the Summer.

All sports leagues, programs, and special events have been postponed until further notice but keep up with us on Facebook and our website as new activities are added daily

LIBRARY

The **Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library** is currently open for walk-in and for contactless drive through service. The hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10:00a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please call 254-953-5491 if you have any questions or if you would like to reserve library items. The Library's Virtual Library is available 24/7 at www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us/virtuallibrary. Programming, booklists, and more can be found on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pg/harkerheightspubliclibrary/posts/?ref=page_al

The Library has been working with the **Activities Center and Parks and Recreation Department** to provide diverting and entertaining activities for families. This past week we enjoyed **Monarch Butterfly programs**. These are part of our **City's "Stop By, Monarch Butterfly" initiative**. For the next two weeks the Library, Activities Center, and Parks and Recreation will be encouraging our citizens to take part in a variety of **Monarch Butterfly** themed events and educational opportunities. This is all a part of the **Mayor's Monarch Butterfly Pledge**. Our City works to increase and improve our Monarch Butterfly numbers as they head North for the summer and then back down South for the winter. Included will be drive-a-hunt butterfly safari, story-times, sing-a-longs, geocaching, planting information, a website, and more. This first week is just to get us rolling. Next week will give us opportunities to incorporate butterflies into our Mother's Day programs. We are hoping that the drive and hunt will give small children a wonderful experience with their families at this time. Please take a look at the **"Stop By, Monarch Butterfly" website** at http://www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us/monarchbutterfly?fbclid=IwAR0tjYsOmQEKICR5NrHNIBgusfM7bLXK_xoQFdZhPbp0gHXuQ00afRE3MdM.

This week is **science week** at the Library! All week long the Library will offer a variety of science programs on Facebook. Here are just some of the planned programs:

Monday, May 11th

- 10:15 a.m.: Music / Dance Science
- 2:00 p.m.: Drinking Glass Harmonica

Tuesday, May 12th

- 2:00 p.m.: Lemon Volcano Experiment
- 4:00 p.m.: Skittle Experiment

Wednesday, May 13th

- 10:15 a.m.: Science is Magic Storytime
- 11:15 a.m.: Exercise Science

Thursday, May 14th

10:15 a.m.: Animal Science Stories

2:00 p.m.: Animal Show-and-Tell with a Hedgehog

6:00 p.m.: Nocturnal Animal Science

Friday, May 15th

10:15 a.m. Special Guest Reader **Jonathan Hansen** from Parks and Recreation Department

2:00 p.m. Water Density Science with special Guest **Victoria Leffers**

Next week is **career week** on the Library's Facebook! Check each day May 18th – 22nd to meet local City of Harker Heights employees, lawyers, business associates, and more!

“Reading Is Magic!” The Library will offer an enchanting summer reading club for members of all ages. The club begins June 1st! The **Friends of the Library** have purchased an online reading club service that will allow everyone to sign up, log hours, play games, find out about activities, and more!

ACTIVITY CENTER

Please continue to follow us on **Facebook** and our **Special Event's page** of the **Parks & Recreation website** for upcoming virtual activities and programs the community can participate from home, out in their neighborhoods, or a park.

Senior Recreation & Events

- This past weekend, the City of Harker Heights was decorated with many butterflies for **Mother's Day weekend**. Citizens, staff, and volunteers participated in the **Butterfly Drive & Hunt** and the **Harker Heights Chalk Challenge – Butterfly edition**. Photos were shared on Facebook.
- Did you know that May is **National Pet Month**? Celebrate with your pet(s) by taking them on a walk, giving them an extra treat, playing with them in the back yard, and cuddling with them. Have fun matching pets with Library & Activities Center staff with a match game at <http://bit.ly/Heightsevents>.
- Celebrate **Older Americans Month: Make Your Mark – May 2020!** Around the nation, older adults make their marks every day as volunteers, employees, employers, parents, grandparents, mentors, and advocates. They offer their time, talents, and experience to the benefit of our communities. This year's Older Americans Month theme, **Make Your Mark**, highlights older adults' unique and lasting contributions to their communities—everything from sharing a story with grandchildren to leaving a legacy of community action. In the spirit of this theme, here are a few ways to make your mark this May and all year long: tell your story to a friend or family member, volunteer your time, make your mark on friends, family, and community, and take care of your health.
- **Senior Citizens** are invited to share wisdom to our **graduating Seniors** in celebration of **Older Americans Month & the Graduating Class of 2020**. If you would like to participate in **Senior 2 Senior**, please call Nichole at 254-953-5465 or email to nbroemer@harkerheights.gov your advice by Wednesday, May 20. Please include your name with last initial and your graduation year. Advice will be shared on the website <http://bit.ly/Heightsevents> and social media.