



## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

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### June 2016 – Budget Meeting Update

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends:

This past May, City Council and Staff held initial three day budget meetings for the City. The first two nights were devoted to department budget presentations and the third night was devoted to flood discussions. I am pleased to say that all three nights produced constructive discussions and forward thinking budget initiatives.

As in last year's budget, Jersey Village government revenue will be impacted by Highway 290 expansion and the costs associated with relocating city water and sewer lines. Even with the impact of Highway 290 construction, the City finances are expected to remain strong. The individual departments all presented fiscally sound budget proposals that will continue to provide excellent city services. One proposal worth highlighting is the capital improvement program to begin using gray water from the City water treatment plant to irrigate the golf course. This program will save the City money while also providing an environmentally positive method for keeping our fairways green.

The fiscal year 2016-2017 budget will also be the first year to implement Comprehensive Plan initiatives. Council and Staff agreed to move forward with the key initiative of developing a branding program for the City. In addition to a new brand for the City, we will be incorporating this brand into new City entrances and unique wayfinding signs throughout the community. I am excited to see how new entrances and signs with a new brand will put our extensive community pride on display.

The final night of the budget meetings centered on a flooding review and steps forward. The previous night, Council agreed to postpone some capital project expenditures to free up resources to address flooding in this fiscal budget. Council and Staff agreed to proceed with an engineering study to present a clear picture of the flooding situation in Jersey Village. Among other things, this study will review the history of flooding in JV, provide an analysis of the current situation, develop hydraulic modeling, and develop strategies and implementation plans. Council and Staff agreed that all options will be reviewed in developing a strategy to address flooding. The City website will be routinely updated with flood mitigation information and I strongly encourage residents to reach out to myself and City Council members on this issue. As I have written about before, informed residents and community input are critical to community initiatives.

City Council will have another round of budget meetings in July. The fiscal year 2016-2017 City budget is shaping up to tackle a number of important issues. As I have also said before, I would like to thank our City staff for preparing a fiscally responsible budget that continues to provide for our important City services. Because of that, the financial health of Jersey Village continues to be the envy of Texas municipalities.

All the Best,

Justin Ray, Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas

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