



May 20, 2016

City Council approves two additional sergeant positions

The City Council passed an ordinance on May 16 increasing the number of sergeant positions in the Mesquite Police Department from 25 to 27, effective immediately. Congratulations to Police Sergeants Kevin Rough and Barrett Smith who were sworn in on May 18.

City Council approves police equipment purchases

On May 16, the City Council approved equipment purchases totaling \$92,000 from the 2015-16 Police Seizure Budget. Items to be purchased include tactical training equipment, protection gear, surveillance equipment, and more. All items will be purchased with funds obtained through court forfeitures and seized contraband. No taxpayer dollars will be used. Watch a brief video at https://youtu.be/E5dq-Y2_DNw featuring Mayor Pro Tem Greg Nochese discussing the approved purchases for more details.



Newly elected Councilmembers take oath of office

A special City Council meeting was held on Wednesday, May 18, to canvass the May 7 election results, and install Councilmembers for Places 3, 4 and 5. Mayor Pro Tem Greg Noschese, Place 5; Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Archer, Place 3; and Councilmember Dan Aleman, Place 4 took their oath of office. Newly elected Councilmember Dan Aleman now holds the seat vacated by former Councilmember Shirley Roberts who chose to retire from the Council after 14 years of service. Councilmember Roberts received a standing ovation at the meeting in recognition of her service. To watch a video recap of the meeting, go to <https://youtu.be/9EHfKCLitg>.



Mayor Pro Tem Greg Noschese, Place 5



Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Archer, Place 3



Councilmember Dan Aleman, Place 4



Councilmember Shirley Roberts honored at retirement reception

Councilmember Shirley Roberts was honored at a retirement reception following the May 16 City Council meeting for her 14 years of service on the Mesquite City Council. Councilmember Roberts was first elected to Place 4 in May 2002. The reception was hosted by the friends and family of Councilmember Roberts. Representative Cindy Burkett, a representative of Senator Bob Hall's office, Lancaster Mayor Marcus Knight, and members of the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce were also in attendance to express their appreciation.



City employee named Human Resources Manager of the Year by TMHRA

The Texas Municipal Human Resources Association (TMHRA) has named Lety Yanez, City of Mesquite Human Resources Manager, as the association's Human Resources Manager of the Year for the State of Texas. Yanez was presented with this prestigious award at the association's annual conference held in Fort Worth during the first week of May.



City contractors delayed by recent rain storms

A delay has occurred in property clean-ups and mowing of medians, parks and open spaces due to frequent rain storms during the past few weeks. City contractors are working extended hours and weekends to complete the needed work. Additional crews have also been added to assist with the workload.



Mesquite Firefighters help the Spread the Love peanut butter and jelly food drive

This week, firefighters from all seven Mesquite fire stations donated and delivered more than 200 jars of peanut butter and jelly in support of the “Spread the Love” campaign sponsored by the City of Mesquite. The “Spread the Love” campaign encourages the donation of peanut butter and jelly to help feed children during the summer who typically rely on free or reduced lunch during the school year. The campaign supports the two food pantries in Mesquite: Sharing Life Community Outreach and Mesquite Social Services. Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/SpreadTheLove for more information.



Ribbon cutting held at Smallcakes Cupcakery and Creamery

A ribbon cutting was held this week at Smallcakes Cupcakery and Creamery, located at 1418 N. Galloway Ave. Representatives from the City of Mesquite, including City Manager Cliff Keheley, and the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce attended the event to celebrate the new business and welcome business owners, the Zelaya family.



Public Works Employee Appreciation Lunch held

An appreciation lunch was held on May 19 to honor the City's Public Works employees during National Public Works Week. In addition to the meal, Mayor Stan Pickett honored the employees by proclaiming May 15-21 National Public Works Week in Mesquite, and Director of Public Works Tim James presented the department's Employee and Supervisor of the Year awards. City Manager Cliff Keheley spoke at the event to express his appreciation, and Councilmembers Dennis Tarpley and Bill Porter were also in attendance.



The Municipal Court Marshal program celebrates its first year of operation

This month, the City of Mesquite celebrated the one-year anniversary of launching its Mesquite Marshal program for the Municipal Court. In its first year of operation, the program cleared more than 51,600 people to access the court building and prevented nearly 1,000 weapons from entering the court areas. Prisoner transports and bailiff coverage by marshals also saved the Police Department more than 2,100 officer hours in the past year.



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