



# Bunker Hill Village

## NEWSLETTER

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**October 2014**

### ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor Jay Williams  
Mayor Pro Tem Keith Brown  
Councilmember Susan B. Schwartz  
Councilmember John Glover  
Councilmember Jay Janeczek  
Councilmember Laurie Rosenbaum

### CITY STAFF

Karen Glynn City Administrator  
Kelly Johnson City Sec/Dir of Finance  
Steve Smith Dir Public Works/Bldg Official  
Valerie Cantu Court Admin/City Sec & Clerk  
Laurie Gantt Utility Billing/Permit Clerk  
Gama Escamilla Public Works TeamLeader  
Oziel Reyna Public Works/Animal Control

### OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday  
We may be reached at  
**713 - 467 - 9762**

Municipal Court: 713-827-1772  
Fax: 713-827-8752

### AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES

Call Memorial Villages Police Department  
**713 - 365 - 3700**

Visit

[www.bunkerhill.net](http://www.bunkerhill.net)

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## *From the Mayor*

**Dear Residents:** The City Council voted to lower the ad valorem tax rate by 5% (1- 1/2 cent) and approved the 2015 Budget at our City Council Meeting held at the end of September. The City Council and I take the City's Mission Statement (see below) very seriously "*to govern with integrity and fiscal responsibility.*" We really appreciated the public input received during the budget and public hearing process and worked hard to balance the concerns with the needs.

The 2015 budgeted expenditures total \$9.5 Million and consist of the City's General Fund, Metro Fund, Utility Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Reserve/Replacement Funds.

The City's General Fund provides City services including police and fire, streets and drainage, development and construction services, and administration. The General Fund Budget totals \$4.2 Million with the police and fire budgets accounting for 60%. The 2015 funding ensures we maintain competitive salaries and benefits for our public safety and city personnel. (*We have seen an increase in competition from area cities and actually had to make adjustments in 2014 to maintain staffing of our Class 1 Fire Dept.*) The Budget also includes a contribution to the Street and Drainage Replacement Fund, providing for drainage and roadway improvements, and allows us to make needed housekeeping improvements to our facilities.

Bunker Hill Village is one of only two Memorial Villages that provide its own utility services to residents. The City's Utility Fund Budget totals \$3.0 Million and includes the Water, Wastewater, Trash and Recycling Services. The budget includes a rate increase for water and wastewater effective January 1. This will ensure that Bunker Hill Village has a Utility Fund that is self supporting and meets the surface water mandate which includes 50% of our water that must be purchased from the City of Houston. In addition, the budget includes a contribution to the Water and Wastewater Replacement Fund. I must note that a recent inspection of our Water System by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality resulted in Bunker Hill being noted as "one of the best water systems they have seen!"

Trash and recycling is another critical service provided to our citizens and budgeted accordingly. We have heard that residents would like to see an increased opportunity for recycling - we are working with our service provider to see how best we can address this request as well as any concerns.

The City's Debt Service Fund provides the funding to make the City's debt payments. The City currently has \$14.6 Million in Debt as a result of past voter approved bonds and the 2015 payment of \$1.8 Million equates to about 1/3 of the ad valorem taxes collected.

The largest factor facing our City is our aging infrastructure. During 2015, we will continue our planning efforts to ensure we are sustainable for the future through investing in our streets, drainage, water and wastewater systems. The tax rate reduction balances the tax increase concerns of the public and the need for addressing our aging infrastructure.

Bunker Hill Village continues to be a City of choice with a strong tax base and excellent services. I am so proud to be a part of the City and to serve as your Mayor. Visit our website for all of the details on the 2015 Budget.

**~ Jay Williams, Mayor**

### Our Mission

*"The Mayor, City Council and Staff of Bunker Hill Village are committed to governing with integrity and fiscal responsibility.*

*We are dedicated to creating a sense of community, ensuring the safety and well-being of our citizens, and preserving our unique character and quality of life so that we can pass on a greater and more beautiful city to future generations."*