



October 2014

TEXAS

Citizen's Update

News You Need to Know About Your City

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The Hallsville City Council has approved a motion to allow hayrides inside the city limits of Hallsville. There is a mandatory waiver. It is available at Hallsville City Hall.



Past...
Present...
Future...

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 899

Hallsville, TX 75650

Police Department:

903.668.2400

FAX: 903.668.3934

Hours of Operations:

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday



Officer Sam Lavender's swearing in

His wife had the honor to pin his badge on him. We are excited to welcome him.

You can now pay
your
Water and Utilities
Or Traffic Tickets
On line!



The City of Hallsville Council

Meeting convened in regular session at 6 P.M. on Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at City Hall located at 115 Main Street.

The following members were present:

Mayor Jerri Medrano
Alderman Jake Walker
Mayor Pro Tem James Mizell Alderman Eric Anderson
Alderman Gary Nash
Alderman Tim Hatten

City Of Hallsville Staff Present:

Auditor Faron Cain
City Secretary Kimberly Smith Police

Chief Paul Montoya

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jerri Medrano.

II. Invocation

The Invocation was led by Mayor Jerri Medrano.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Medrano.

IV. Consent Agenda

Mayor Jerri Medrano asked to approve the Consent Agenda Items including the Police Department Summary for July and August 2014, the Water Department Summary for July and August 2014, the Permit Report for July and August 2014, and the Monthly Financials for July and August 2014.

Motion was made by Alderman Gary Nash and seconded by Alderman Tim Hatton.

Motion carried. 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 1 Abstention

V. Public Comments

Chief Montoya presented Officer Jeremy Hawkins with a Life Saving Award for saving a woman from jumping off of the FM 450 Bridge onto I-20 on September 9, 2014.

VI. Discussion Items

1. New information regarding Christmas Decorations is under Items to be Considered, item #12.
The Council waited and talked about Christmas Decorations during item #12 under Items to be Considered.

VII. Items to Be Considered

1. Consider and act upon the approval of the Minutes of July 15, 2014, Minutes of July 17, 2014 Budget Workshop, the Minutes of July 29, 2014 Budget Workshop, and the Minutes of August 27, 2014 Budget Workshop.
Motion was made by Alderman James Mizell and seconded by

Alderman Gary Nash.

Motion carried. 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 1 Abstention

2. Consider and act upon adopting the 2014-2015 Budgets for the General Fund and the Water/Sewer Fund.
Motion was made by Alderman James Mizell and seconded by

Alderman Tim Hatten

Motion carried. 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 1 Abstention

Alderman Jake Walker walked in at 6:07 pm.

3. Consider and act upon approving Ordinance 2014-16-09 to adopt the 2014-2015 Tax Rate.
Motion was made by Alderman Jake Walker and seconded by

Alderman Eric Anderson.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

4. Consider and act upon amending prior Ordinance 2011-09-1 to include raising and/or establishing certain rates and fees effective 10/1/2014, Ordinance 2014-16-09A.

Alderman Jake Walker asked about why we are increasing the sign permit. Mayor Jerri Medrano responded that we are bringing our prices up with surrounding cities.

Motion was made by Alderman Eric Anderson and seconded by Alderman Jake Walker.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

5. Consider and act upon approving Ordinance 2014-16-09B requiring a Building Permit.

There was discussion regarding the wording in the Ordinance. The Council requested that we take another look at the wording and change is appropriately.

Motion was made by Alderman Jake Walker and seconded by Alderman James Mizell

Motion carried. 2 Ayes; 3 Nays; and 0 Abstention. Motion did not pass.

6. Consider and act upon approving Ordinance 2014-16-09C adopting a Building Code.

Motion was made by Alderman Eric Anderson and seconded by Alderman Jake Walker.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

7. Consider and act upon approving Resolution 2014-16-09 authorizing the City to participate as part of the CARD related to SWEPCO.

Motion was made by Alderman Gary Nash and seconded by Alderman Tim Hatten.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

8. Consider and act upon approving an Investment Policy for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year by adopting Resolution 2014-16-09A. Internal Auditor Faron Cain stated to the Council that this is a Policy that needs to be adopted each year and it is an example from TML.

Motion was made by Alderman Eric Anderson and seconded by Alderman Jake Walker.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

9. Consider and act upon approving the 2014-2015 Employee Personnel Manual Changes for City Employees by adopting Resolution 2014-16-09B.

There was some discussion regarding some of the changes to the Manual.

Motion was made by Alderman James Mizell and seconded by Alderman Gary Nash.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

10. Consider and act upon approving the 2014-2015 Holiday Schedule for City Employees by adopting Resolution 2014-16-09C.

Motion was made by Alderman Gary Nash and seconded by Alderman James Mizell.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

11. Consider and act upon approving to appoint four (4) more Reserve Officers.

Chief Paul Montoya explained the reasoning for needing four (4) more Reserve Officers. The council had some discussion regarding appointing the new Reserve Officers.

Motion was made by Alderman Eric Anderson and seconded by Alderman James Mizell.

Motion carried. 4 Ayes; 1 Nays; and 0 Abstention

12. Consider and act upon approving the purchase of Christmas Decorations from Christmas Décor.

City Secretary, Kimberly Smith explained to the council the Decoration proposal and what it entailed.

There was little discussion between the council members. The Council was satisfied that the City of Hallsville will have Christmas Decorations this year.

Motion was made by Alderman Eric Anderson and seconded by Alderman Tim Hatton.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

13. Consider and act upon approving the line item transfers to pay for Christmas Decorations.

Motion was made by Alderman Jake Walker and seconded by Alderman Eric Anderson.

Motion carried. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; and 0 Abstention

VIII. Adjournment

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.





Daylina Miller dmiller@marshallnewsmessenger.com

Once flourishing with the greenery of squash, okra, peppers and purple hull peas, the Rusty Clark Community Garden in Hallsville currently awaits the begrimed hands of volunteers to sow the seeds of autumn-appropriate plants.

The garden, which saw its second summer planting this past May, was started last year by the Hallsville Outreach Center to provide fresh produce for families in need. Plants in the past have included peppers, okra, lettuce, tomatoes, peas, herbs like Rosemary and Basil, and much more.

While produce from private gardens is often donated, most food donations come in the form of non-perishable items, canned and bagged goods high in sodium and preservatives.

The center was recently opened in January in Cullen Hall on North Central Street and currently provides food and clothing to Hallsville families in need. Families can receive assistance once per month and the food is distributed based on the size of household. Plans are being made to expand services to include a free medical clinic and city park renovation.

Aside from the community garden, which is located behind the Family Dollar on Highway 80, raised plant beds are tended right outside the center on North Central Street. Local groups and organizations, like Girl Scout Troup 7286, “adopt” the smaller gardens, then plant and tend to the beds and harvest them for donation.

There are many benefits to the fresh produce grown on site and at the nearby community garden, said David Holman, president of the Hallsville Outreach Center. “It’s hard to provide fresh produce for people,” Holman said. “We’re only open three days a week so if we purchased from the store it would more than likely spoil before we give it to anybody.”

The garden also “encourages community participation. People can see that we are actually doing something when they drive by.”

The garden also attracts different types of volunteers, those who feel they’re better suited for the outdoors than inside doing office work, Holman said.

“Working indoor in the food pantry itself is not appealing to everyone but some people are more than willing to work in a garden so its drawing in more people that would be interested in that,” Holman said.

In the next couple of weeks, Holman and volunteers will start planting leafy greens like lettuce, cauliflower and broccoli that thrive in the cooler weather.

People can get the produce from the outreach center or pick their own directly from the gardens.

“I think people are very nervous about coming and picking their own and I’m trying to get people to not be nervous about doing that, especially at the big garden,” Holman said.

“It’s a lot of work to harvest. If someone’s determined to do it themselves they’re helping out a lot.”

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, more and more food banks, faith-based organizations and churches and community groups are growing their own gardens or at least practicing “gleaning,” the act of collecting excess fresh foods from farms, gardens, farmers markets or other sources for the food insecure, those who don’t know where their next meal is coming from.

According to Baylor College’s Texas Hunger Initiative, Texas’ food insecurity rate of 18 percent was higher than the national average in 2010-2012. Texas ranks among the top 12 states in terms of food insecurity rates and second in terms of the number of food insecure households.

In Harrison County, the rate is 19.3 percent and in Marion County, it’s 21.6 percent, according to Feeding America. That means nearly 15,000 people between the two counties do not always know where they will find their next meal.

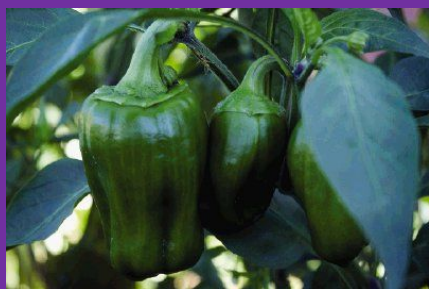
The Hallsville Outreach Center, which helps families in the Hallsville School District that extends as far as Marshall and Longview, helped 727 individuals, or 213 households, in September.

The outreach center is also hosting its last garage sale for the year this weekend on Oct. 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Oct. 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and still needs items donated to raise money for their programs. They don’t have storage space so donors are asked to bring the items directly to the sale on Friday and Saturday morning.

For pick-ups, call Holman at (903) 720-0393.

The Hallsville Outreach Center is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For volunteer opportunities, call (903) 668-2401.



Message From our Police Department

Ref: No Turn on Red at FM 450 and HWY 80

The Hallsville Police Department would like to address the intersection of FM 450 and Hwy 80 in regards to the NO TURN ON RED (heading South bound towards I-20). We have had several people ask about this location so we want to disseminate the information for everyone.

First let us start off by informing you that these two streets are not under the authority of the City of Hallsville or the Hallsville Police Department. They are in fact State owned and maintained roads and fall under the jurisdiction of TxDOT. TxDOT dictates the speeds, lanes, signage and etc in regards to these roads.

Below you will see four pictures that depict this intersection if you are heading East bound towards Marshall, Texas. The first picture shows the signage on the power lines where the traffic control devices (signal lights/signs are located).

The second picture shows the traffic control device (signal lights/sign is located) in regards to the right hand turn (South bound). The circular lights are for thru traffic in the center lane that can only travel East bound (straight) towards Marshall, Texas. The arrows are for the vehicles in the far right lane (turn only lane) to turn right (South bound) towards I-20. If you are in the far right lane (turn only lane) you are bound to follow the arrows and the arrows only. If you have a red arrow, stop and remained stopped until a green arrow appears. It does not matter what else is displayed as the other lights are not for you. You are bound to the arrow signals only.

The third picture shows the far left lane (turning left or going straight) turning North bound or continuing towards Marshall, Texas. You will see in picture number 1, if you are in this lane and are attempting to turn left (North bound) you are required to yield right of

way to thru traffic (the vehicles going in the opposite direction towards Longview, Texas). If you are in this lane and want to go towards Marshall, Texas, you are free to proceed.

The fourth picture shows the lanes of travel themselves. It displays the traffic control signals marked on the roadway. If you are in the center lane you are only allowed to drive straight and not turn in either direction. If you are in the far right lane, you are only allowed to turn right (South bound) as indicated by the arrow lights and ONLY the arrow lights.

We understand that this intersection can be confusing at times especially to people who are just driving through or have never seen an intersection like this before. TxDOT has configured this intersection and not the City of Hallsville or the Hallsville Police Department.

We want to help make Hallsville a safer place to travel through so if there is any other areas of concern, please let us know so that we can put out the correct information. If you are having an issue with a location, chances are there are several other people having the same issues.

The Hallsville Police Department would like everyone to share this post and invite their friends and family to like our Facebook page so that they can also be kept up to date on all pertinent information regarding the City of Hallsville and the Hallsville Police Department.

Thank you.

Hallsville Police Department Social Media Platforms:

www.facebook.com/HallsvillePolice

www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Hallsville

[@hallsvillepdtx](https://twitter.com/hallsvillepdtx) (twitter)

Football Schedule

10/24	*Greenville	Home	7:30pm
10/31	*Pine Tree	Home	7:30pm
11/7	*Longview	Away	7:30pm

