



ROCKPORT

CITY PULSE: STAY INFORMED, STAY ENGAGED

Mayor's Corner

At the City of Rockport, we are committed to enhancing communication with our residents. We continuously strive to ensure that all citizens have easy access to the information they need, whether it's through improved digital platforms, transparent updates, or direct engagement. Our goal is to keep the community informed and involved every step of the way, fostering a stronger, more connected Rockport.

– Mayor Jayroe

Rockport City Council

- Mayor- Timothy Jayroe
- Ward 1- Stephanie Rangel
- Ward 2- Matt Anderson
- Ward 3- Brad Brundrett
- Ward 4- Andrea Hattman

See the website to find your Councilmember

Your Best Investment: Backing Our Volunteer Firefighters

Our volunteer fire department is one of Rockport's greatest assets. Staffed by dedicated individuals who willingly give their time and expertise, our department provides rapid, professional emergency response without the high costs associated with a full-time, city-run fire service.

For \$3.00 a month, paid on your water bill, citizens can directly support the department – a small price for the protection of our homes, businesses, and loved ones.

Additionally, we have the luxury of the response of three departments, as Rockport, Lamar and Fulton all respond to incidents regardless of geographical lines.

In the case of the recent Salt Flats and Aransas Woods fires, it's clear just how vital and invaluable their service is. 42 agencies responded to these fires with 132 apparatus as well as 257 personnel.

If required to bring the fire department fully under city management, full-time fire staff would have to be hired, the purchase and maintenance of costly equipment would occur, and the insurance of equipment and activities would all be factored into the City's budget. This would cause a significant ad-valorem tax increase for citizens.

Supporting our volunteer fire department keeps our community safe and our taxes low. It's a smart investment that ensures fast, reliable protection at an exceptional value.

If you have not already signed up for the \$3.00 a month contribution to the volunteer fire department, please call the water department at 361-729-2213 ex:234 to have this donation added to your bill.

ROCKPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Your donations and support help keep our community safe. Volunteer, donate, or attend our fundraising events to make a difference. Every bit counts!

Or you can mail a donation to:
Rockport Volunteer Fire
Department
P.O. Box 1325
Rockport, TX 78381



Ways to Stay Connected and Engaged

- Like us on Facebook
- Subscribe to Meetings
- Attend Meetings
- Read the City Manager Updates
- Sign up to be on a Board or Commission
- Be part of the Rockport Citizen University

Did You Know

May 4-10th

56th Annual Municipal Clerks (City Secretary) Week

Professor William Bennett Munro, author of one of the first textbooks written on the topic of municipal administration, wrote, "No other office in municipal service has so many contacts. It serves the Mayor, the City Council, the City Manager, and all administrative departments, without exception. All of them call upon it, almost daily, for some service or information."

The City of Rockport City Secretary is Shelley Goodwin, and Assistant Secretary is Reagan Lauterbach. Do you know what all they do for the City and residents? Municipal clerks are the keepers of official records, the coordinators of elections, and the first point of contact for citizens seeking assistance and information. They ensure the transparency and integrity of governmental processes, facilitating the flow of information between local governing bodies and the public. Their work is foundational to our democratic systems, ensuring that our communities are run efficiently and effectively.

May 15-21st National Police Week

Again, this year, communities across the United States will honor and remember those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as the family members, friends and fellow officers they left behind.

While this a memorial week, the City encourages residents to show appreciation and gratitude for the men and women who courageously protect our communities. All residents are encouraged to stop by the lobby of the Rockport Service Center during business hours on May 1st- May 14th and sign a card showing your support.

Your Chance to Make a Difference: Volunteers Needed for City Boards and Commissions

The City is calling on community members who are passionate about making a difference! We are looking for dedicated volunteers to serve on various boards and commissions that play a crucial role in shaping policies and decisions that affect our city.

Whether you're interested in the Parks, trees, or community development, there's a board or commission that could benefit from your insights and expertise.

The appointment process is easy, and training is provided to ensure you're well-prepared to make an impact. If you're ready to be a part of the decision-making process and help shape the future of our community, consider volunteering today!

Visit our website for more information and to submit your application. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant city.

CodeRED Emergency Notification

The CodeRED system is used to provide citizens with critical information, warnings and advisories concerning an emergency. The system notification is made based on geographic data and can be used for small- or large-scale emergency notifications.

Emergency notifications can be received by phone, email, TDD, SMS (short text messages) or by all methods.

Citizens can enroll in CodeRED by texting the word ARANSAS to 99411 and receive a response back containing the Community Notification Enrollment link. If using a computer or other device to register, the on-line link is <https://public.coderedweb.com>

Citizens should dial 911 for any life-threatening emergency. Citizens can use the non-emergency phone lines to the Public Safety Center, which are 361-729-1111 or 361-729-2222, answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

How to Subscribe to Agendas and Minutes

The City of Rockport has implemented a new Agenda Management system, and previous "Notify Me" notifications were not automatically transferred. We encourage you to subscribe to the new system by following these simple steps:

1. Visit the City of Rockport Website: On the homepage, click on the Agendas and Minutes link.
2. Sign In or Subscribe: In the top right corner of the page, click the Sign In or Subscribe button.
3. Manage Your Subscriptions: You will be directed to the Subscriptions Management page.
4. Choose Your Meetings: Select the meetings you'd like to subscribe to by moving the dot on the bar to the right.

The City of Rockport has introduced a new program, "**I THRIVE**," which highlights an outstanding employee in each newsletter. I THRIVE stands for Trustworthy, Honorable, Resilient, Innovative, Valuable, and Exemplary. Each featured employee is nominated by a fellow coworker.

Meet Charles Garcia, AMI Specialist, affectionately known as the "City Ambassador".

Q. What are your favorite things about working for the City?

A. I enjoy working with my coworkers, traveling to different job sites around the city, and interacting with the public.

Q. How long have you worked for the City?

A. I've been with the City for 7 years and 3 months.

Q. What is something about the City's culture that you really appreciate?

A. I appreciate the laid-back atmosphere and friendly nature of the locals.

Q. What areas of your role or skills are you hoping to develop further?

A. I'd like to learn more about the water distribution system and continue my education to earn additional licenses.

Q. What do you like to do outside of work?

A. I enjoy playing video and board games, watching TV and movies, and going toy hunting.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does Drought Status Stage 3 mean water restrictions?

Yes, Stage 3 means we need to pause outdoor water use to protect our water supply. This includes temporarily stopping lawn watering, at-home car washing, and operating decorative fountains. Indoor water use like showering, laundry, and dishes can continue as normal.

2. Who is affected by Stage 3 water restrictions?

Restrictions apply to all City of Rockport water customers, including homeowners, apartment buildings, city facilities, commercial businesses, and industry.

3. Will I be billed a surcharge on my water bill?

No. There are no active surcharges for water usage.

4. Can I fill my pool?

Yes, filling pools is permitted at this time to maintain equipment operations. Residents are encouraged to cover pools as often as possible to prevent evaporation.

**Find the rest of the Q and A on
<https://rockporttx.gov/494/Water-Plan>**

City History Center

The 12th Legislature of Texas, meeting in special session on August 13, 1870 did pass "An Act to incorporate the town of Rockport". The first Mayor and Board of Aldermen were appointed by the Governor. Mayor J. M. Mathis administered the Oath of Office to Aldermen E. Moffet, Victor Bracht, R. H. Wood, and R.W. Archer. The First City Secretary was George Dye, First Constable was M. A. Belcher, and First Treasurer was J. M. Morehead

May

CITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Monday May 5th Planning & Zoning- 5:30pm
- Monday May 5th Tree & Landscape- 5:30pm
- Monday May 12th CVB- 10:00 AM
- Tuesday May 13th City Council - 6:30pm
- Monday May 19th Planning & Zoning- 5:30pm
- Tuesday May 27 City Council - 6:30pm
- Wednesday May 28th City Connect-Tea Time at the Community Pool at 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday May 29 City Council Budget Workshop 9:00 am

June

CITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Monday June 2nd Planning & Zoning - 5:30pm
- Monday June 2nd Tree & Landscape - 5:30pm
- Monday June 9th CVB- 10:00 AM
- Tuesday June 10th City Council- 6:30pm
- Thursday, June 12th City Connect-Coke Float at Goin Coastal at 6:30 p.m
- Monday June 16th Planning & Zoning- 5:30pm
- Tuesday June 24th City Council- 6:30pm

**Check the website for all the City Meetings.
All meeting are subject to change**

Hello, Rockport neighbors!

Spring is in full swing, and there's no better time to get out and enjoy the beauty and activity of our city's parks! Whether you're looking for a peaceful stroll, a family outing, or a spot to catch up with friends, Rockport's parks offer something for everyone. Let's take a closer look at all the exciting activities happening right in our own backyard!

Explore the Great Outdoors - Rockport's parks are the perfect blend of scenic beauty and recreational fun. From Memorial Park, with its lush trails and peaceful pond, to taking a morning jog, birdwatching, or just enjoying a quiet afternoon under the trees, our parks are a true community treasure. Don't forget to hike or bike to the pool.

Community Events and Family Fun - Our local parks are buzzing with activity! Whether it's frisbee, basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, or a friendly game of catch. Park continues to be a popular spot for local sports leagues, and the upcoming movie nights, and family fun.

Preserving Nature for Future Generations - One of the best things about our parks is the commitment to preserving the natural beauty of Rockport.

Grab your family, your friends, or even your furry friend, and get outside to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine that makes Rockport such a wonderful place to call home.

See you in the park!

Congratulations- On The Move

Jeff Olson has been promoted to Assist. Director of Public Works.

Lt. David Gerloff has been promoted to Police Captain

HUMAN RESOURCES:

For Current City Job Openings visit:

www.rockporttx.gov

Kaycee Eddins
HR Manager

Rockport Police Department Updates: Honoring Service and Embracing Growth

It's been a meaningful and eventful few weeks at the Rockport Police Department. We recently celebrated the retirement of Captain Nathan Garcia, who served the Rockport community with dedication and integrity for over 16 years. Captain Garcia's leadership and experience left a lasting impact, and while we'll miss him greatly, we're grateful for his years of service to our city.

With this transition comes a new chapter. Lieutenant David Gerloff has been promoted to Captain, joining Captain Dennis Paine in our department's leadership team. Each captain plays a vital role—one overseeing our Patrol Division, the other leading Investigations.

Captain Paine, who previously led the Investigations Division, has now taken the helm of Patrol, while Captain Gerloff will lead Investigations. Both bring a wealth of experience and a shared commitment to keeping Rockport safe. With fresh perspectives and a forward-thinking mindset, they are already working to strengthen our department and enhance our service to the community.

In other news, our officers recently completed the department's bi-annual physical agility test. This fitness evaluation, modeled after the Texas Department of Public Safety's standards, uses Concept 2 rowing machines to assess overall physical readiness. But we're not stopping there. We're currently developing a comprehensive wellness initiative that will support our officers in all aspects of health—physical fitness, nutrition, mental well-being, and financial stability.

At the heart of everything we do is our connection to you—our community. When you see our officers around town, we encourage you to say hello, ask a question, or just share a smile. We're proud to serve you, and we're always happy to connect.

Welcome to the Rockport Team

Sierra Smith, Communications Officer

Crystal Carbajal, Property and Evidence Technician

Do I Need A Permit?

Call the Rockport Building Department at 361.790.1125 to confirm.

Do you own a Short-Term Rental?

Is it registered?

To avoid a fine, register it today at <https://rockporttx.gov/927/Short-Term-Rentals>

Get Engaged with Rockport and City Connect: Connecting You to Your City

Get Engaged with Rockport and City Connect: Connecting You to Your City In Rockport, we believe that direct communication with residents is key to building a thriving, informed community. The City of Rockport is proud to offer two exciting programs designed to foster better engagement, understanding, and involvement in local government: Get Engaged with Rockport and City Connect.

The Get Engaged with Rockport initiative aims to bridge the gap between the City and its residents. With the rise of misinformation and the challenges of social media, the program encourages residents to take a more active role in local affairs. Instead of relying on Facebook for updates and opinions, we invite you to participate in real-time, face-to-face discussions with City leaders. Attend Q&A sessions, learn about city projects, volunteer to serve on a Board or Commission, and ask questions directly to your elected officials and city staff. By engaging in these open forums, you not only stay informed but also have the opportunity to shape the future of Rockport.

City Connect, on the other hand, offers a relaxed and welcoming environment to chat about the latest happenings in Rockport. Hosted by City leaders, these informal gatherings encourage residents to come out, enjoy a cup of tea, a cookie, or ice cream, and connect with the people behind the decisions that impact their daily lives. Whether it's learning about upcoming city projects, sharing your thoughts, or simply getting to know your local officials, City Connect is the perfect way to engage with your community on a personal level.

Come talk to us, ask questions, and be part of the conversation. With Get Engaged with Rockport and City Connect, we're making it easier than ever for you to get involved, stay informed, and have a direct impact on your city's future. Together, we can continue to build a strong, connected, and informed Rockport!

Why We Track

Tracking legislation is essential for ensuring the city can protect its local autonomy and respond to laws that impact residents and operations. By staying informed on state and federal bills, the city can advocate for policies that benefit the community and prevent negative effects on local governance. Early awareness also helps with resource planning, ensuring the city is prepared for changes that may require new funding or adjustments. Ultimately, legislative tracking allows the city to stay proactive and safeguard its interests. See the Legislative Tracking page <https://www.rockporttx.gov/942/Legislative-Focus>

City Hall Update:

The wait is almost over! Our brand-new City Hall is fast approaching completion, and we couldn't be more excited to share this major milestone with the community. After years of planning, hard work, and dedication, we are preparing to an unveiling of a project that's been years in the making!

We're planning an exciting grand opening celebration, set for late June or early July 2025. This event won't just be the reveal of a stunning new building, it will represent the strength, resilience, and unwavering spirit of our community.

Since Hurricane Harvey devastated the original City Hall in 2017, city operations have been temporarily relocated and adapted to meet ongoing needs. But now, we're about to reclaim a central hub for city services that will also serve as a renewed cornerstone for civic engagement and local governance.

Stay tuned for more details on the grand opening celebration, be sure to follow our website and social media for all the updates and get ready to join us in celebrating this historic moment for our city!

Exciting Tourism Updates!

The Convention and Visitor Bureau is ***Rockin' It for Rockport*** with some thrilling new developments!

1. Created a dynamic Marketing Plan to showcase all that our unique city all it has to offer.
2. Gearing up to hire a Tourism Manager to lead the charge!
3. The development of a high standard visitor website. You have something to advertise or a business? Follow the steps below and tell your story and what you have to offer:

The new Rockport Convention and Visitors Bureau website launches this fall, and will showcase all tourism-related businesses including: • Hotels & Short Term Rentals • Retail Shops & Boutiques • Restaurants & Coffee Shops • Wineries • Fishing Guides • Marinas • Bars • Bait and Tackle Shops • RV Parks • And more!

Submit your business listing today using this link:

<https://rockporttx.extranet.simpleviewcrm.com/marketportal/#/HTYbfuqs>

For best results: complete the form using a PC, tablet, or Mac rather than a smartphone. Don't see your specific category? Select the closest option, and the CVB team will review and adjust as needed. Help us ensure the site launches with comprehensive, accurate information about all the amazing businesses Rockport-Fulton has to offer!

4. Fun interactive CVB Social Media account are being created. Watch for **ExploreRockportFulton** then like and follow us.

Let's make our city shine brighter than ever before!

CITY CONNECT



Tea Time

WITH
MAYOR PRO TEM ANDREA HATTMAN
&
CITY MANAGER VANESSA SHRAUNER

WEDNESDAY MAY 28TH AT 6:30 PM
COMMUNITY AQUATIC CENTER 2001 STADIUM DR.
ROCKPORT, TX

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS, AND A LAWN CHAIR AND GET
ENGAGED WITH YOUR CITY!

FOR MORE QUESTIONS CALL 361.729.2213 EXT. 226



Float Into Conversation!

WITH
COUNCIL
MEMBER
RANGEL
AND
CITY
MANAGER
SHRAUNER

JUNE 12 • 6:30 PM
GOIN' COASTAL OUTFITTERS
103 S. AUSTIN ST, ROCKPORT TX
FOR MORE QUESTIONS CALL
361-729-2213 EXT. 225

BUILDING A BETTER ROCKPORT, ONE FLOAT AT A TIME!