



CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS

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MAYOR'S LETTER OCTOBER 2011

HELLO OUT THERE!

When I sit down and write this letter each month, I often wonder if anyone actually reads it. If I wrote some senseless gibberish, would anyone notice or even care?

My letter last month was about the City's budget -- the annual plan of anticipated income and expenditures, as well as the long term plan that will affect the future of Jersey Village. I wrote that the city is in good financial shape, unlike almost every other governmental entity to which you pay taxes. Putting together the budget requires a huge effort on the part of the City staff and elected officials; it takes six months of thought, discussion, new ideas (both good and bad), public hearings and genuine debate. The budget information fills a four inch binder, and ultimately comes down to the vote of City Council.

So, why am I confused about whether or not anyone reads the monthly letter? After encouraging citizens to read the budget and come to the public hearing to voice their opinion, absolutely no one chose to participate. I would have thought that at least one resident would have an opinion or comment about how we are spending \$15 million of your money. This was the first meeting in my nine years as an elected official that no one participated in either Citizen's Comments or the public hearing. I was expecting to hear from at least one person who thought we were doing the wrong thing or wanted something added to the budget, but no one came.

Maybe we are doing a great job, but I know that elected officials cannot please everyone, so there is someone out there with a different opinion. I want to encourage each of you again to participate in your local government. It is the best and easiest place for you to affect change in your government. For those of you who missed the City Council meeting last month, we did pass the budget for 2011-2012. We were able to do that without cutting any services or employees, and we will begin seeing the replacement of water and sewer lines and streets early next year.

★ Council Action Report – Regular Session Meeting – September 19, 2011

ORDINANCE, RESOLUTION, OR ACTION ITEM	PASS/FAIL
1. Consider Ordinance No. 2011-34, adopting the City of Jersey Village municipal budget for fiscal year 2011-2012.	PASSED
2. Consider Resolution No. 2011-53, receiving Tax Assessor's statutory certifications, submissions, and calculations under Section 26.04 of the Tax Code, acknowledging there is no need for the two public hearings identified in Section 26.05(d), and setting October 17, 2011 at 7:00 PM as the date and time to adopt the proposed tax rate.	PASSED
3. Consider Resolution No. 2011-54, appointing a City Health Officer.	PASSED
4. Consider Ordinance No. 2011-35, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 in the amount of \$6,100, to cover cost associated with codifying the Form Based Code Ordinance 2011-25 approved May 23, 2011.	PASSED

5.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-36, allowing a budgetary amendment in the amount of \$12,000 to cover the costs associated with wear and tear on the A/C units at the police, fire, and city hall buildings due to the extreme heat conditions.	PASSED
6.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-37, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 in the amount of \$9,000, allowing for the transfer of funds from the city's utility fund to line item 02-45-5412, Water Authority Fees.	PASSED
7.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-38, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 in the amount of \$6,000 in order to compensate for increases in the collection fee payments made to Specialized Billing.	PASSED
8.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-39, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 by transferring \$1,000 from the Volunteer Fire Reserve Fund account 1-10-9804 to the Fire Department Expenditure account 1-25-5412 to help offset costs in the Kimberly Maldonado benefit.	PASSED
9.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-40, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 by transferring \$500 from the Volunteer Fire Reserve Fund account 1-10-9804 to the Fire Department Expenditure account 1-25-5412 to help offset costs associated with flowers sent for funerals and ill members.	PASSED
10.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-55, reviewing and approving the investment policy and investment strategies used for city funds in compliance with the Texas Government Code.	PASSED
11.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-56, authorizing advertisement for Request for Proposals for employee group benefits should there be an increase in Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool's re-rate numbers of 7% over the current medical premiums for either plan.	PASSED
12.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-57, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Red Oak Consulting Service for Water and Wastewater Rate and Financial Planning Study.	PASSED
13.	Discussion with possible action regarding a request from Clear Channel Communications to amend Section 14-243(15) of the City of Jersey Village Code of Ordinances to allow Spectacular Signs.	DISCUSSED
14.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-41, amending the city's budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 by increasing the Golf Course fund balance in the amount of \$71,000 in order to compensate for higher fees charged by the Water Authority and the increase in water usage due to the drought.	PASSED
15.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-42, amending the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011, allowing for the transfer of \$150,000 from the City's utility fund to line item 02-45-5411 Water Purchased.	PASSED
16.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-43, amending the budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010 and ending September 30, 2011 in the amount of \$40,000 for the allocation of salaries and fringe benefits for the Police Department personnel involved with Traffic Safety.	PASSED
17.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-44, amending the Jersey Village Code of Ordinances at Chapter 2, Article IV, Division 2, Section 2-142 to provide for revisions to the schedule of fees related to permits and other miscellaneous services; and amending Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-43(c) to reflect the solicitor fee revisions.	PASSED
18.	Consider Ordinance No. 2011-45, approving Revision No. 2 to the City's Personnel Policy in order to reflect compensation and leave benefits for full time firefighters to begin October 1, 2011.	PASSED
19.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-58, authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract for EMS/Fire billing services between City of Jersey Village and AR Management & Solutions (ARMS).	PASSED
20.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-59, appointing members to the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Board of Adjustment, the Building Board of Adjustment and Appeals, the Recreation and Events Committee, and the Golf Course Advisory Committee.	PASSED
21.	Consider Resolution No. 2011-60, designating a city representative and an alternate representative to the Houston-Galveston Area Council's 2012 General Assembly.	PASSED
22.	Discussion with possible action to amend section 66-146 of the City of Jersey Village Code of Ordinances relating to Junk Vehicles.	DISCUSSED
23.	Conduct the City Manager's annual performance evaluation and consider setting salary for budget year 2011-2012.	CONDUCTED