



MIDWAY MESSENGER

CONTACT US:

Website: midway.municipalimpact.com

Email: cityofmidway@yahoo.com

936.348.6800



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Latest News and Updates

JULY 1, 2026

****From the Mayor's Desk: ****

I know it has been a while since I issued a newsletter, so I wanted to share the latest information from City Hall. This newsletter will cover updates for April, May, June and July.

First, I would like to provide you with an update on the potential implementation of a property tax for the city of Midway. Last month, council members and I met with the Madison County Tax Assessor/Collector to discuss the process of collecting property taxes within the city limits. *Our goal is to align with the county's exemptions and allowances, ensuring that we create a sensible tax that is fair and beneficial to our community.* We also aim to identify any special needs for our seniors, veterans, and disabled citizens. These exemptions must comply with County, State, and Federal regulations.

You might be curious about how the city plans to utilize this new source of revenue. Here are a few ideas - while they may not all be perfect, they will help us achieve our long-term goals. **The objective is to establish essential infrastructure and implement city policies that will enable future city leaders to effectively manage population growth, economic development, living conditions, and a reliable revenue stream to meet our basic needs.**

New ordinances are being written and both old and new existing ordinances will need to be enforced. This includes writing letters and issuing fines under specific conditions. We will use the court system when necessary. Building codes will be implemented, and associated fees will be collected to help cover administrative expenses at City Hall.

We have updated our computers and digital software to improve efficiency in record keeping. Additionally, we have purchased voter hardware to facilitate our elections.



**See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?**

—Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

Texas state law now requires all cities to conduct an annual audit. The last audit for the City of Midway, covering the fiscal year 2021-2022, cost the city \$16,000. That audit company initially quoted \$20,000 for the following year; however, we have since contracted with a CPA firm to complete our audit this July at a cost of \$8,000.

We have an opportunity to apply for a \$5 million grant from the Texas Water Development Board in July, and one of the requirements is that the city must have a completed audit. While there is no guarantee that we will receive the grant, we are excited to submit an application. There are many other grants available, including those for Infrastructure and Development, Transportation and Safety, Parks and Environment, Public Safety, and Housing. As we continue to look for ways to improve our city, let's see where this journey takes us. While we may not be able to accomplish everything on our bucket list, let's aim to achieve what we can.

We are still waiting to hear from Texas General Land Office about being rewarded the RCP grant. This is the Comprehensive Plan I discussed back in February 2025.

As a reminder: A city's comprehensive plan, also known as a master plan, is a long-term guide for its physical development. It is a collection of documents that outlines a community's vision for the future, including policies, goals, and standards for land use, transportation, and other areas. The plan analyzes the city's current conditions and is intended to help guide future decisions.

****From the Mayor's Desk: ****

The City must follow a process to implement a property tax. After a rate is established, the City can only increase taxes with the approval of resident voters.

Here's the Texas Comptroller website for more detailed information.

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/truth-in-taxation/index.php>

TIMELINE FOR PROPERTY TAXATION**JULY 2026**

Completion of financial audit for FY 24/25
Prepare the budget for FY 26/27
Truth in Taxation (TNT) Class on the 15th for City Secretary

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

Hold Public Hearing for FY 26/27 Budget (This will be the Council Meeting)
Adopt the Budget for FY 26/27
The Tax Assessor – Collector and City Secretary will do the TNT worksheet for baseline tax rate

NOVEMBER 2026

Submit FY financials 25/26 for audit

JANUARY 2027

Audit Completed—25/26

APRIL 2027

Appraisal District will send out Notice of Appraised Value, including the City of Midway

JUNE 2027

Begin work on budget for FY 27/28

JULY 2027

Tax Assessor/Collector will receive notice of certified values
The Tax Assessor and City Secretary will work on the TNT worksheet for tax rate
Submit preliminary budget for 27/28

AUGUST 2027

Submit final budget for FY 27/28
Hold Public Hearing (This will be the August Council Meeting) for budget FY 27/28
Approve the Budget for FY 27/28 (includes an ordinance)

Here's how to get involved. Fill out the form on the city's website at: CONTACT US

midway.municipalimpact.com.

SEPTEMBER 2027

Tax Rate Public Hearing (This will be the September-Council Meeting)
Approve the Tax Rate for 2027 (includes an ordinance)

OCTOBER 2027

Tax bills will be mailed by the County Tax Assessor to be paid by January 31, 2028

WHY WE CELEBRATE

The 4th of July is almost here. Cue the [fireworks](#), parades, [American flags](#) displayed proudly on front porches, [fun summer activities](#), and, of course, delicious [4th of July recipes](#) (don't forget the [hot dogs](#) and [patriotic desserts](#)). But why do we celebrate the 4th of July?

The 4th of July, also known as Independence Day, is a federal holiday that celebrates America's independence from the British Empire. Over the past nearly 250 years, it has morphed into a more general display of patriotism and pride. However, the anniversary date was not so clear cut in 1776—in fact, one of the Founding Father's predicted July 2nd would be the big day.

July 4th is significant because it is the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress, a governing body comprising delegates from the 13 American colonies. The document officially declared the United States of America's independence from British rule.

The Declaration's adoption came nearly a month after Virginia Delegate Richard Henry Lee proposed the colonies seek independence. The Declaration of Independence we know and love was largely written by Thomas Jefferson. Other members of the Continental Congress suggested edits and approved the famous final copy.



***Did You Know?**

Setting up a dog rescue in Texas typically costs between **\$5,000 and \$50,000** for initial startup. A small, foster-based group may launch with as little as \$5,000 to \$10,000 to cover early veterinary funds and basic supplies like food, bowls, and crates. However, establishing a physical facility or sanctuary can reach **\$500,000 to over \$1,000,000** when including land, specialized enclosures, and onsite medical equipment.

OTHER COST

Administrative and Legal Cost

Operational and Care Cost

Facility Requirements

