

GATEWAY

Webster
TEXAS

Winter 2010
Volume 18, Number 4



From Webster to Mars

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Calendar of Events

December

| | | |
|---------|------------|--|
| 7 | 6 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| 8 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 10 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |
| 14 | 6 p.m. | Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting |
| 15 | 11:30 a.m. | Senior Christmas Luncheon |
| 22 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 24 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |
| 24 & 27 | | City Offices closed for Christmas |
| 31 | | City Offices closed for New Year's Day |

January

| | | |
|----|--------|---|
| 4 | 6 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| 5 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 11 | 6 p.m. | Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting |
| 14 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |
| 17 | | City Offices closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day |
| 18 | 6 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| 19 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 28 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |

February

| | | |
|----|--------|--|
| 1 | 6 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| 2 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 8 | 6 p.m. | Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting |
| 11 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |
| 15 | 6 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| 16 | 6 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed) |
| 25 | 6 p.m. | Senior Game Night |

GATEWAY

COVER – For missions to Mars and beyond, Ad Astra Rocket Company's design for the next generation VASIMR® Rocket is being developed in Webster.

GATEWAY

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ctrailkill@cityofwebster.com
 with questions or comments.
 It is the editorial policy of the City to
 publish community news that impacts
 the constituency of Webster.

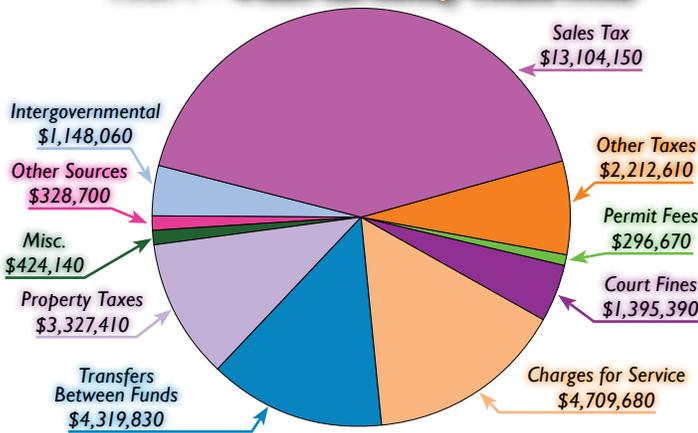
Focus on Finances

Webster City Council Adopts Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Budget

After many months of preparation, City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Budget for the City of Webster on September 21, 2010. While the annual budget estimates the amount of revenue the City will receive during the year and explains how that money will be spent, a budget is much more than a set of numbers. It also provides an overview of City operations, communicates the priorities and issues considered while developing the budget, and describes both the financial and non-financial challenges facing the City.

Resources in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Budget total \$31,266,640, including the activities of the Webster Economic Development Corporation. Revenues are derived from many sources [Chart 1]. Due to the great number of retailers and restaurants located in Webster, the largest share of revenue (almost 42%) comes from local sales taxes. Charges for services, such as the water, wastewater, and drainage utilities, comprise approximately 15% of all revenue sources. Property taxes follow with just over 10% of total revenues.

Chart 1 – Where the Money Comes From

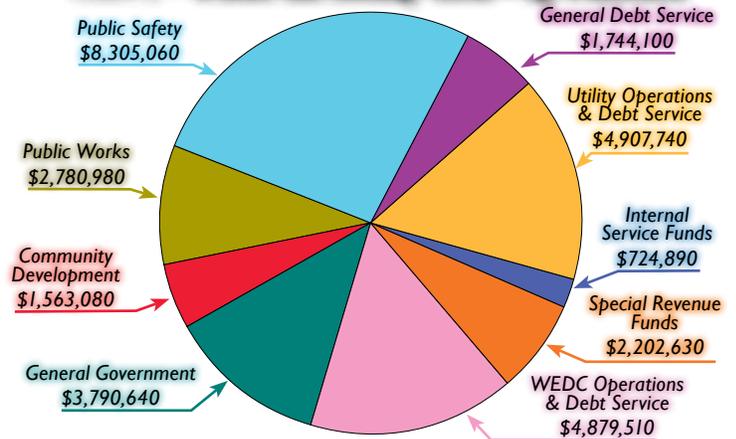


The Annual Budget illustrates how all of that money is being spent. Expenditures total \$30,898,630 in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Budget. This money provides a variety of services to constituents, including police and fire protection, maintenance of parks and facilities, and utility operations. Of the various services provided by the City, almost 27% of the City budget goes towards public safety [Chart 2]. Utility operations account for approximately 16%, and the duties of the Webster Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) make up another 16%. General government administrative activities account for 12%.

Costs are also broken down by component for proper accountability [Chart 3]. Wages, taxes, benefits, and other personnel costs constitute 42% of all City expenditures. Costs for emergency medical services, electricity, information technology, and other services comprise approximately 21%. Slightly over

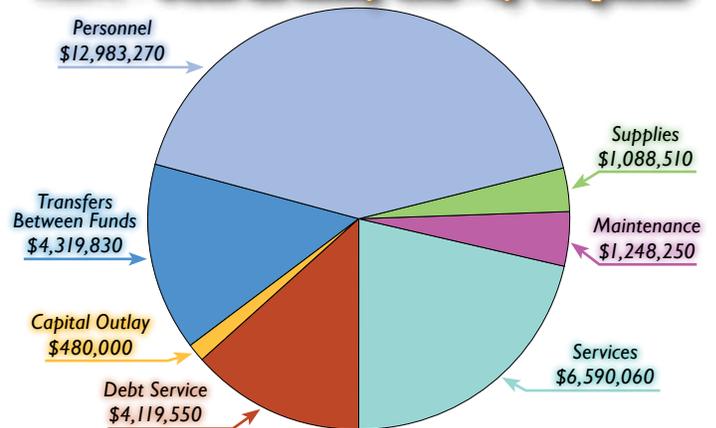
13% applies to debt service on bonds issued by the City.

Chart 2 – Where the Money Goes – By Function



The City strives to deliver its services in a cost-efficient manner. Declining revenues during this economic downturn have led to a reduction of over \$500,000 in operating expenditures for the year. Those cuts take into account the safety of the public, the delivery of services to citizens, and the responsible management of City finances. Each reduction was scrutinized to the fullest degree; none were taken lightly. Still, the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Budget maintains basic programs and service levels for all citizens. For more information about the budget, log onto the City's website at www.cityofwebster.com.

Chart 3 – Where the Money Goes – By Component



This is the first installment of Focus on Finances. Each quarter, a brief article on a specific aspect of the City of Webster's finances will be presented. Its purpose is to inform citizens and provide an inside look at city government.

Is there something you would like to read about in the future? Do you have any financial questions about the City? Call Michael Rodgers, Director of Finance, at 281.316.4102.

From Webster to Mars

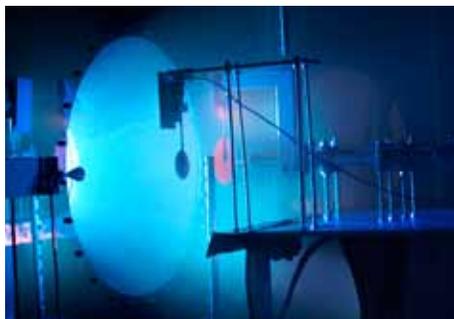
Ad Astra Rocket Company Unleashes Plasma Power

Rocket science that is revolutionizing in-space propulsion with profound implications for space exploration, orbital debris disposal, and new energy applications is transpiring in Webster. For nearly four years, Webster has been home to one of the world's most innovative aerospace firms—Ad Astra Rocket Company. Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz, inventor of the Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket (VASIMR®), founded Ad Astra Rocket Company in 2005, after serving for more than 25 years as a NASA astronaut. Chang Diaz, as a veteran of seven Space Shuttle missions, holds the record for the most spaceflights and credits his years as an astronaut to inspiring his concepts for transforming space transportation and exploration.

Chang Diaz who graduated with a PhD in plasma physics from MIT in 1977, along with a brilliant team of physicists, including Dr. Jared Squire, Dr. Tim Glover, and Dr. Mark Carter, has recently completed a year and a half of arduous testing of Ad Astra's VX-200 (VASIMR® experimental engine) to demonstrate that this prototype is the most efficient

and powerful electric thruster in operation today.

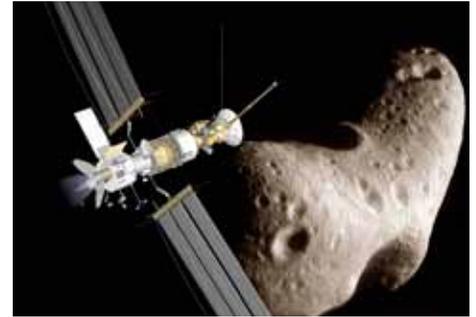
The company, Ad Astra, which is Latin for “to the stars” was founded to develop, test, and commercialize the technology of the VASIMR® engine, a plasma propulsion system that is much more fuel efficient and faster than traditional chemical rockets. Lengthy journeys to the planets and stars require a new technology that relies on the power of plasma accelerated by electric and magnetic fields. Whereas today's chemical rockets utilize extensive amounts of propellant that constitute most of the ship's mass to produce short bursts of thrust, the VASIMR®, with its plasma exhaust, is much hotter, consumes propellant more frugally, and provides constant power throttling or continuous thrust to enable journeys to more distant destinations, quicker flights, and larger payload capacities.



Graphite thrust diagnostics equipment placed in exhaust plume of the VASIMR® VX-200 glows red-hot. The plasma rocket produces continuous thrust, rather than the chemical rocket's short bursts of power.

The VASIMR® propulsion system powered by just 200 megawatts of electrical power could result in a ship's reaching Mars in 39 days, rather than eight months with a chemical rocket, and significantly reduce the crew's exposure to weightlessness and deadly space radiation. Many applications are in store for the VASIMR®, including asteroid missions,

orbital debris disposal, the Catapult, and Project Aurora.



The VASIMR® Asteroid Mission will reveal information about the origins of the solar system, assist in diversion of objects that threaten Earth, and provide a source of precious minerals.

VASIMR® Asteroid Mission

Since asteroids are of significant import to scientists, entrepreneurs, and humanity, the combination of VASIMR®'s high exhaust velocity and fuel efficiency with advanced, lightweight solar arrays, like the Boeing FAST array, will enable ambitious robotic missions to explore near-Earth objects within a few years. As there are several hundred thousand asteroids within the solar system and nearly that number newly discovered every year, exploration of asteroids can reveal the geological formation of the planets, dwarf planets, and small bodies within the Sun's gravitational control, provide an abundant source of precious metals, and assist in formulating methods to divert those threatening Earth.



Ad Astra scientist Max Ballenger examines thermal data during the cryogenic test of the high temperature superconducting magnet.



Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz founded Ad Astra Rocket Company to develop VASIMR®.

Orbital Debris Problem in Low Earth Orbit

Kessler Syndrome: when the number of objects in similar orbits becomes high enough, the risk grows that there will be a cascade of collisions, filling the space enclosing the orbits with small, fast-moving debris. The collision hazard becomes too high to risk placing new satellites in this region, making what was once a very valuable area of space unusable.



In 1978, NASA scientist Donald J. Kessler proposed a scenario whereby collisions between objects in low Earth orbit cause a cascade effect – each explosion spreading debris that increases the likelihood of additional collisions.

VASIMR® Orbital Debris Disposal

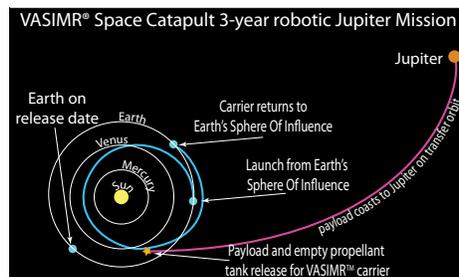
With tens of thousands of space debris objects, ranging in mass from nuts and bolts to large dead reconnaissance satellites weighing as much as ten tons, space debris disposal and reduction is critical. Also, since low polar orbits are invaluable space real estate, in that satellites within this orbit can view the entire Earth daily, the United States and other countries have been periodically launching massive satellites (those weighing ten tons) into polar orbits for decades. However, more than 80% of these satellites no longer function due to attitude-control propellant depletion or instrument failure. With billions of dollars invested annually into building and launching these satellites, highly valuable assets are flying in a region of space where the chance of destructive collision multiplies.

A VASIMR®-propelled vehicle, with a “fuel efficiency” more than ten times that of a chemical rocket and advanced maneuverability to shift to a polar orbit at varying longitudes, can be utilized to move the largest dead satellites to a lower orbit where they can safely burn up in the atmosphere.

Ad Astra’s VASIMR® Orbital Disposal Mission would assist in countering the Kessler Syndrome in which collision of dead satellites results in the proliferation of orbital debris and exponentially increases the probability of destructive impacts.

VASIMR® Catapult

Ad Astra’s Dr. Tim Glover has devised a concept for sending VASIMR® payloads into the outer solar system by using the power of the Sun and the principle of the medieval catapult. Just as catapults could generate tremendous force and hurl large objects over great distances, the VASIMR®, along with its payload, is flown on a path that sweeps closer to the Sun than the Earth, amassing large quantities of power generated from solar arrays, causing the vehicle to produce huge thrust capacity and speed, enabling the payload to be released, and allowing the cargo to coast to an outer solar system destination, like Jupiter. Since the VASIMR® engine and its solar array would not be effective in the outer solar system due to the dim sunlight, after the payload is released, the VASIMR® returns to an orbit around Earth to be utilized for another mission.

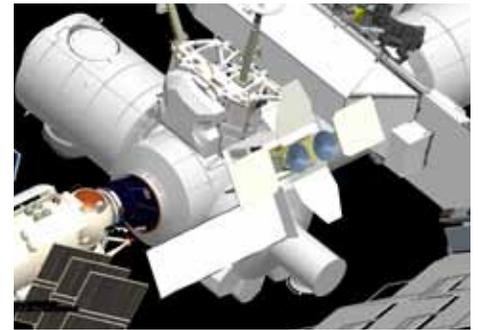


Using the gravitational pull and solar energy from the Sun, VASIMR® could deliver payloads to Jupiter.

The VASIMR® Catapult has the potential to make journeys to destinations that have previously been considered “out of this world” a reality. With this technology, unmanned probes to Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn can be delivered in less time or with more payload mass.

Project Aurora

The Aurora Mission, planned for late 2014, is Ad Astra’s first commercial electric power and propulsion test-bed, designed to operate as part of the International Space Station (ISS).



Project Aurora features the VASIMR® aboard the International Space Station in 2014.

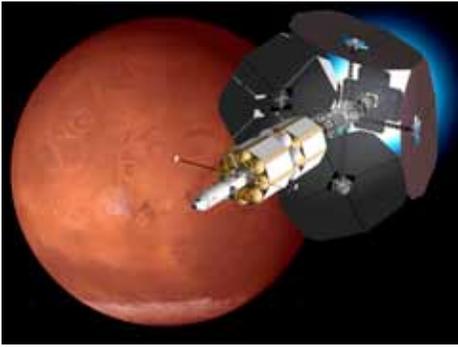
The VASIMR® engine will be delivered to the ISS by a commercial launcher and robotic orbit transfer vehicle and tested in the space environment in support of future commercial human and robotic transportation missions in near Earth and interplanetary space. As part of the December 2008 Space Act Agreement between Ad Astra and NASA, the Aurora Mission is expected to span several years to provide accurate measurements of the VASIMR®, as well as the space environment around the ISS.

“Aurora,” which translates as “sunrise” in Spanish, is fitting for the dawn of new technology in space propulsion with plasma resembling a miniature sun. The plasma rocket, with its high temperature exhaust and fuel efficiency, is designed with two side by side magnetic nozzles—both positive and negative—to ensure magnetic stability on the ISS.

Other key components of Project Aurora include advanced high temperature radiators that remove excess heat from the rocket,



Debra Carter assembles multi-layer insulation components in a high temperature superconducting magnet test fixture.



Gold-colored fuel tanks do double duty – carrying fuel and providing radiation protection to astronauts.

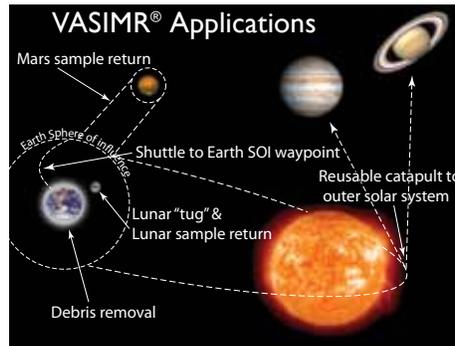
advanced radio frequency generators that produce the electromagnetic waves that create and accelerate the plasma, and the high-temperature superconducting magnet, developed jointly by Ad Astra and Superpower, Inc, which represents the first of its kind in a space application.

Future Missions

For missions to Mars and beyond, Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz' design for next generation VASIMR® rockets relies on the development of lightweight, high-power nuclear energy sources that can generate hundreds of megawatts of electricity in space. At the front of the advanced VASIMR® vehicle, pictured above, is a lander that will take the crew down to Mars' surface. Gold-colored insulated propellant tanks are clustered around a cylindrical habitat for the crew for protection against high-energy radiation within the space environment. Nuclear electric powerplants generate electricity to



Ben Longmier makes final connections for the magnet test fixture inside Ad Astra's small vacuum test chamber before removing practically all of the air inside the chamber to simulate operations in space.



VASIMR® powered vehicles could reach points in the outer solar system using a catapult from the Sun.

run the VASIMR® engines that propel the vehicle while cruciform booms carry heat from the powerplants to large outward-facing radiators, which eject the waste heat to space. Behind the powerplants is the blue glow of the plasma exhaust from the VASIMR® engines.

Potential VASIMR® Applications

Whereas the link between aerospace research and development and many other disciplines—medicine, defense, environmental science, information technology, biotechnology, natural science, and engineering—has always been connected, today the implications are even more profound and visible. Ad Astra's development of a highly efficient helicon plasma source could have significant ramifications for generating energy on Earth, just as the VASIMR®'s reliance on lightweight, efficient superconducting electromagnets for propulsion translates into similar magnetic field geometries for portable oxygen units, MRI equipment, and other medical apparatus, as well as energy, military/defense, and transportation applications.

Ad Astra stands ready to continue its work on the VASIMR®, which requires only a fraction of the propellant mass of chemical rockets for unmanned cargo flights to the Moon, Mars, and outer solar system to enable more sizable and useful payloads to be delivered without



Ben Longmier and Max Ballenger remove the VX-200 from the largest of Ad Astra's vacuum chambers.

building new, larger launch vehicles. Lunar cargo, Mars sample return missions, and robotic probes to Jupiter are viable applications for VASIMR®. Further, the company's testing of VX-200 (VASIMR® experimental engine) in the large vacuum chamber in Webster over the past year and half, the upgrade to a superconducting magnet operation, the improvements to support systems, and the completion of 2,000 firing cycles of the powerful plasma device translate into preparing the VF-200 engine for spaceflight, which is transpiring now. The Aurora Mission enhances the United States' portion of the ISS as a national laboratory.



L to R: Dr. Jared Squire, Dr. Tim Glover, Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz, Dr. Mark Carter, and Greg McCaskill in front of the VASIMR® VX-200 mounted in the large vacuum chamber.

Inside the Medical Center of the South



Arlyn and Dr. Stephen Kimmel, the newly recruited pediatric surgeon, are joining the Medical Center of the South.

Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's Director of Business Development Santiago Mendoza, Jr. and Chief Executive Officer Stephen K. Jones, Jr. worked diligently to recruit Kimmel to its expanding Pediatric Department. Already, the hospital offers a 17-bed unit staffed by board-certified physicians with specialties in pediatric cardiology, pediatric critical care, pediatric emergency medicine, pediatric genetics, pediatric infectious disease, pediatric neurology, pediatric neurosurgery, pediatric ophthalmology, and pediatric pulmonology. Further, the Pediatric Emergency Department that is open 24 hours, touts seven exam rooms, and physicians skilled in treating acutely ill and injured children is unique to the region, as is the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, with its ten beds, dedicated to treat critically ill children from infants to 18 years of age.

Webster's reputation for offering comprehensive, specialized medical care to the youngest patients within a super-regional population will grow exponentially with the addition of a newly recruited pediatric surgeon to Clear Lake Regional Medical Center. When Dr. Stephen G. Kimmel begins practicing at the Pediatric Unit inside Clear Lake Regional Medical Center in mid-January 2011, the hospital will feature the only pediatric surgeon south of Houston's medical center.

The Pediatric Unit at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center is growing to accommodate a larger service area population who relies on the quality



Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's CEO Stephen Jones, Webster Economic Development Corporation's President Donna Rogers, and Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's Director of Business Development Santiago Mendoza welcome Dr. Stephen Kimmel.

of care, the convenience, and the specialized treatment that Webster's medical center provides. Upon Kimmel's arrival on January 17, 2011, pediatric surgery will be added to the nine existing pediatric specialties at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Stephen Kimmel, Board Certified in Pediatric Surgery, was honored as one of the *Best Doctors in America* for 2009-2010. He comes from Pensacola, Florida, where he was Chief of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery at Nemours Children's Clinic.

Gateway to the Gulf



Council Members and Webster Economic Development Corporation Board Members celebrate the uncorking of the cofferdam at Edgewater's Marina. L to R: Council Members Natalie Dolan and Donna Rogers, Edgewater Developer Bob Douglas, Mayor Floyd Myers, Mayor Pro Tem Beverly Gaines, WEDC Members Carlos Villagomez and Kathy Pritchard.

In late September, over 17 million gallons of water were released from the cofferdam at Edgewater to make way for the development's marina, which will serve as a gateway to the Gulf and accommodate powerboats up to 50 feet. Edgewater, a 574 acre mixed-use, award-winning master-planned community, is already home to the upscale Villas—a multi-family development with over 400 units and single-family residences by Newmark and Coventry Homes.

Upon buildout, the community is projected to accommodate more than 2,600 residents, feature over 375,000 square feet of retail development, and offer 31 acres of public park land. With its ideal location inside the central business district of Clear Lake—perfectly positioned on NASA Parkway between Highway 3 and El Camino Real/FM 270, Edgewater is in the center of all the action.

Winter Freezes

Webster is spared blizzard conditions, but occasionally temperatures will drop below freezing. In fact, in 1989, area temperatures were below freezing for more than 48 hours.

Winterize before Winter

In preparation for colder temperatures, some helpful tips for the colder season are provided.

- Insulate pipes with foam insulation designed for this purpose. It's quick, inexpensive, and effective. A few minutes spent before winter sets in could prevent the horrors of a broken water pipe on a cold night.

- Have furnaces inspected and serviced by qualified personnel. Many house fires occur each year because of faulty heaters.

- Have a fire extinguisher and ensure that family members know how to use the device.

- Seal windows and doors with weather stripping and caulk.

- Trim weak or damaged tree limbs. Freezing rain and sleet are major winter threats. Ice can build until the temperature warms or limbs break from the weight.

- Postpone travel during icy conditions as ice creates walking and driving hazards.

- Double check emergency supplies and preparations when a winter storm watch is issued, as a storm is expected within 24-48 hours.

Remember the 4 P's

People, Pets, Pipes, and Plants

- Stay sheltered when possible; wear layers when it's not – shed or add clothing, as needed, to remain comfortable.

- Bring pets inside, or provide a shelter to escape the cold weather.

- Check that pipe insulation is in-place and secure.

- Bring plants inside or cover during the periods that drop near or below freezing.

The Clone Wars

Looking for a special gift for a Star Wars fan?

Space Center Houston, Webster's tourism partner, recently concluded its phenomenal *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* exhibit, and the banners promoting this historic event are available for sale. The Clone Wars double-sided banners, which were displayed on NASA Parkway to welcome visitors to Webster and the region's top tourist attraction, feature the ten most prominent characters from Lucasfilms' latest science fiction epic – *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*.

Priced at only \$50 each, these limited edition banners, which measure 30" by 60," are available only through the City of Webster and make a unique gift for the Star Wars collector. Contact Linda Purswell at 281.332.1826 to purchase your favorite character now!



Yoda



Asajj Ventress



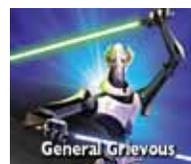
Commander Rex



Boba Fett



Obi-Wan Kenobi



General Grievous



Mace Windu



Aurra Sing



Anakin Skywalker



Count Dooku

Fitness for a Cause



Ready, Set, Go! Contestants line-up for start of the Inaugural City of Webster Employee Fun Run.

In an effort to promote fitness and assist a local charitable organization, the municipality's human resources department, along with a city-wide committee, organized an inaugural 5K (3.1 miles) fun run for employees, which transpired on October 22.

While the participants in the "5K Walk, Run, or Crawl" event donated



Travis Tanner leads the pack as Top Male Runner

200 pounds of canned goods and \$112 to Bay Area Turning Point (an agency dedicated to providing assistance to abused women and children),

the top runners were Travis Tanner and Betsy Giusto.

City Planner Travis Tanner, age 29, who competed in track at the University of Texas-Austin in 1999, demonstrated that he still has the "right stuff." Economic Development

Director Dr.

Betsy Giusto,

age 56, incorporates a weekly

regimen of seven miles a week

and tennis in

her schedule to

stay fit.

The City plans to continue

encouraging fitness and charitable

endeavors by expanding this

worthwhile event next year.



Dr. Betsy Giusto takes honors as Top Female Runner

General Officers' Election and Special Election for Charter Amendments

The City of Webster, Texas will hold a General Election for City Officers on May 14, 2011. At this time, Mayor and Council Position No. 6. will be on the May ballot. Current office holders respectively are Floyd H. Myers and Donna Rogers. Election packets for interested candidates will be available in the office of the City Secretary in February.

A Charter Review Commission was appointed by City Council in July, 2010. The nine member commission met beginning in September, 2010 to review the charter. Eight public meetings were scheduled. At the October 28 meeting, the Commission requested input from Webster residents. The Commission's task was to review and report their recommendations, if any, to City Council in January. Should the commission recommend any changes, a special election will be scheduled for May 14, 2011 for voters to consider any amendments to the City of Webster Charter.

Important dates are as follows

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Feb. 12 First day to file an application for a place on the ballot. (Cannot file until the Election is called by Council.) | Mar. 21 Last day for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy, 5 p.m. | May 2 First day of early voting by personal appearance. |
| Mar. 14 Last day to file for a place on the ballot for the General Election, 5 p.m. | Mar. 22 Deadline for candidate to withdraw from an election, 5 p.m. | May 6 Last day to receive an application by mail for a ballot to be voted by mail. |
| Mar. 15 First day to apply for a mail ballot. | Apr. 14 Last day to submit voter registration application for May Election | May 10 Last day of early voting by personal appearance. |
| Mar. 15 Drawing for order of names on ballot 4 p.m. | Apr. 29 Last day to request an application for mail ballot in person. | May 14 ELECTION DAY 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. |
| | | May 17 Canvass of Election at a Council Meeting. (Date may change.) |

The Early Voting polling place will be in City Hall, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, in the City Secretary's office. Voting on Election Day will be in the City Hall Lobby, 101 Pennsylvania. A voting device to assist disabled voters will be available during early voting and on Election Day.

For information or questions regarding the City Election process, please contact the City Secretary's office, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, 281-332-1826.

Elección General de Oficiales de la Ciudad de Webster de 2011 y Elección Especial para Enmiendas a la Carta Constitucional

La Ciudad de Webster, Texas, celebrará una Elección General para Oficiales de la Ciudad el 14 de mayo de 2011. A este tiempo, las posiciones para Alcalde y para Concejal Núm. 6 aparecerán en la boleta de mayo. Los oficiales que actualmente ocupan las posiciones son respectivamente Floyd H. Myers y Donna Rogers. Los documentos de elección para candidatos interesados estarán disponibles en la oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad en febrero.

En julio de 2010, el Consejo de la Ciudad designó una Comisión para Revisar la Carta Constitucional. La Comisión compuesta de nueve miembros se comenzó a reunir a partir de septiembre de 2010 para repasar la Carta. Ocho juntas (reuniones) públicas fueron programadas. En la junta (reunión) del 28 de octubre, la Comisión pidió la interacción de los residentes de Webster. La tarea de la Comisión era de repasar y reportar sus recomendaciones, si alguna, al Consejo de la Ciudad en enero. Si la Comisión recomienda cualquier cambio, se planificará una elección especial el 14 de mayo de 2011 para los votantes considerar cualquier enmienda a la Carta Constitucional de la Ciudad de Webster.

Las fechas importantes son las siguientes

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| feb. 12 Primer día para someter una solicitud para una posición en la boleta. (No se puede someter la solicitud para una posición en la boleta hasta que la Elección haya sido ordenada por el Consejo.) | en que los nombres aparecerán en la boleta, 4 p.m. | por correo. |
| mar. 14 Último día para someter una solicitud para una posición en la boleta para la Elección General, 5 p.m. | mar. 21 Último día para que un candidato por inserción escrita declare su candidatura, 5 p.m. | mayo 2 Primer día para la votación temprana (anticipada) en persona. |
| mar. 15 Primer día para solicitar una boleta por correo. | mar. 22 Fecha plazo para que un candidato retire su candidatura de la elección, 5 p.m. | mayo 6 Último día para recibir por correo una solicitud para votar por correo. |
| mar. 15 Sorteo para determinar el orden | abr. 14 Último día para someter una solicitud para registro de votación para la Elección en mayo. | mayo 10 Último día para una votación temprana (anticipada) en persona. |
| | abr. 29 Último día para solicitar personalmente una aplicación para votar | mayo 14 DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. |
| | | mayo 17 Escrutinio de la Elección en una reunión del Consejo de la Ciudad. (La fecha podrá cambiar.) |

El Lugar de la Votación Adelantada será en la Alcaldía, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, en la oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad. La votación el Día de la Elección será en el Vestíbulo de la Alcaldía, 101 Pennsylvania. Habrá un aparato especial de votación para asistir a votantes impedidos durante la Votación Adelantada y en el Día de la Elección.

Para información o preguntas relacionadas con el proceso Electoral de la Ciudad, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, 281-332-1826.

Face Behind the City



Deputy Building Official, Erich Pen, watches the City grow with each construction project.

Erich Pen, Deputy Building Official for the City of Webster, is one of the municipality's top record-holders for certifications in that his position requires comprehensive, continuous knowledge about so many areas. Too, Pen's commitment to excellence drives him to be well-informed. Not only is Pen certified in Electrical, Building and Mechanical, Code Enforcement, and Flood Plain Management but also he is licensed by the State of Texas as a Master Electrician.

As Deputy Building Official, Pen is involved in every building project.

From the initial plan submittal to the final inspection, Pen ensures that electrical and mechanical construction and procedures are in compliance with local, state, and international building codes and City ordinances.

Pen's history with the City of Webster began in 1994 as an Electrical Inspector. He had immigrated to the United States from the Czech Republic and became a US citizen in 1985. Pen's experience and aptitude with the electrical industry provided the City with an excellent asset. Pen credits the City's exceptional workforce development program with enabling him to acquire training and certification in Building and Mechanical, which led to his becoming Combination Inspector in 1999. In 2002, Pen progressed to Deputy Building Official.

Pen and his wife of 23 years, Ann, have three daughters. Pen's hobbies include traveling nationally and internationally, as well as studying archeology and space exploration.

Roan Certified



Crystal Roan (left) is presented her certificate by City Secretary Pauline Small.

Crystal Roan, Deputy City Secretary, recently completed requirements for certification in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program – the only university-level professional education program for city clerks and city secretaries in Texas.

Roan completed the required 200 hours of individual study, examinations, and attendance at eight two-day seminars in the minimum three-year period and was recognized for her achievement at the November 16 Council Meeting.

Yards of the Month

Residential – September



Gary D. Jones
18222 Anne Drive

Residential – October



Nick Marcuccio
327 Linda Lane

Residential – November



Asher Gage
18203 Kings Row

Commercial – September



Dimassi's Mediterranean Buffet
1039 W Bay Area Boulevard

Commercial – October



SpringHill Suites
1101 Magnolia Avenue

Commercial – November



The Towers (North)
18707 Egret Bay Boulevard

Public Meeting Notes

August 3, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Held an Executive Session regarding consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending litigation.
- There was no action on the Executive Session.
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 66 (Signs), Article I, Section 66-1 (Definitions). (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 20, 2010. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Excused the absence of Councilmember Steve Waltz. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)

August 17, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Recognized Sergeant Mark Rawls for receiving his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Degree.
- The U.S. Census Bureau presented a plaque recognizing the City of Webster as a partner in the 2010 Census Count.
- Presented a proclamation to the Clear Creek Independent School District recognizing September as Exemplary Month.
- Approved the second reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 66 (Signs), Article I, Section 66-1 (Definitions). (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute a minor Addendum to the Amended Edgewater Utility Services Contract regarding the timing of Clear Creek Park improvements. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Clear Creek Independent School District regarding the SPARK Park Project at McWhirter Elementary School. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Reappointed Floyd H. Myers, Carlos Villagomez, and Ed Lapeyre to the Webster Economic Development Corporation for regular two-year term expiring August 31, 2012. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Scheduled a Public Hearing on the City of Webster Proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 27, 2010 and the Regular Meeting of August 3, 2010. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan)
- Excused the absence of Councilmember Donna Rogers. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan. Abstain: Waltz)

September 7, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Presented a proclamation to the Alzheimer's Association.
- Held a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Proposed Annual Budget for the City of Webster, Texas.
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance adopting and establishing charges for the provision of utility services. (Unanimous)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an engagement letter with Andrews Kurth, LLP, to serve as Bond Counsel with respect to certificates of obligation, bonds, and other debt obligations that the

City of Webster may issue in the future. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Myers)

- Directed Staff to bring back recommendations on the proposed amendment to the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Annual Budget (Budget Amendment No. 1). (Unanimous)
- Held an Executive Session regarding the City Secretary's annual performance evaluation with the City of Webster.
- Held an Executive Session regarding the City Manager's annual performance evaluation with the City of Webster.
- Reappointed Municipal Court Judge, Glenn M. Chaney, and Alternate Judges David Salinsky and James Waltz and authorized the Mayor to execute related two-year contracts. (For: Myers, Ellis, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Gaines)
- Approved a rating of strong performer with any other action postponed regarding the City Secretary's annual performance evaluation with the City of Webster. (Unanimous)
- Approved a rating of strong performer with any other action postponed regarding the City Manager's annual performance evaluation with the City of Webster. (Unanimous)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2010. (Unanimous)

September 21, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Approved the second reading of an ordinance adopting and establishing charges for the provision of utility services. (Unanimous)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an agreement with Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau (BAHCVB) for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. (Unanimous)
- Approved the first and only reading adopting Amendment No. 1 to the Budget of the City of Webster, Texas for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. (Unanimous)
- Proposed an ad valorem tax rate of \$0.25750/\$100 for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 (2010 Tax Year). (Unanimous)
- Ratified the increase in total property tax revenue as reported in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Budget for the City of Webster, Texas. (Unanimous)
- Approved the first and only reading of an ordinance adopting Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget for the City of Webster, Texas. (Unanimous)
- Approved a resolution approving and adopting an Investment Policy and authorizing the Investment Officers to engage in certain financial transactions on behalf of the City of Webster, effective October 1, 2010. (Unanimous)
- Approved the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Texas Traffic Safety Program Grant Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation. (Unanimous)
- Approved a resolution designating Floyd H. Myers as Representative and Beverly Gaines as the Alternate to the Houston-Galveston Area Council 2011 General Assembly. (Unanimous)
- Held an Executive Session regarding consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending litigation.
- There was no action on the Executive Session.
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 7, 2010. (Unanimous)

October 5, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Held a public hearing on a proposed ordinance finding that the existing electric distribution rates of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, are unreasonable and ordering CenterPoint to reduce its existing rates within the City of Webster, Texas.
- Held a public hearing regarding Academy Sports & Outdoors Webster Replat No. 1 (Short Form Final Plat)
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance finding that the existing electric distribution rates of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, are unreasonable and ordering CenterPoint to reduce its existing rates within the City of Webster, Texas. (Unanimous)
- Awarded a bid for Mowing Contract from the bids opened on September 16, 2010 to Groundstar, Inc. for an annual cost of \$49,945 and the alternate of \$85 per hour for extra work. (Unanimous)
- Waived the pet registration fees during the Annual Pet Health Safety Day with dates to be set by Staff in the month of January of each year. (Unanimous)
- Approved the Academy Sports & Outdoors Webster Replat No. 1 (Short Form Final Plat). (Unanimous)
- Approved the Revised Planned Development No. 3 (Edgewater) Intent Statement and General Plan. (Unanimous)
- Approved the Edgewater Planned Area No. 7 Development Guidelines Revision No. 2. (Unanimous)
- Approved an ordinance fixing the tax rate at \$0.25750 and tax levy for the City of Webster, for the tax year 2010 upon all taxable property in said City; providing for a lien on all real and personal property to secure the payment of taxes due thereon. (Unanimous)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2010. (Unanimous)

October 19, 2010 – City Council Meeting

- Presented a proclamation to the Coalition Manager for Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families, in recognition of Red Ribbon Week and Drug-Free Work Week.
- Approved the second reading of an ordinance finding that the existing electric distribution rates of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, are unreasonable and ordering CenterPoint to reduce its existing rates within the City of Webster, Texas. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an agreement for the City of Webster, Texas to reimburse Moondance, Inc., for a portion of the cost of constructing a sanitary sewer line identified in the City's Impact Fee Study not to exceed \$99,413. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an inter-local agreement with Harris County to help cover costs for engineering, construction, materials and related support services for Harris County's proposed El Camino Real Improvement Project. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2010. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan)
- Excused the absences of Mel Donehue and Donna Rogers. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Dolan. Abstain: Waltz)

City Officials

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Mayor: Floyd Myers..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 1: Melvin Ellis..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 2: Beverly Gaines..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 3: Mel Donehue..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 4: Steve Waltz..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 5: Natalie Dolan..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Council Position No. 6: Donna Rogers..... | 281.332.1826 |

City Offices – 101 Pennsylvania Ave.

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|--|--------------|
| EMERGENCY Ambulance-Fire-Police..... | 9-1-1 |
| City Hall Main Switchboard..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Building Permits..... | 281.338.2925 |
| Chief Building Official..... | 281.316.4138 |
| City Manager..... | 281.332.1826 |
| City Secretary..... | 281.332.1826 |
| City Planner..... | 281.316.4122 |
| Code Enforcement..... | 281.316.4106 |
| Community Development Director..... | 281.316.4129 |
| Economic Development Director..... | 281.316.4116 |
| Economic Development Specialist..... | 281.316.4135 |
| Emergency Management..... | 281.316.3712 |
| Environmental Health Inspector..... | 281.316.4113 |
| Finance Director..... | 281.316.4102 |
| Fire Department (Non-Emergency)..... | 281.332.2711 |
| Fire Station #1 – 17100 Texas Avenue..... | 281.332.2711 |
| Fire Station #2 & Fire Marshal 18208 Egret Bay Blvd..... | 281.332.2711 |
| Human Resources (Personnel)..... | 281.332.1826 |
| Marketing & Tourism..... | 281.316.4121 |
| Municipal Court..... | 281.338.6702 |
| Police Department (Non-Emergency) 217 Pennsylvania Ave..... | 281.332.2426 |
| Public Works Service Center..... | 281.316.3700 |
| Webmaster..... | 281.316.4121 |

City Services

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|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Animal Control..... | 281.316.3700 |
| City Trash Hauling..... | 281.316.3700 |
| Civic Center Rental..... | 281.316.4114 |
| Republic Services (residential)..... | 281.446.2030 |
| Republic Services (commercial)..... | 713.849.0400 |
| Tickets - To Pay By Credit Card..... | 281.338.6702 |
| Utility Billing..... | 281.316.4120 |
| Water/Sewer Line Breaks..... | 281.316.3700 |

Telephone & Utility Services

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| AT&T..... | 800.464.7928 |
| CenterPoint Energy..... | 281.534.4569 |
| Comcast..... | 800.776.9993 |
| Reliant Energy..... | 713.207.7777 |
| Verizon..... | 800.483.4000 |

Government Services

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Clear Lake City Water Authority..... | 281.488.1164 |
| Clear Lake Courthouse Annex..... | 281.486.7250 |
| Harris County Tax Office..... | 713.224.1919 |
| Harris County Public Health..... | 713.439.6000 |
| Poison Control (UTMB)..... | 800.222.1222 |
| Texas Dept. of Public Safety (Drivers License)..... | 281.486.8242 |
| U.S. Post Office, 17077 Texas Avenue..... | 281.316.0379 |

Community Services

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|--|--------------|
| Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau..... | 281.474.9700 |
| Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership..... | 832.536.3255 |
| Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership..... | 832.771.0773 |
| Bay Area Turning Point Hotline..... | 281.286.2525 |
| Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce..... | 281.488.7676 |
| Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library..... | 281.488.1906 |
| Innovative Alternatives..... | 832.864.6000 |
| Interfaith Caring Ministries..... | 281.332.3881 |

City Council



Melvin Ellis
Council Position 1



Beverly Gaines
Council Position 2



Mel Donehue
Council Position 3



Floyd H. Myers
Mayor



Steve Waltz
Council Position 4



Natalie Dolan
Council Position 5



Donna Rogers
Council Position 6