

A photograph of an autumn scene. In the foreground, a thick layer of fallen brown and orange leaves covers the ground. To the left, the dark, textured trunk of a tree is visible. Several leaves are captured in mid-air, falling from the top of the frame. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with warm, golden-yellow and light green tones, suggesting a sunlit park or field.

# TOWN HALL MEETING

JOHN WILKERSON, ALDERMAN PLACE 3

The background of the slide is a Texas state flag waving against a dark blue sky. The flag features a blue canton with a white five-pointed star, a white horizontal stripe, and a red horizontal stripe.

# A LITTLE ABOUT ME

- Texas Resident all my life
- Small town raised
- Profession- Law Enforcement
- Family- wife and 5 kiddos



# WHY I RAN FOR OFFICE

- I saw some things I thought I could help with:
- Experience in seeing where smaller communities fail to make the correct decision regarding Police
- Problems I have seen with Governments and what their role is

MY VIEW ON  
GOVERNMENT IS  
GROUNDED BY  
THE  
CONSTITUTION  
OF THE UNITED  
STATES



We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

(Thomas Jefferson)

[izquotes.com](http://izquotes.com)



# BUDGET INFORMATION

- The City derives its income from very few sources:
  - Ad valorem taxes (these are the taxes from your home and property)- Several factors affect this.
  - Sales tax
  - Franchise fees
  - Special Sales taxes (passed by the voters and must be used on very specific issues)
  - Grants
  - Fines from the Courts (nowhere near what people think they are)

# WHERE THE CITY SPENDS YOUR TAX DOLLARS

## ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u>
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Salaries	52,550	30,354.57	51,623
Advertising	250	552.60	600
Website Fees	1,075	675.00	600
Bank Charges	50	0.00	50
Election Expense	4,200	3,163.08	3,360
Freight & Postage	130	141.60	150
Insurance	1,500	1,097.92	2,150
Professional Fees	19,065	19,047.34	16,150
Outside Services	0	0.00	0
Misc. Exp.	400	885.07	400
Membership Fees	850	1,052.00	450
TML			565
Office Supplies	730	553.72	600
Office Equipment	1,200	144.42	700
Lease Maintenance Contract- Copier	625	348.00	500
Janitorial Expense	1,083	812.15	1,105
Janitorial Supplies	90	32.73	50
Repairs and Maintenance	3,000	2,390.06	7,950
Mapping	0	0.00	0
Payroll Taxes	3,414	2,588.33	3,950
Unemployment Taxes	383	137.48	320
Travel & Training	500	562.03	1,725
Travel Monthly Reimbursement	550	629.51	750
Kempner Vol. Fire Dept.- Fire School	2,200	0.00	2,200
Telecommunications	1,200	772.59	946
Utilities	1,833	1,041.04	1,750
	<u>\$ 96,878</u>	<u>66,981.24</u>	<u>\$ 98,644</u>

# WHERE THE CITY SPENDS YOUR TAX DOLLARS

## POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
Salaries	44,200	31,404.32	44,907
Salaries- Officers	29,006	15,848.64	28,838
Advertising	100	0.00	0
Bank Charges	0	10.00	0
Freight & Postage	180	8.40	50
Ins.-W.Comp, Law Enf. Liab.	6,400	4,678.85	6,450
License & Certification Fees	250	88.50	250
Police Equipment	-	0.00	0
Misc. Expense	100	0.00	100
Membership Fees	350	461.00	463
Office Supplies	400	226.87	250
Police Equipment	3,013	2,934.58	2,190
Uniforms	1,200	727.00	900
Lease Maintenance Contract	62	40.80	62
Janitorial Expense	1,083	812.14	1,105
Janitorial Supplies	80	32.73	50
Vehicle Maintenance	4,246	666.51	2,500
Repairs & Maintenance	0	39.45	40
Vehicle Oil & Gas	7,000	2,691.07	4,500
Operating Supplies - Police Dept.	300	0.00	150
National Night out	100	0.00	100
Payroll Taxes	3,000	3,158.81	5,642
Unemployment Taxes	600	57.80	500
State Funded Training	650	784.78	900
Travel & Training	1,200	126.24	600
Telecommunications	2,515	1,408.66	1,500
Utilities	1,600	962.87	1,800
Note Payable Principal	15,387	15,811.41	6,680
Note Payable Interest	1,672	1,245.88	1,015
Capital Outlay	0	0.00	0.00
	<u>\$ 124,694</u>	<u>84,227.31</u>	<u>\$ 111,542</u>

# WHERE THE CITY SPENDS YOUR TAX DOLLARS

## MUNICIPAL COURT BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u> <u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
Freight & Postage	200	217.25	300
Advertising	0	0	0
Insurance	1,225	548.37	904
Professional Fees	6,500	4,928.70	4,000
Outside Services-Omnibase	550	132.00	200
Miscellaneous Expense	150	28.88	50
Jury Duty Compensation	72	0	72
Membership Fees	550	0	150
Office Supplies	300	244.67	300
Office Equipment	0	0	0
Lease Maintenance Contract	525	291.20	440
Technology Fund	2,000	1,954.68	2,000
Janitorial Expense	1,083	812.10	1,105
Janitorial Supplies	75	32.73	50
Travel & Training	1,450	814.94	1,200
Telecommunications	1,230	772.59	1,000
Utilities	1,700	962.88	1,700
Building Security Fund	400	1,020.85	2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 18,010</b>	<b>\$12,761.84</b>	<b>\$ 15,471</b>

# WHERE THE CITY SPENDS YOUR TAX DOLLARS

## PARKS DEPARTMENT BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u> <u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
Insurance	558	616.61	941
Miscellaneous Expense	100	0.00	50
Memorial Stones - Labor	0	150.00	200
Maintenance Supplies	1,040	503.22	1,040
Office Equipment	300	133.29	300
Repairs & Scheduled Maintenance	7,800	5,224.89	7,600
Utilities	1,430	855.04	1,400
Park Improvements (less than 5,000)	600	1,589.25	1,407
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,828</b>	<b>9,072.30</b>	<b>\$ 12,938</b>

WHERE THE  
CITY SPENDS  
YOUR TAX  
DOLLARS

STREETS DEPARTMENT  
BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u> <u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Interest Income	58	128.59	150
Sales Tax - Street Maintenance	22,000	15,767.10	21,500
Beginning Fund Balance	0	0.00	0
Transfer from Gen Fund	0	0.00	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 22,058</u></b>	<b><u>15,895.69</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 21,650</u></b>
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Miscellaneous Expense	558	0.00	500
Professional (Engineering)	0	0.00	1,000
Repairs & Maintenance (streets)	21,500	840.00	19,650
Street Lights	0	0.00	0
Sign Installation	0	106.25	500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 22,058</u></b>	<b><u>946.25</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 21,650</u></b>

WHERE THE  
CITY SPENDS  
YOUR TAX  
DOLLARS

DEBT SERVICE FUND  
BUDGET - FY 2019/2020

	<u>FY 2018/2019</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD AS OF</u> <u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Property Tax Receipts	38,830	37,819.61	38,000
Interest Income	53	47.91	37
Other Revenue - Debt Service	0	0.00	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 38,883</b>	<b>37,867.52</b>	<b>\$ 38,037</b>
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Bank Charges	0	0.00	0
Note Payable Principal	30,000	0.00	30,000
Note Payable Interest	8,883	4,436.80	8,037
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 38,883</b>	<b>4,436.80</b>	<b>\$ 38,037</b>



## SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY TAXES AND WHAT TO EXPECT

- SB2 was passed this year, but what does this mean?
  
- Last years Taxes
- The 2018-2019 tax rate was .235290
- Based on a home valued at 150k
- $150k / 100 = 1500$
- $1500 \times \text{Tax Rate} = 352.93$

# SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY TAXES AND WHAT TO EXPECT

- For Kempner, your taxes will be 0.244900 per \$100.00 of taxable property

Example: Property valued at 150,000.00

Total taxable property: \$150k

Divided by 100: 1500

Multiplied by the tax rate: \$367.35

Difference from last year 367.35 – 352.94: \$14.42

This year, based on a home valued at 150k, you will pay in \$14.42 more in taxes this YEAR



## HOW DOES KEMPNER STACK UP TO OTHER CLOSE CITIES?

- Copperas Cove: 0.797908      225% more than Kempner
- Lampasas            .395218      61.37% More than Kempner
- Lometa              .362228      47.9% more than Kempner
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# CURRENT ISSUES WITH THE CITY

- Recent Events:
  - Why did so many people resign?
    - Look at the what has transpired on social media regarding the Mayor and form your opinion
  - The mayor has made allegations regarding former staff leaving city hall with checks, writing their own checks etc
    - I have been presented no evidence that this happened
  - The Mayor has made allegations that someone has deleted video at city hall, did that happen?
    - I have been presented no evidence that this happened.
  - The Mayor has made comments the FBI was called to investigate city employees and Council members, is there truth to this?
    - If I had just \$5 for everyone, I have held accountable for their actions that threatened to call the FBI/ Texas Rangers etc, I could retire.
  - Anytime a community leader is faced with issues like this, they have two paths they can take:
    - Accept he/she made some very major mistakes in their leadership style and strive to make improvements
    - Try to place the blame EVERYWHERE ELSE in an effort to either justify their actions or divert the attention somewhere else.



## CURRENT ISSUES WITH THE CITY

- I do not know who repaired city hall
- I do not know which exact companies were used for what
- I do not know if an independent inspector was brought in to evaluate the work
- I did not know the status of City Hall repairs until everyone else did, when they saw it on Social Media
- I no longer have direct communication with someone at city hall that I can get solid and reliable information from
- I have to wait for a council meeting, ask for the information, receive the derogatory responses from the Mayor
  - Case in point- with the Judge, I asked about where we would get the money to pay for the new judge. The Mayor said it was in the Budget. Mayor Pro Tem Richardson attempted to get some clarification and everyone saw how the Mayor interrupted him, then accused Mayor Pro Tem of interrupting the Mayor. All of this was simply because we (the Alderman) are asking the questions that need to be asked.



# GENERAL QUESTIONS I HAVE BEEN PRESENTED WITH

- How do we run a recall election to have the Mayor removed:
  - Recall elections are for Home Rule Cities and certain Type A general law municipalities along the Texas/Mexico border
  - Judicial Removal is an option
- Why did you “let” the Mayor kick you out of a meeting
  - First and foremost, I am not going to subject our police to more politics
  - Secondly, until the Council Adopts rules that prohibit this, the Mayor can do it
  - This is the reason why he can grandstand, make wild accusations, etc and DENY your elected official from saying anything



# WHY HASN'T THE CITY ADOPTED ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

- The first thing to remember is Roberts Rules of Order is:
  - Designed for general assembly
  - Allows for certain actions to be taken that are illegal for a City to do (i.e taking action during executive session)
  - Is currently on the Eleventh edition consisting of over 800 pages
  - Contains a great philosophy that we should use to form the rules of the Council.
    - Ensuring the voice of the Minority is heard, but the will of the Majority is carried forward.



## MOVING FORWARD

- I have faith the majority of the council has seen enough of the Mayor to form their own opinions on his integrity, fairness, and ability to lead the City into the future.
- I will be moving forward with the following objectives:
- Introduce resolutions that will
  - prevent the Mayor from ordering the removal of any elected official
  - Require the Mayor Pro Tem to have a key to City Council Chambers
  - Require the City Council to approve any expenditure over \$500
  - Ensure the Mayor alone cannot kick out a citizen
  - Allow for established rules that stops anyone chairing a meeting from doing so with tyranny, now and in the future.
  - Break down the “Rules and Procedures” into more “bite size” pieces with a focus on the important issues first.



# MOVING FORWARD CONTINUED

- Remember, I am but one vote.
- I have requested items to be the agenda and they were denied by the Mayor
  - For example, I recently asked the Mayor to put three items on the agenda
    - An ordinance to be discussed by the council to stop him from throwing anyone out without council approval
    - For the Council to decide whether the Mayor Pro Tem should be given a Key to City Council chambers
    - For the council to order the city attorney to write a demand letter to whoever has control over the website and have them take it down

# RESPONSE I GOT BACK FROM THE MAYOR (COPIED AND PASTED)

- Councilman Wilkerson,

- 

At this junction all requests to add to the agenda are denied. There are more important matters at hand. One, being the budget and tax rate. I am sure this is currently at the forefront of your agenda and time is of the essence, especially understanding how much you love the city and want to lock arms and move the city forward. The items you are requesting to be added can and will be postponed until the following council meeting after September 24, 2019. Your vantage point concerning your desired resolution is just that, yours. At no time will any council member or citizen disrupt any council meeting. What you may view as your constituent inciting crowds and showing you support by displaying no restraint to loudly interject without being recognized during a discussion, is seen as an outburst and a disruption. All citizens and council members will maintain order and discipline during the council meetings at all times. As a council member, your inability to show no restraint due to your disdained behavior towards the Mayor, will also cause you to continually be removed unless you yourself can conduct yourself as you should as an alderman. The words you speak do not line up with the actions you display. No council member has a key to the council chambers. If at any time a council member desires to review resolutions or ordinances in the chambers, they are allowed to do so, as you have done in the past. If you deem it necessary to disregard the guidance in this correspondence councilman Wilkerson, then by all means pursue your agenda.

- v/r
- Dr. Keith L. Harvey
- Mayor, Kempner, Texas



# FINAL THOUGHTS

- We will get past this, but what will it take?
- You must make a few evaluations:



## DOES THE MAYOR

- Represent the City well?
- Work with the Council or attempt to dictate?
- Present actual transparency or puts out questionable information in response to self preservation?
- Allow all the Council members to speak on / ask questions on issues affecting the city?
- Respond to those questions with the compassion and understanding you would expect a Mayor to?
- Allow each and every Alderman the opportunity to speak on issues fairly, or do those who agree with him get to speak more often?
- Hold everyone accountable to his “standards”, meaning does he kick everyone out that speaks “out of turn” or “goes off script” or just those who may have a different opinion of him?



## BASED OFF THE PREVIOUS, DO THE ELECTED ALDERMAN:

- Recognize the same issues you do?
- Put forth the effort to understand the issue?
- Research options to resolve the issue?
- Stand up for you?
- Stand up for themselves?



# FIGURE OUT THE ANSWER TO THOSE QUESTIONS AND REMEMBER

- Elections will be coming up next year.
- I will post on my social media page when it is time to file, which positions are up for election, how to file, the deadline to file and when voting takes place.



## MY CONTACT INFORMATION

- Email: [JWFORKEMPNER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JWFORKEMPNER@GMAIL.COM)
- FACEBOOK: @JWforKempnerTX