CITY OF MEMPHIS 721 W. Robertson Street Memphis, Texas 79245

Phone: (806)259-3001 Fax: (806)259-3852 www.memphistexascity.com

Monthly Newsletter

- The TxDot 256 rehabilitation through our town is under construction. Utility line relocations began in August of 2025 and the project is scheduled for completion June of 2026. The utility contractors will begin work at the west end of 256 and move east towards downtown. Coordination is ongoing between TxDot, The City of Memphis, and the Utility Contractor to minimize impact and delays to the citizens of Memphis. We appreciate your patience while the upgrades are made to our town.
- The Preservation Foundation will be hosting their annual Community Christmas singing on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at the Historic Presbyterian Building, 223 S. 8th Street. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served.
- The next City Council meeting will be on Monday, December 8, 2025, in the Council Room at City Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. A list of the agenda items will be posted on the city website and the front glass at City Hall on Tuesday, December 2, 2025.
- Tacos for Toys will be December 13, 7 am 10 am at the First Methodist Church. The Men's Nondenominational Coffee ask you to join them in helping the Memphis Volunteer Fire Department spread some holiday cheer with their annual toy drive. Also, there are collection boxes set up at the Chamber of Commerce Office, City Hall and the Fire Department. Applications for the program have been sent to local elementary schools, or you can contact City Hall to obtain one. Plans for distribution of the toys will be in December. For more information, please call City Hall at 806-259-3001.
- The Chamber of Commerce will be having their 3rd Christmas in Memphis Light Contest in the City Park on December 15, 2025, at 6 p.m. For more information, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 806-259-3114.
- An Angel tree will be set up at City Hall in partnership with Hall County Home Delivered Meals. Please come by and select an angel. For more information, please contact City Hall at 806-259-3001.
- The City Offices, Municipal Court, Public Library, and Landfill Gate will be closed December 24 & 25, 2025, to observe Christmas and closed on December 31st & January 1, 2026, for the New Year.
- The water department allows delinquent customers to make payment arrangements to bring their account current. All accounts with delinquent balances for more than two consecutive months must be paid in full to avoid disconnection. As a reminder, you can pay your water bill online at www.ThePaymentGroup.com. We also offer draft payments from any bank account. If you are interested, a form is available at the water office. You can drop your water bill payment in the fire hydrant drop box by the front door of City Hall. If you have any issues or questions about your water bill, please contact City Hall immediately.
- Great News!! e-Billing is available. eBill is a FREE service that will allow customers to step away from paper bills, receive your bill by email, and be able to view your bill via an eBill eCommerce account.

- <u>Important Survey Request:</u> On our website you will find a survey for Service Line Inventory. If you can, please take the time to fill out the survey with as much information as you can. This survey is also available in paper format at the water office. If you have any questions please contact City Hall, 806-259-3001.
- Recently the Texas Utilities Code, Chapter 182, made customers' utility bill information confidential. This prohibits disclosing any information contained in your account to anyone who is not listed as the customer. The City has a form available that allows disclosure of your account information, if you give permission to do so. For more information or to request a form, please contact the Water Department.
- The city has a public storm shelter located in the community center. Signs are posted on the outside of the entrance. When you hear the City sirens sound continuously for one minute, a tornado has been spotted, and you should seek shelter immediately. When there is one short siren, for a few seconds, all is clear, and it is safe to come out of shelter. The Memphis Volunteer Fire Department will be conducting siren test every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. As a reminder, the Fire Department still has free smoke detectors. Contact Nick Narvaez at 806-259-2323.
- If you see a streetlight out, you can report the outage to City Hall or online at the Southwestern Electric Power Company's website www.swepco.com.
- The Memphis Police Department would like to remind citizens to deter burglary by keeping their valuables secured, locked up & lit up. IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING! CALL 806-259-2636 TO REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSONS OR ACTIVITY!
- Several area codes in Texas, including 806, now require you to dial all 10 digits when making a local call, including cell phone numbers. Here are some area numbers you may need:
 - AEP Electric: (800)723-7430
 - Cemetery Association President Randy Phillips: (806)259-3625
 - Chamber of Commerce- (806)259-3144
 - District Adult Probation: (806)259-3388
 - Greenlight Gas: (806)447-1377
 - Hall County Agent Office: (806)259-3015
 - Hall County Appraisal District: (806)259-2393
 - Hall County Clerk Office: (806)259-2627
 - Hall County Dispatch/County Jail: (806)259-2636
 - Hall County Hospital District Indigent Health Care Program: (806)259-3504
 - Hall County Judge: (806)259-2511
 - Hall County Justice of Peace: (806)259-3116
 - Hall County Home Delivered Meals: (806)259-3212
 - Hall County Sheriff Department: (806)259-2151
 - Hall County Tax Office: (806)259-2125
 - Hall County Treasures Office: (806)259-2421
 - Memphis Animal Control (Hall County Dispatch): (806)259-2636
 - Memphis City Pool: (806)204-1777
 - Memphis Fire Department: (806)259-2323
 - Memphis Municipal Court Judge: (806)259-3539
 - Memphis Police Department: (806)259-2916
 - Memphis Post Office: (806)259-2031
 - Memphis Public Library: (806)259-2062

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Business owners.

The city council has approved holding a hearing **December 8**th, **2025** to discuss raising the commercial garbage rates. The increase would go from \$48 dollars per month to \$58 dollars per month per dumpster. This will increase our overall revenue for the landfill to \$50,112 a year. I have included this letter in your monthly billing to explain why the Council is making the increase.

At our city landfill we currently have a bulldozer that was purchased new back in 2001. It has been a faithful machine up until now. The past few months we have had substantial repair bills totaling 58,000 dollars. This involved the replacement of a hydraulic pump, track tensioner and other miscellaneous parts. Our yearly budget for repairs at the landfill is 55,000 dollars. This is the budget for all equipment associated with the landfill and trash trucks. The cost of upkeep for the Bulldozer is no longer sustainable. The City of Memphis needs a more reliable piece of equipment to maintain our landfill. The city unfortunately does not have a savings fund for replacing equipment.

We have received quotes from heavy equipment suppliers for a new machine and the price ranges from \$450,000 to \$550,000 for a new machine capable of performing the work that must be completed. We are also exploring the avenue of a used or refurbished machine. We understand that we must be frugal during these times. We also must remember the City of Memphis has to keep up with Federal and State regulations to keep our sanitation service operational.

The increase for most businesses who have one dumpster picked up once per week will follow this formula (1x\$58) X 1=\$58. You will spend an additional \$120 per year on trash service. Businesses that have more than one dumpster and are emptied several times a week will see a significant increase. For example, an account in our town has 4 dumpsters that are emptied 3 times a week. The account will be charged at this formula. (4x\$58) X 3 =\$696 for the month. This is due to the level of service that is required to maintain the dumpsters based on the high volume of waste accrued.

We understand these are difficult decisions to impose on our business owners and community. We continue to work diligently to provide a service that is municipal based and alleviate the cost private waste contractors would impose. The refuse rates at the City of Memphis, comparable to our neighboring towns, are significantly lower. If you would like more information, please give us a call at City Hall and we will be happy to discuss the issue further. **806-259-3001**

We encourage all commercial account holders to attend the public meeting and voice their opinion to the city council.

Respectfully,

Jack Owens

City Administrator