



R.A. "Dick" Nugent, MAYOR
Don Albanese, MAYOR PRO TEM
Talmadge Austin, COUNCILMEMBER
Billy Neal, COUNCILMEMBER
Bert Rogers, COUNCILMEMBER
Christopher Duque, CITY MANAGER

City of Nederland

P.O. Box 967 · Nederland, Texas 77627 · (409) 723-1503 · FAX (409) 723-1550

"Programmed for Progress" end of year NEWSLETTER

In September, the new City Hall opened at 207 North 12th Street. The building cost \$1.268M with no debt issued to fund construction. With the construction of the Homer E. Nagel Public Safety Complex, it became necessary to relocate city hall offices. Offices for the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk, Finance Department, Human Resources Department, and Utility Billing Department were moved to the new building. A drive-thru is available for your convenience.



Street repairs are on-going with the re-surfacing of Canal Avenue (Twin City Highway to 27th St.), Boston Avenue (10th to 3rd St.), and N. 13th Street (Nederland to Chicago Ave.). Next summer, the remainder of Canal Avenue from 27th St. to the frontage road will be repaired. In early 2014, a City Council workshop, which is open to the public, will be held to discuss finalizing the 2014 Street Program; at this meeting, the Council prioritizes street repair projects. Streets remain a priority for the City requiring considerable financial investment.



In August, construction of the Homer E. Nagel Public Safety Complex commenced at the old city hall location (1400 Boston Ave). A new fire station will be built, and the old police station and city hall will be renovated for police, municipal court, and emergency operation center functions. The estimated cost is \$3.18M, which shall be paid via a U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant and City funds. Construction is scheduled to be completed in summer 2014. During construction, the Fire Department relocated to the corner of Chicago and 14th St. and the Police Department relocated to 1041 Nederland Ave. The building has been dedicated to the memory of former Mayor Homer E. Nagel, who passed away in 2011 following a life dedicated to public service and the Nederland community.

Over the past several years, efforts have been focused on enhancing the community's Quality of Life, including upgrades and improvements to the Nederland Swimming Pool, Doornbos Park, South 5th Street Park, and Cropo LeBlanc Park and developing new community events. In addition, the Marion & Ed Hughes Public Library continues to provide exemplary service. Both the Parks Department and Library are on Facebook and regularly post updates online.

Below are the tax rates (per \$100 assessed property valuation) established by the city councils of the respective cities, as well as information on Nederland ISD and nearby school districts. Both the City of Nederland and Nederland ISD have one of the lowest tax rates in Jefferson County. Property appraisals are determined by the Jefferson County Appraisal District.

TAX RATES 2013

Nederland	\$0.591853
Groves	\$0.663606
Port Neches	\$0.695478
Beaumont	\$0.696920
Port Arthur	\$0.792000
Nederland ISD	\$1.120000
PNG ISD	\$1.434000
Port Arthur ISD	\$1.353120
Beaumont ISD	\$1.315000

During the fiscal year 2013-2014 budget process, the City Council approved establishing a Code Enforcement Officer position to pro-actively provide neighborhood services. This includes handling weedy lots, junked vehicles, unsecured structures, dirty swimming pools and/or pools without required fences, the accumulation of junk, living at property without utility services, illegal dumping, etc. The purpose of the Code Enforcement Department is to protect the dignity and condition of Nederland neighborhoods and business areas. To report any violations, please contact the Code Enforcement Department at (409) 723-1594.

Last December, the City of Nederland joined social media, establishing "The City of Nederland, Texas" Facebook page. While the City will continue to rely on traditional media, such as newspapers and television news, social media provides a more direct way to keep citizens informed about their government and various City projects, events, etc.

2014 will continue to be busy for the City. Construction of the Homer E. Nagel Public Safety Complex will be completed by the end of the summer. In addition, the Hurricane Ike projects – installation of generators at the sewer plant and lift stations, mast pole traffic signal lights at the intersections of Nederland Ave and 14th St., 21st St., and 27th St. will be completed next summer. Nearly \$800,000 will be spent on street improvements. At Doornbos Park, the pond sundeck will be rebuilt. In early 2014, online bill pay for water bills and municipal court will be introduced. During the summer, the 2014 Community Survey will be distributed to gauge citizen input on City services.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- February 2014** – *HOOKED ON FISHING, NOT ON DRUGS* @ Doornbos Park (Nederland Rotary Club)
- March 2014** – *TRASH BASH clean-up*
- April 2014** – *ART IN THE PARK* @ Doornbos Park
- May 2014** – *POOL SEASON OPENING*
- Summer 2014** – *NEDERLAND FAMILY NIGHTS* @ pool; *SUMMER READING PROGRAM* @ Library
- July 4, 2014** – *3RD ANNUAL "FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA* @ Doornbos Park

Dear Nederland citizens:

In many ways, 2013 was an important year progressing to the future of our community. Moving forward, there will be challenges and obstacles, but I am confident that because of the spirit, dedication, and strength of the City and each Nederland citizen, businessperson, and resident we will have a community we all take pride in calling our home. If you have any questions, please contact my office at (409) 723-1503. Thank you.

Christopher Duque,
Nederland City Manager