MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Shawn Raborn, City Manager

DATE: May 24, 2019

SUBJECT: City Council Meeting

Attached is your information packet for the Tuesday, May 28, 2019, City Council Meeting. If you have any questions about a particular item, please contact me.
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS

In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the governing body of the City of La Grange, Texas, will be held on the 28th day of May, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St., La Grange, Texas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
INVOCATION
ROLL CALL
PETITIONS
SUBJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ADOPTION, APPROVAL, AMENDMENT, RATIFICATION OR OTHER ACTION AT SUCH MEETING INCLUDE:

CONSENT AGENDA
(The Consent Agenda includes non-controversial and routine items that the Council may act on with one single vote. The Mayor or a Councilmember may pull any item from the Consent Agenda in order that the Council discuss and act upon it individually as part of the Regular agenda.)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Administer Oath of Office to elected city officials.
2. Discuss and or Consider selection of Mayor pro tem.
3. Discuss and or Consider approval of request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department on purchase of new vehicle.
4. Presentation on proposed Fayette County Hospital District.
5. Discuss emergency notification systems.
6. Discuss and or Consider approval of preliminary replat request at 241 E Guadalupe St. owned by Jerry and Rhonda Trousdale.
7. Discuss and or Consider approval of request from the Juneteenth Committee to close a portion of the square for the Juneteenth Celebration on June 8th.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Airport Board
2. Senior Citizen
3. Library Board
4. Recreation Center Advisory Board
5. Tax Appraisal Board
6. Main Street Board
7. Beautification Committee
8. General Services Committee

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE
Review of Current issues and projects

CITY MANAGER UPDATE
Review of Current issues and projects

The Council may take final action on any of the before mentioned matters while convened in open session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code; it may also take certain action in executive session on competitive electric matters pursuant to Section 551.086. The Council may also meet in closed Executive Session, pursuant to Section 551.071, to receive advice from legal counsel (consultation with attorney) on any items listed in this notice.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille, are requested to contact, Lisa Oltmann at 979/968-5805 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

More information on the above listed matters is available from the City of La Grange - Office of the City Manager at 968-5805.

Posted at 4:00 P.M. on this the 24th day of May, 2019.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary
DATE: May 24, 2019
SUBJECT: Administer Oath of Office to newly elected city officers.

Janet Moerbe-Mayor
Ken Taylor-Councilmember Ward 1
John “Honza” Cernosek-Councilmember Ward 2
Bonnie B Busch-Councilmember Ward 3
Jan Dockery-Councilmember Ward 3
Pat Janca-Councilmember Ward 4
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, I, ____________________________, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of ____________________________ of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God.

Signature of Officer

Certification of Person Authorized to Administer Oath

State of ______________________________________

County of ____________________________________

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this __________ day of ________________________, 20____.

(Affix Notary Seal, only if oath administered by a notary.)

Signature of Notary Public or Signature of Other Person Authorized to Administer An Oath

Printed or Typed Name
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Shawn Raborn, City Manager
DATE: May 24, 2019
SUBJECT: Discuss and or Consider request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department on purchase of new vehicle.

Please find attached a request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department to cost share on the purchase of a new engine that will be used for structural firefighting. The estimated cost of the new engine is $619,836, with the city share being $309,918.

Several years ago we established a Fire Department Reserve fund for the purchase of future fire equipment. The account is funded by an annual allocation of $50,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund. In the first few years after we established the reserve fund we allocated $25,000 per year, but that amount was recently increased due to the high replacement cost of fire engines. We currently have a balance of $263,363.82 in the reserve fund. In the FY 2019-20 budget, staff will be proposing that we allocate a total of $100,000 into the account which would give a fund balance of over $363,000.

If approved by council, the account balance in the Fire Department Reserve fund after purchase of the new engine will be around $53,000.

Attachment:

1. Letter from Chief Menefee
2. Schematic of New Engine
MEMORANDUM

TO: Shawn Raborn, City Manager  
FROM: Frank Menefee, Fire Chief 
SUBJECT: New Apparatus Purchase  
DATE: May 9, 2019 

The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department would like to purchase a new engine. The truck will be used for structural firefighting. The truck will be a Custom Cab type chassis with seating for six. The truck will have high side storage compartments on the drivers/operators side and the passenger side. The passenger side storage will include ladder, backboard and stoltz basket storage. 

The new engine will replace a year model 2000 Central States Freightliner that was ordered in 1999 and received and put into service in year 2000. The new truck will cost the department $619,836.00. The department is requesting City Council’s consideration to a 50% cost share. When ordered it will take a year for delivery.

1. Spartan Metro Star Custom Cab Chassis, Wheel Base 179.00” 
2. Cummins Diesel L9 450 h.p. 6 cylinder  
3. Allison 300 EVS Automatic Transmission  
4. Waterous CSU 1500 g.p.m Pump  
5. 1000 gallon Tank w/30 gallon Class A Foam Tank

Built in Brandon South Dakota at the Spartan Plant. Spartan is listed with HGAC – Houston, Galveston Area Council of Government Cooperative Purchasing.

Proudly Serving La Grange and The Surrounding Area Since 1866
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Shawn Raborn, City Manager

DATE: May 24, 2019

ITEM: Presentation on proposed Fayette County Hospital District

Mr. Michael Corker and representatives of the Save St. Mark's organization will appear before council to give a presentation on the Fayette County Hospital District Election.

Attachments:
1. Informational brochure on Fayette County Hospital District
2. FAQ's St. Mark's and Fayette County Hospital District
Why a Hospital District?

Rural communities thrive when quality healthcare is locally available, when their churches nourish spiritual needs, and when their school districts attract income-generating parents. If any one of these three falter, people simply leave and economic decline is inevitable.

Fortunately, the State of Texas and the Federal Government have made recent decisions to reduce your taxes. This means less of your dollars are spread far and wide. Unfortunately, that also means reduced state and federal healthcare aid.

In 2019, though medical procedures continue to radically advance with ever-increasing price tags, decreasing insurance reimbursements and the inability to deny anyone emergency care leave providers with two choices: subsidize finances or cut services.

There are 135 hospital districts in Texas. Surrounding counties and districts include: Travis, Lavaca, Burleson (Caldwell), Gonzales, and Austin (Belville).
As one of the county's top three employers with its approximate 170 employees, St. Mark's adds $8-10 Million in payroll to the Fayette County economy. And the contribution of that payroll to the local economy is estimated to be 3-5 times that amount. We all need a healthy hospital.

Your Board of Directors

A hospital district functions much like a school district. Upon creation of a hospital district, temporary directors appointed by Fayette County Commissioners Court will serve until May, 2020, when directors will be elected by the voters and assume responsibility for operating the hospital facilities and for furnishing healthcare needs for our residents.

The board will consist of nine elected directors, with two directors representing each of the four county precincts and one at-large.

How much?

Hospital districts, upon formation, are required by state law to set a maximum tax rate—tax cap—to be approved by the voters. It can't exceed $0.75. The proposed tax cap for the Fayette County Hospital District is $0.25 per each $100 valuation of taxable property. This is your maximum proposed hospital tax, Ever.

The actual tax rate of the district is set by the district's directors in September of each year. The anticipated rate will be $0.10 per $100 valuation. Divide your taxable property value by 100, multiply by $0.10 for your tax rate.

Why Support A Hospital District? Rural Hospitals Matter!

- Without our hospital, hospital staff and their families might be forced to leave our community
- Without our hospital, we would likely be unable to attract badly needed primary care and specialty doctors
- In fact, without our hospital, we would likely be unable to keep local surgeons and specialists, and possibly primary care doctors currently providing medical services here
- Without St. Mark's Medical Center, our economy, community, and schools will suffer!
- Without St. Mark's Medical Center, our community would be without a hospital and lives and health of residents of our community would be at great risk!

Rural Hospitals at Risk

- 102 rural hospitals have closed since 2010
- Texas leads the U.S. with 19 hospital closures since 2013
- St. Mark's Medical Center is at risk

What It Means to Have a Hospital District

- Almost from its start, St. Mark's faced an uphill battle financially because of debt incurred to build a new hospital in 2005 ($15 million is still owed)
- There are no potential buyers of St. Mark's
- Whereas the hospital has stabilized financially over recent months, St. Mark's still needs your help
- A tax would be capped at 25 cents per $100 valuation yet a tax rate of just 10 cents per $100 valuation is more likely
- The approximate $3 million raised would support St. Mark's continued operations
- A district board of 9 directors would oversee the hospital

How You Can Help: VOTE YES

- Join in support. We are in this together!
- Encourage your family and friends to vote YES for a hospital district.
- St. Mark's wants to be there for your future

All current property exemptions allowed by Texas tax code will apply.
St. Mark’s Medical Center
Fact Sheet

Calendar Year 2018 Statistics

- **Surgical Procedures** Total = 1983
  - Case Numbers for Selected Procedures:
    - 883 Colonoscopy and Upper Endoscopy
    - 104 Gallbladder Removal
    - 411 Orthopedic Surgery (including total joint replacements and rotator cuff repair)
    - 112 Emergent Fracture Repair
    - 62 Gynecology Surgery
    - 74 Podiatry
    - 30 Urology
  - *Other surgical procedures performed include hernia repair, colon resection, breast procedures, and gastro-esophageal reflux procedures*

- **Other Selected Procedures**
  - 1250 MRI
  - 3707 CT Scans
  - 759 Screening Mammography Exams
  - 545 Cardiac Stress Tests
  - 602 Prostate-Specific Antigen Tests (PSA)
  - 7176 Orthopedic/Podiatry Clinic Visits
  - 458 Sleep Studies
  - 2827 Cardiac Rehab Visits
  - 516 Blood Product Transfusions

- **Admissions to Hospital** = 1426 (Includes Inpatient, Observation, and Swingbed Patients)

- **Emergency Dept. Visits** total = 8920
  - 478 ER Transfers to Higher Level/Specialty Care
  - 24 Avg Visits Per Day
  - 1619 ER Patients Arrived by EMS (18%)

- **New Physicians** who joined SMMC medical staff in 2018
  - Orthopedic Surgeon (Dr. Richie Edeen, employed)
  - Family Practice (Dr. Kinuyo Henderson, independent)
  - Podiatrist (Dr. Arush Angirasa, employed)
  - Urologist (Dr. Ryan Frieben, independent)

Financial Notes 2018

- For every $1.00 charge for care, the hospital collects avg. $0.35 because of the contracts the hospital maintains with payers including Medicare, Medicaid, and Commercial Insurance.
- Care provided without reimbursement in 2018 = $4.8 million
- Total Employee Salary Expense in 2018 = $10.3 million
- Hospital mortgage is $148,000 per mo., 11 yrs remaining, balance of $14 million
- Business SMMC did with local vendors in 2018 = $1,005,824.57
- In the past 1.5 years, SMMC has reduced operating costs by approx. $4.5 million
As of May 2019:
- # SMMC Employees (Full time, Part time) = 155
- # SMMC Employees residing in Fayette Co. = 92
- # Medical Staff Active/Courtesy Status = 43
- # Active Volunteers = 66

**How will SMMC use tax funding?**
SMMC will request funding from the tax district board for the following:
* Capital Equipment - MRI, Sterilizers for Surgery, Anesthesia machines, Cardiac Monitoring System
* Physician Recruitment – our community needs additional family practice and general surgery providers
* Working Capital - paying past debt
FAYETTE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
AND
ST. MARK'S MEDICAL CENTER
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS A HOSPITAL DISTRICT?

A hospital district is a public entity, responsible to the people, separate from, but much like the city or county government. The district acts independently to finance, administer, control and operate the hospital. Texas law governing hospital districts can be found in the State of Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 286.

HOW IS A HOSPITAL DISTRICT CREATED?

The process for creation of a hospital district according the laws of the State of Texas, is found in Chapter 286.

A petition prepared in accordance with Chapter 286 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and signed by at least 100 registered voters is presented to the county judge. The county judge files the petition with the county clerk. After the petition is filed with the county clerk, the commissioners court sets a date, time and place for the hearing to consider the petition. The county clerk issues a notice of hearing in accordance with state law. At the time and place set for the hearing, the commissioners court considers the petition. The commissioners court shall grant the petition if they find it is in proper form. If a petition is granted, the commissioners court orders an election at a time, date and location in accordance with state statute, to confirm the district's creation and to authorize the levy of a tax not to exceed the maximum tax rate prescribed by the petition. If a majority of votes cast in the election favor the creation of the hospital district, the district is created and organized. The commissioners court shall issue an
order stating that the hospital district has been duly and legally formed. On the date the
order is issued, the commissioners court shall also appoint temporary directors of the
district. Thereafter, directors are elected by the voters on the first Saturday in May
each year.

WHO CONTROLS A HOSPITAL DISTRICT?

Upon the voters' approval of the district, county commissioners appoint temporary
directors to assume full responsibility for the hospital. The temporary directors will
serve until voters of Fayette County elect directors on the first Saturday in May
following the creation of the district and on the first Saturday in May of each year
thereafter.

HOW MANY HOSPITAL DISTRICTS ARE IN TEXAS?

There are approximately 135 hospital districts in Texas.

Every major urban area in Texas has a hospital district, including Dallas, Houston,
Austin, San Antonio, Midland, Odessa, El Paso and Lubbock.

The overwhelming majority of rural hospitals in Texas are also hospital districts.

WHO OWNS ST. MARK’S MEDICAL CENTER?

St. Mark’s Medical Center is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization which was
organized in 2002 and which became operational in 2005, governed by the board of
directors.

In 2011, through an agreement entered into by St. Mark’s Medical Center (SMMC) and
Community Hospital Corporation (CHC), CHC became the sole corporate member of
St. Mark’s Medical Center. By this agreement CHC has authority over high-level
decisions made by the SMMC Board of Directors. The agreement includes a provision
to unwind CHC’s sole corporate membership in SMMC.

More simply stated, St. Mark’s Medical Center is still a non-profit corporation as they
were when organized. Since 2011, CHC, being the sole corporate member, controls
St. Mark’s Medical Center.

CHC supports the creation of a hospital district and has recently agreed in writing to
transfer their sole member interest to the Fayette County Hospital District on or about
January 1, 2020, or earlier if requested by the newly formed hospital district Board of
Directors. This transfer is contingent upon the District being responsible for the assumption and discharge of fees, expenses and charges then currently due to CHC from SMMC, not to exceed $2,325,584. While it is anticipated that CHC is unlikely to be required to provide further unreimbursed support and management services, in the event CHC is required to provide such support and services to keep the hospital operational and effectuate the transition, it is understood that any remaining management fees and direct costs for the support provided to SMMC will also be reimbursed. This $2.3M consists of direct costs incurred by CHC for employee medical insurance ($1,176,037); payroll expenses ($61,509); a capital loan from CHC to SMMC ($492,000); other direct expenses incurred by CHC which by agreement, are passed through to SMMC ($381,203); and past due management fees ($223,116).

With the recent agreement from CHC, which is dated April 9, 2019, following the District's creation, the Fayette County Hospital District will control St. Mark's Medical Center.

**WHY DOES FAYETTE COUNTY NEED A HOSPITAL DISTRICT NOW?**

The creation of a hospital district has been discussed for months, due to the increasingly challenging financial condition of SMMC caused by reduced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements and the State of Texas's decision to decline Medicaid expansion. Those who were working to initiate a petition and the process for creation of the district were awaiting agreement by CHC to relinquish their sole member interest in SMMC and to include in the agreement the maximum amount that would be payable to CHC upon creation of the hospital district. As stated above, that agreement was finally reached and signed on April 9, 2019. It was critical to have this agreement in place so that taxpayers would not be funding a hospital where the sole membership interest was held by another company (CHC) with authority over every major decision made by the Board of Directors. St. Mark's Medical Center will be controlled by Fayette County Hospital District when the creation of the district is approved. Equally as critical, is the timing of the election. In order for the Fayette County Appraisal District to include the assessment on 2020 tax statements and for the hospital district to receive funds at the earliest possible date, the election must be held and the county must canvass the results before June 30, 2019. The timeline from the date the petition was presented up until June 30 includes appropriate timing intervals for notice of open meetings and for calling an election. To wait until completion of an election after June 30, 2019, would have meant that the earliest date that the Fayette County Hospital District could have become effective would have been January 1, 2021. With the uncertainty of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements, SMMC could have been at great risk of having to discontinue operations.
WHAT ACTIONS HAS SMMC TAKEN TO TRY TO OFFSET THE REDUCED MEDICARE AND MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS?

The SMMC Board of Directors and management have diligently worked to educate themselves on the changes in the healthcare marketplace and have investigated multiple revenue growth options and cost saving alternatives. They have looked at new services, service enhancements, service terminations, physician recruitment, public and private reimbursement options, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of the sale and or lease of the hospital. The Board hired a national rural health consulting firm, which determined there were no viable purchase or lease partners. Under the current Board leadership, almost 3 million dollars in annual reoccurring cost savings have been achieved over the last year to help offset reductions in federal and state reimbursement. In addition, new physicians have been retained to add new services to help grow patient service revenue. More can be done, but that will require the investment by the community in the facility through tax revenue, which can help provide funds to reinvest in the facility providing new equipment and helping fund new services. This community support is essential to the future survival and success of SMMC.

WHAT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE CURRENT AND PAST ADMINISTRATION OF ST. MARK’S MEDICAL CENTER TO SUPPORT AND ENSURE THE FINANCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE HOSPITAL?

The current and past Boards and management have worked diligently to recruit physicians, enhance services, control costs and maximize both private and public reimbursement. Rural Health is traditionally a high-cost, low-volume service, which makes it a challenging business model. SMMC will likely never experience overwhelming financial success, but it can thrive providing high quality services to the residents of Fayette County and the surrounding area.

HOW MUCH WILL THE HOSPITAL DISTRICT TAX COST THE AVERAGE FAYETTE COUNTY RESIDENT?

According to the Fayette County Appraisal District, the 2018 average valuation of residential property in our county is $175,878. The anticipated tax rate for the Fayette County Hospital District is $.10 per $100 valuation. For property owners whose property is at the county’s average valuation, the tax would be$.48 PER DAY, $14.66 per month, $175.88 per year. Divide your property value by 100, then multiply by $.10 to find the amount of your hospital tax.
The proposed tax cap for the Fayette County Hospital District is $.25 per $100 valuation. This amount is included on the ballot and is your maximum hospital tax rate ever.

All current property exemptions allowed by Texas tax code will apply.

**IF THE HOSPITAL DISTRICT IS CREATED, WILL THE BIRTHING CENTER RE-OPEN? WHAT OTHER SERVICES WILL BE ADDED?**

When the hospital district is created, there will be opportunity for the district Board of Directors, who you elect, to enhance and improve current services such as emergency room, outpatient, and inpatient services. There will be an opportunity to evaluate, and if feasible, to restore, medical services that have been discontinued such as the birthing center, cancer treatment, etc.

**WHY NOT ALLOW THE HOSPITAL TO DECLARE BANKRUPTCY, MAKING THE FACILITY MORE ATTRACTION TO A POTENTIAL BUYER WHO COULD BUY IT AT A LOWER COST?**

Bankruptcy is a solution, but can be very complex and many people and businesses will be hurt. It would likely be difficult to attract back the very dedicated employees and doctors who will have left, seeing no future here. Vendors will likely not want to do business with the hospital after they have not been paid money owed them. HUD, the mortgage holder, might choose to sell the building during a bankruptcy to someone not even in the medical arena.

And if the bankrupted hospital were purchased by a larger healthcare conglomerate, that conglomerate can decide it is financially better for them to send patients to Austin or Houston and just close the hospital. There would be no local control. The owner would control how the hospital operates, if at all.

**THERE HAS BEEN QUITE A BIT OF BANTER ON FB STATING THAT THE MOST RECENT POTENTIAL PURCHASER WAS WAITING FOR SMMC TO GO BANKRUPT SO THAT THEY COULD PURCHASE AT A MUCH LOWER COST. HAS SMMC CONSIDERED BANKRUPTCY?**

The Board of Directors has considered bankruptcy as an option, but chose not to pursue that course out of concern for local vendors, the employees, the reputational
damage and the potential unpredictable result, including loss of local control and possible closure.

WHAT IS THE PLAN IF THE TAX DISTRICT IS APPROVED?

The temporary board of directors will be appointed by Fayette County Commissioners Court, and their first job will be to develop a short-term and long-term strategic plan with the assistance of rural hospital experts and with input from the voters.

WHAT WILL BE DONE DIFFERENT TO INSURE WE ARE NOT BACK IN THE SAME BOAT IN A COUPLE YEARS?

The healthcare world is changing rapidly and we are unable to predict the future. A hospital district provides the flexibility and resources today to provider the best chance of success for St. Mark’s. The new district Board of Directors will need to remain open to change as the healthcare marketplace changes.

IF CITIZENS OF FAYETTE COUNTY PAY TAXES TO OPERATE AND KEEP OPEN THE HOSPITAL, DO WE GET CHARGED IF WE NEED THE SERVICES OF THE HOSPITAL?

Yes, the formation of the district does not act as a waiver or discount on hospital charges.

WHAT IS PLAN B IF TAX IS NOT APPROVED?

The current SMMC Board of Directors will make that decision in consultation with City and County leadership, but there are no other viable options at this time.

IF ST. MARK’S MEDICAL CENTER CLOSES, HOW WILL THIS COMMUNITY BE IMPACTED?

When people consider moving to a community, among the most asked questions are “What churches are in the community?”, “Is there a local hospital?” and “How are your schools?” If there is no local hospital, young families as well as retirees are likely to move to a community that offers these and other aspects that are important to them. With no hospital, the real estate market will likely decline. Homes and property will likely be worth less. Our tax rate will have to increase to offset the decreasing tax base.
when young families and retirees choose to move elsewhere and don’t build their dream homes here or when businesses close because of the diminishing population and poorer economic conditions within the county. If you wish to sell your home, you will likely receive a reduced amount than the current market provides. Your home may be worth less than you owe.

If the economic condition of the community is negatively impacted by the closure of the hospital (and it will be), businesses in the community will be impacted. They may struggle to stay in business. Some may not survive.

Jobs will be lost by current employees of the hospital. Many of those employees will be forced to leave the county. It is estimated that the $8 - $10 million dollars in salaries paid to the staff of SMMC, contribute 5 – 7 times that amount to the local economy.

The closing of the hospital would create disruption for those local families who are impacted.

Emergency medical services would likely require additional equipment and staff to accommodate longer runs to hospitals in distant locations where emergency services can be provided. This would result in additional taxes to cover increased costs.

Without our hospital, our schools will suffer. If young families move away, state funding based on average daily attendance will decrease, and in turn, the local school tax burden will likely increase.

**WHY CREATE A PROPERTY TAX AND NOT A SALES TAX? WHILE I AGREE WE NEED A HOSPITAL WHY SHOULD THE BURDEN FALL ON ONLY PROPERTY OWNERS? A SALES TAX WOULD APPLY TO EVERYONE, EVEN THOSE WHO ARE JUST PASSING THROUGH AND STOP TO PURCHASE GAS FOOD ETC.**

The sales tax rate for the State of Texas is 6.25%. Local taxing entities, counties, cities, utilities, etc. are permitted to assess up to an additional 2%, for a total maximum sales tax rate of 8.25%. Most of Fayette County, with the possible exception of some areas that are not located within an incorporated city, is already charging the maximum 8.25%, thus eliminating that option for a hospital district.

While not everyone who lives in the county owns the residence they live in, they will indirectly pay the tax through the rent paid to the owner of their residence.

**WHY NOT HAVE LEE COUNTY TAXPAYERS HELP, TOO? I THOUGHT ST. MARK’S WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FOR FAYETTE AND LEE COUNTIES. WHY NOT**
HAVE A COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER EACH YEAR SO NON-PROPERTY OWNERS COULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE?

Even though both counties (as well as residents of other counties) are served by SMMC, the hospital is a 501(c)(3) entity. There is no geographical boundary as to who can be served and who is required to petition for a hospital district. If successful in Fayette County, the new Board of Directors may decide to seek expansion of the district to include Lee County.

St. Mark’s Medical Center Foundation solicits donations in support of our hospital in both Lee and Fayette Counties. The Foundation holds Monte Carlo Night each year in October. This is an opportunity for people from surrounding counties to contribute and support the hospital. Other fundraisers are held, as well. And again, the Foundation accepts donations at any time.

WILL PUBLIC FORUMS BE HELD TO HEAR QUESTIONS AND TO INFORM VOTERS?

The steering committee of the “Save St. Mark’s” campaign are speaking to local civic organizations and church groups throughout the community during the coming weeks to inform as many local residents about the hospital district as possible in smaller group settings to better be able to address questions. If you have a group or organization that you would like for us to address, please contact us by emailing us at savestmarks@cvctx.com, or by calling or text messaging us at 979 966-3246 or 979 966-8579.

Information will also be provided through local newspapers, radio, and Facebook. The committee will determine the need for town hall meetings, and if necessary, will schedule them prior to the election date, and will let residents know the dates, times, and locations.

HOW WILL THE SAVE ST. MARK’S CAMPAIGN BE FUNDED?

"SAVE ST. MARK’S” has been formed to collect funds in order to help move the district forward. SAVE ST. MARK’S will provide funds to print campaign materials and to help with administrative costs of running the campaign. To donate, please make your check payable to “SAVE ST. MARK’S” and mail to 1618 W. State Highway 71, #222, La Grange, TX 78945. This is a great opportunity to support the formation of the hospital district to ensure that St. Mark’s Medical Center survives and thrives. Fayette County
and Lee County residents, PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD and help SAVE ST. MARK’S!

ELECTION DAY
THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019

EARLY VOTING:
MAY 28-31, 2019
JUNE 3-7, 2019

PLEASE VOTE YES!
SAVE ST. MARK’S!
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Shawn Raborn, City Manager

DATE: May 24, 2019

SUBJECT: Discuss emergency notification systems.

Staff is bringing back for discussion the installation of an outdoor siren warning system. The City of La Grange has never had an outdoor siren warning system. The notification we had in the past was to alert members of the Volunteer Fire Department of the need to go to the station. The Volunteer Fire Department currently utilizing a paging system and also a cell phone paging system.

The effectiveness of outdoor warning sirens has been an area of conversation and in certain parts of the country a point of contingency among government agencies, citizens, and emergency managers. Sirens are designed to be heard only in outdoor settings thus providing limited or no warning to citizens in buildings. There are numerous ways to receive severe weather alerts. Severe weather information is disseminated by the National Weather Service through a number of systems including [VAM Central Texas Notification System](#), NOAA weather radios, television, internet ([www.weather.gov/ewx](http://www.weather.gov/ewx)), Wireless Emergency Cellphone Alerts (WEA) and social media just to name a few.

In our area, the City of Flatonia installed a system a couple of years ago at a cost of $186,000 for five sites. The system was funded by a Hazard Mitigation Grant and has not been activated in an emergency capacity since it was installed. The system does operate on a daily basis at noon in the downtown location only and all five locations are tested the first Wednesday of each month.

Staff has contacted Goddard Enterprises, the firm that designed the Flatonia system to assist in developing a cost estimate for a system in our community. The cost estimate and rough system design would be used to apply for grant funding for the system. I have tasked our Emergency Management Coordinator to seek out and apply for funding for a system. Staff will obtain council authorization prior to submitting any grant request.
MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Mary Goerg, Assistant City Secretary  
Date: May 23, 2019  
Re: Discuss and or consider preliminary replat request at 241 E Guadalupe St owned by Jerry & Rhonda Trousdale.

The City of La Grange has received a replat request from Jerry & Rhonda Trousdale, owners of 241 E Guadalupe St. Their neighbors Paul & Jeannette Faist would like to buy the property from the Trousdale so they could have a bigger back yard. The plan for the property is to square off both back yards and extend the existing wood fence between the two properties. Both properties met the City Ordinance requirements for lot size.

There were 21 letters sent to property owners within a 200' radius of this address asking if the owners are in favor of or opposed to the replat request. There were fourteen (14) letters returned in favor of granting this request and seven (7) letters not returned.

Attachments: 1) Request  
2) Sketch  
3) Map showing votes
Date: March 18, 2019

To: Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary and
La Grange City Council

From: Jerry and Rhonda Trousdale  Property ID 37704
Paul and Jeannette Faist  Property ID 37705

Subject: Request to Sell and Survey Plat vacant lot located between
241 E. Guadalupe and 255 E. Guadalupe at N. Madison St.
La Grange, Texas

Attached are details and legal descriptions for subject properties located on East
Guadalupe Street. We are respectfully requesting the sale and re-plat of a portion
of our (Trousdale) “L” shaped backyard property as shown on attached drawing.
This would square off the back yard property of the Trousdales and provide a back
yard for the Faists. This transaction would not affect surrounding neighbors.

The attached plat shows the Trousdales (green) and Faists (blue) properties. The
land requested for purchase is shown in orange. Plans for this property, if request
is granted, is to square off both backyards and to extend the existing wood fence
between the two properties. Subject property owners are in agreement with
transaction and sale price of lot.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter. Please advise if you have
questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Seller: ___________________________  ___________________________
Jerry Trousdale  Rhonda Trousdale

Buyer: ___________________________  ___________________________
Paul Faist  Jeannette Faist
Fayette County, Texas

John H. Moore 71 Survey Abstract
City of La Grange, Texas

Survey plat showing a 0.391 acre tract of land, being part of Lots 3 and 4 of Block 45 of the John H. Moore Plan of the City of La Grange, Texas according to the plat thereof recorded in volume 1, page 27 of the Plat Records of Fayette County, Texas, and being the same tract as conveyed to John A. Huesefeld and wife, Tina M. Huesefeld as recorded in volume 1035, page 523 of the Official Records of Fayette County, Texas.

This tract is subject to these easements, rights of ways and other matters as set forth on the Plat Recorded in Volume 1030, page 27 of the Plat Records of Fayette County, Texas.

Kelly Crane
volume 1260
page 385

This tract is subject to the Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District rules as filed on April 8, 2004 and recorded in Volume 1260, page 142 of the Official Records of Fayette County, Texas.

I hereby certify that this plat represents the facts as found during an on the ground survey made under my direct supervision on June 25, 2009, and that it substantially conforms to the current reference as narrowly made to a land description.

-23-
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Shawn Raborn, City Manager

DATE: May 21, 2019

SUBJECT: Discuss and or Consider request from the Juneteenth Committee to close a portion of the square for the Juneteenth Celebration on June 8th.

We have received a request from the La Grange Juneteenth Committee to block off the inside loop of the square for the Juneteenth Celebration from 4:00 pm until 10:00 pm on Saturday, June 8th. In addition, the Juneteenth Parade will take place on the square at 10:00 am on Saturday, June 8th. Staff recommends approval of this request.
### La Grange Police Department

**Monthly Report April 2019**

#### CALLS FOR SERVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALLS FOR SERVICE</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>YTD</th>
<th>VIOLATIONS</th>
<th>TRAFFIC CITATIONS</th>
<th>YTD CITATIONS</th>
<th>WARNING</th>
<th>YTD WARNINGS</th>
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#### Community Report

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<td>Animal Control</td>
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#### ARRESTS

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<td>Driving While License Invalid w/Previous Conviction-Drivers License</td>
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#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

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