

2022 CITY OF LIVINGSTON ANNUAL REPORT

LIVINGSTON

A Great Place to Call Home



A photograph of a park scene. In the foreground, there is a paved path or driveway curving to the right. The path is bordered by a lawn and several tall, thin trees, possibly cedars or similar conifers. In the background, there is a dense line of larger trees, including oaks, with a bright sky above.

A Great Place to Call Home

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report to the Citizens recapping some important projects along with events and activities that occurred within our City.

Our financial department has outdone themselves again as we have received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. This makes the 34th consecutive year that we have earned this prestigious national award. We are financially sound and we are still doing this without implementing an ad valorem tax. We are still working on cleaning up junked vehicles and dilapidated buildings to make our city safer and nicer looking.

New businesses are still finding their way to our City. We now have Panda Express, Wendy's and Taco Bueno that have opened, along with others who are in the process of finalizing plans. Our Main Street area is continuing to grow with Main Street Merchandise and others now open. There are plans for a Memory Care Center, a John Deere dealership, lots of apartments, townhouses and homes being built in the City.

Our famous Hometown Christmas 2022 was a huge success despite the rain. There were lots of people participating in the Jingle Bell Fun Run and lots of shoppers along the crowded streets filled with vendors. The drive through experience of seeing the Christmas displays in Pedigo Park is still amazing. Our parks department is continuing to make new displays each year. We held another spectacular Easter Eggstravaganza this year with more than 200 prizes for children ages 8 and under.

Our staff is continuing to provide excellent Customer Service while promoting the many programs that are available in our city. Our many volunteers are priceless as they serve alongside our staff assisting with some of our events each year.

It is still an honor for me to serve as your Mayor alongside the City Council, the staff, and many volunteers. Our City Council serves many hours without compensation as they strive to make Livingston a better place to live. I am proud to live in Livingston - A Great Place to Call Home.



Judy B. Cochran, Mayor



LIVINGSTON CITY COUNCIL

At the January Council meeting, the Wells Development plat, a 3.0-acre tract of land location on S. Houston, was approved by Council.

Council approved the continued participation in the Alliance for I-69 Texas and the payment of annual dues in the amount of \$1,150.00.

The City Secretary furnished Certification of Unopposed Candidates confirming that Mayor Judy Cochran and Alderman Alan Cook and Alderman Marion 'Bid' Smith were unopposed for election to office for the election to be held on May 7, 2022. Council approved Ordinance No. A-830 cancelling the May 7, 2022 General Election and declaring each unopposed candidate elected to office.

At the May 17, 2022 Council meeting, the City Secretary administered oaths of office and presented Certificates of Election to Mayor Judy Cochran, Alderman Alan Cook and Alderman Marion 'Bid' Smith. Alderman Alan Cook was nominated to serve as Mayor Pro-tem for the 2022-2023 term.

Alderman Elgin Davis was reappointed to serve on the Deep East Texas Council of Governments Board of Directors for the 2022-2023 term.

Council approved the payment of \$4,200.00 as the City of Livingston's pro-rata share of the annual funding of the Brazos Transit District service.

Mayor Judy Cochran was reappointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency for the 2022-2024 term.

Council approved an update of the City of Livingston Personnel Policy that was originally adopted on April 15, 2008. The update process included a thorough and complete comprehensive assessment of the existing policy as conducted by Strategic Government Solutions H.R. Manager Beth Walls in coordination with City staff.

At the December Council meeting, the final plat of the 190 Apartments Subdivision located on E. Church at First Street was approved by Council.

Council authorized the submission of a CDBG Disaster Recovery Program Grant application to the General Land office with the City being a potential recipient of \$2,541,000 of regional mitigation funding.

The Livingston ISD Creekside Elementary 1st and 2nd Grade Student Council Leadership Team attended the December Council meeting to perform holiday songs for the City Council. Following their performance, Mayor Cochran invited the students to lead the pledges to begin the meeting.

At the December 13, 2022 meeting, Council appointed Dana Williams to serve as Municipal Court Judge through May 31, 2023, the remainder of the term vacated by Shelly Sitton. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented by Mayor Cochran to Shelly Sitton for her service to the City of Livingston as municipal court judge.



Standing: Alan Cook, Clarke Evans, Ray Luna;
Seated: Bid Smith, Mayor Judy Cochran, Elgin Davis

DATE OF INCORPORATION

October 3, 1902

CITY CHARTER

General Law City

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Council/Manager

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor and Five Council Members

TERM OF OFFICE

Two Years

REGULAR MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of each Month at 5 pm

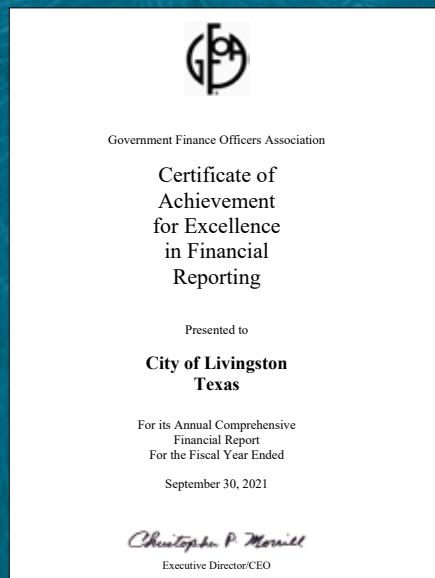
SPECIAL MEETINGS

Called by Mayor

A Great Place to Call Home

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The City was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for its 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. This is the 34th consecutive year the City has earned this prestigious national award.



REVENUES		EXPENDITURES	
Property Tax	-0-	Administrative Department	\$636,060
Sales Tax	\$5,209,435	Sanitation Department	\$971,533
Hotel Occupancy Tax	\$337,814	Fire Department	\$673,470
Gross Receipts Tax	\$118,774	Police Department	\$2,694,475
Administrative Department	\$122,927	Street Department	\$1,361,325
Sanitation Department	\$1,331,928	Parks and Recreation	\$923,484
Fire Department	\$80,308	Library	\$481,371
Police Department	\$483,046	Trade Days	\$356,387
Street Department	\$3,790	Garage Department	\$346,410
Parks and Recreation	\$112,757	Electric Department	\$8,369,124
Library	\$19,096	Water Department	\$4,841,315
Trade Days	\$22,804	Sewer Department	\$870,305
Electric Department	\$18,424,988	Capital Improvements	\$5,412,643
Water Department	\$3,548,955	Debt Services	-0-
Sewer Department	\$2,422,824	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$27,937,902
Grant Funds	\$91,630		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$32,331,076		

Municipal Court 2022 Violations	
Total Fines/Fees Collected	\$254,452.76
Traffic Violations	3,376
Criminal Violations	652
Other Violations	37
Total Violations	4,065

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Department conducted 500 inspections during 2022.

Larger projects that were issued Building Permits in 2022 include:

New Construction:

Taco Bueno
2001 US Highway 190 West

Blue Wave Carwash
1829 US Highway 190 West

Livingston High School Concession Stand
400 FM 350 S

Highway 190 Apartments
909 E. Church

On The Road Convenience Store
911 E. Church

2022 BUILDING PERMIT RECAP		
TYPE	NUMBER	VALUATION
Residential – New	16	\$10,394,809
Commercial – New	6	\$15,750,290
Residential – Addition/ Remodel	5	\$497,572
Commercial – Addition/ Remodel	6	\$1,369,000
Manufactured Homes	6	\$505,937
Portable Buildings	13	
Plumbing	95	
Electrical	107	
Mechanical	25	
Sign	25	
Garage Sale	50	
Demolition	13	
Others	20	
Totals 2022	387	\$28,517,608
Totals 2021	470	\$15,723,886



A Great Place to Call Home

LIVINGSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Livingston Police Department added two additional officers to Livingston I.S.D. campuses and purchased additional security equipment for all the school campuses.

The Livingston Police Department employed the department's first Police Chaplain who assists with crisis intervention, death notification to families, and counseling for first responders.

The Livingston Police Department Honor Guard was created.

The Caran Coward Memorial Scholarship, each in the amount of \$2,000, was awarded to seven graduating seniors. The scholarship funds were raised by department employees and volunteers at the annual barbecue lunch.

In September, installation was completed on the Flock system that alerts dispatch and officers of vehicles coming into the city that have been reported stolen and vehicles related to missing persons, amber alerts, etc. From September 10, 2022 thru December 31, 2022, the Livingston Police Department has recovered 27 stolen vehicles and 1 camper trailer with a total value of \$498,500, made 14 felony arrests, recovered 3 stolen firearms, and located 2 missing persons.

Livingston Police Department officers and personnel participated in another great year of 'Shop With A Cop' at the Livingston Walmart. This event provided a Christmas shopping experience to over 80 local children. Special thanks to Store Manager Jonathan Montalvo, his staff at Walmart and generous sponsors for making this event possible and also to the law enforcement agencies who participate.

During 2022, Livingston Police Department Officers and Telecommunicators responded to 14,268 calls for service with an average response time of 2.13 minutes. Department personnel investigated 335 crashes, investigated 2,525 criminal complaints, and made 802 arrests during the year.

Updated communications by removing the old, damaged tower located at the municipal complex and installing a new communication system at the West Street elevated water tower.

Purchased two new patrol units with updated equipment that allows officers access to the Flock system, to monitor the GPS location of all patrol units, local crime data, special alerts, and other law enforcement software.



LIVINGSTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Livingston Volunteer Fire Department provides Livingston and the surrounding area with fire prevention, fire protection, medical first responders, rescue operations and hazardous material responses. The Department covers 250 square miles of property in its initial response area. The Department also provides mutual aid to the other ten departments in Polk County.

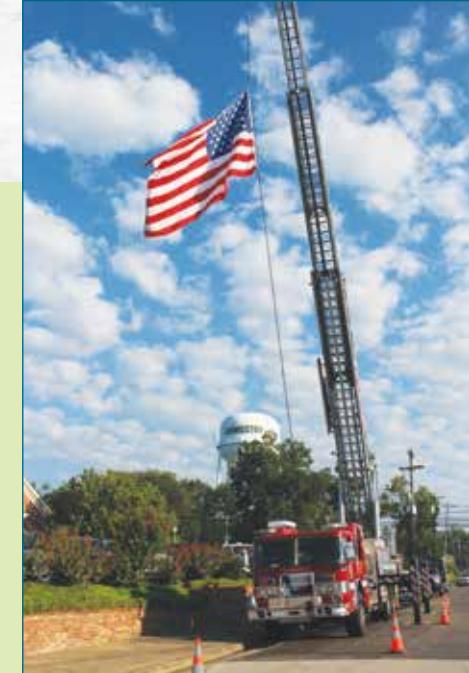


In 2022, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department responded to 720 calls for service, including 291 inside the City and 429 outside the City.

The City Council approved the renewal of the annual agreement with Polk County for firefighting services to be provided by the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department outside the City limits from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, reflecting funding of \$51,397.19 by the County.

The Department presented fire prevention and fire safety programs to approximately 2,500 students at schools throughout Polk county.

TYPE OF CALL	CITY	COUNTY
Automatic Alarm	111	13
Commercial Building Fire	7	13
Residential Fire	6	37
Mobile Home/Trailer Fire	0	12
Car/Truck Fire	12	29
Control Burn	0	14
Unauthorized Outside Burn	13	40
Grass Fire	9	42
Woods/Forest Fire	4	63
Dumpster Fire	0	1
Smoke in Building	6	1
First Responder	43	83
Jaws	7	28
Wreck	24	23
Bomb Threat	1	0
Search	2	2
Rescue	1	0
Lake Rescue	0	1
Hazardous Material	11	4
Electrical Hazard	4	6
Fumes/Vapor	4	2
Leak	4	5
Spill	4	0
False Alarm	1	2
Miscellaneous	3	2
Assists	14	6
TOTAL FIRE CALLS	291	429
GRAND TOTAL		720



ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

Maintained lighting and electrical equipment at Livingston Municipal Complex, Livingston Municipal Airport, tennis courts, baseball fields, Livingston Municipal Library, Barney Wiggins Memorial Arena Fairgrounds, Matthews Street Park, LVFD fire training field and four LVFD fire stations. Maintained streetlights, night lights and flood lights throughout the City.

Continued maintenance of rights-of-way throughout the City including mowing of vegetation, tree trimming and removal of dead or problem trees.

Performed routine maintenance of both Livingston and Ogletree electric substations.

Set four 35' poles, trenched 450' for underground service and installed lights on each pole for the new youth golf driving range and practice facility at Matthews Street Park.

Assisted with installation of Christmas lighted displays in Pedigo Park and Anniversary Park.

Maintained 3,360 feet of LED lights that outline the buildings in the Main Street district during the holiday season.

Installed seasonal Welcome to Livingston banners and military appreciation banners throughout the year.

Continued routine line maintenance including changing out of utility poles and anchors.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

STREET DEPARTMENT

Continued the brush collection program picking up vegetative debris and brush once a month in each quadrant of the city.

Ditch maintenance and drainage improvements were made throughout the city.

Sign maintenance and signage improvements were made throughout the city.

GARAGE DEPARTMENT

Maintained 36 generators that supply electricity to various city facilities during power outages.

Maintained and repaired more than 135 pieces of equipment/vehicles used by all city departments.

Maintained fuel supply for all departments and fuel operations at Livingston Municipal Airport.

Installed emergency lighting, radios and other equipment in new service vehicles.

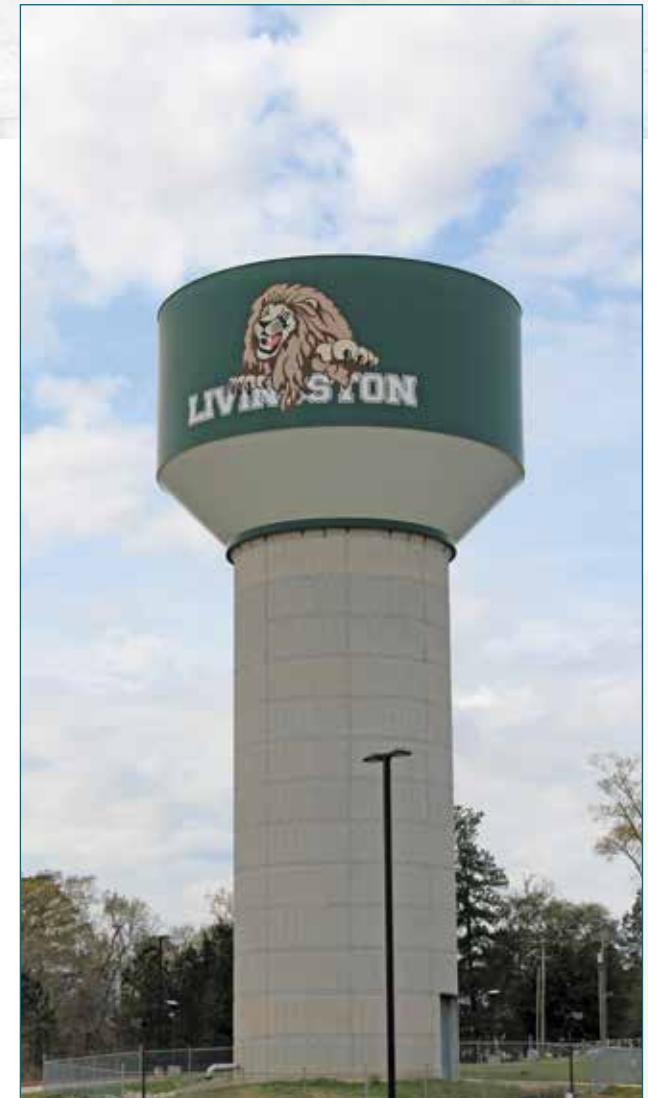
WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Implementation of the automatic metering infrastructure (AMI) project was approved by Council at the June 14, 2022 meeting of City Council. This project will include the replacement of water and electric meters and will provide greater transparency to citizens regarding their water and electricity usage.

Continued with fire hydrant maintenance and replacement throughout town.

Continued with upgrades to the water distribution system in various parts of town.

Continued sewer manhole rehabilitation on various manholes during the year.



A Great Place to Call Home

SPECIAL EVENTS / TRADE DAYS / PARKS & RECREATION

Trade Days completed its 23rd year of operation. During 2022 the quarterly Trade Days event was held in March, May, October and November. The annual Spring Outdoor Expo was held in March.

The annual Kids Fishing Frenzie was held at Pedigo Park in October. The tournament was a wonderful success with nearly 70 children fishing. Thanks to generous sponsors, the pond was stocked with fish with a number of the fish tagged for cash prizes. The City of Livingston joined with the Texas Game Warden Association and the following sponsors for the event: Best Air, Eastex Telephone, First National Bank, First State Bank, Lee Chiropractic, Owen's Furniture, People's State Bank, Sam Houston Electric, and Today's Dental.

The Polk County Garden Club hosted the 'Visit With Santa' event on Friday, December 9th at Miss Effie's Cottage. Children delivered their letter to Santa's mailbox and took a photo with Santa. Packaged cookies and drinks were provided by the City of Livingston and handed out by Garden Club members.



PARKS & RECREATION

Pedigo Park was an excellent outdoor venue for the 3rd Annual Livingston-Polk County Chamber of Commerce Smoke in the

Pines BBQ Cookoff event held in June. The Smokin' Hot Auto and Bike Show, Kids' Q event, cornhole tournament, and vendor booths added to the successful event.

The annual Easter Eggstravaganza was held at Pedigo Park on April 9th. Thanks to many generous sponsors, there were 20,000 candy-filled eggs and over 250 prizes given away.

At a dedication ceremony held May 20, 2022, the property donated to the City from the Pritchard Family was officially named the Cannon Pond & Park.

Matthews Street Park Swimming Pool opened to the public on Memorial Day. During the summer, 545 swimming lessons were given, including Water Babies, Water Waddles for 3-year-olds and regular swim lessons for children 4 years old and older. Matthews Park Swimming Pool is home to the Livingston Sea Lions swim team.

The Parks and Recreation Department created a wide array of special Christmas lighting throughout the City. The drive-thru Christmas light display at Pedigo Park and the First Baptist Church 'Drive Through Bethlehem' event were favorites of the Christmas season.



LIVINGSTON MUNICIPAL LIBRARY



Livingston Municipal Library is located at the corner of Tyler and Milam Streets. The library returned to normal operating hours during 2022 including Saturdays beginning in March.

The Friends of the Library provided funds to purchase large print books, children's books, and the Houston Chronicle. They also contributed \$1,500 to allow the library to continue membership with the Piney Woods Digital Consortium.

LIBRARY FACTS

- 28,190** Customers entered the library
- 31,607** Items were checked out
- 344** Reference questions were asked of library staff
- 2,117** Items were added to the collection
- 592** New customers registered and 743 customers renewed their memberships
- 3,685** Hours of computer access were provided to 3,700 customers
- 4,278** Customers used the library's wireless access for 5,240 hours
- 5,723** eBooks, downloadable audiobooks and movies were checked out by customers
- 111** Customers started using the Library's electronic resources for the first time
- 109** Children's programs were hosted at the library

LIVINGSTON MAIN STREET

The Livingston Main Street Program envisions historic downtown Livingston as the heart of the City – a place where social, economic and civic activities generate a welcoming environment for local citizens and visitors to enjoy.



Livingston Main Street was recognized by Main Street America and by Texas Main Street as a 2022 Accredited Program for attaining the prescribed standards of performance. Main Street Manager Lynn Riley attended the August 9, 2022 City Council meeting to provide Council with the details of the recognition and express appreciate to Council for their continued support of Livingston Main Street.

The City of Livingston and Livingston Main Street partnered with the Livingston Farmers Market Association for the Farmers & Artisan Market in Anniversary Park from May to August.

F.A.I.T.H. Military Support Group and Main Street hosted the July 4th Independence Day Picnic in Anniversary Park.

Main Street partnered with Livingston Specialty Merchants Guild to organize the month-long Shop Local campaign running from October 29th through November 26th. Numerous local businesses participated with hundreds of participating customers.

CITY OF LIVINGSTON PERSONNEL

ADMINISTRATIVE



Billy S. Wiggins, City Manager



Ellie Monteaux, City Secretary
& Assistant City Manager



Jim Wright, City Attorney



Stacy Edwards,
Human Resources Clerk



Juan Parra,
Administrative Assistant

FINANCE



Linnette Barker, Finance
Director



Cheralon David,
Accounts Payable

UTILITY BILLING



Julie Miller, Utility Billing
Supervisor



Utility Billing Staff – Jerri Greene, Luisa Santiago,
Ashley Bruce

MUNICIPAL COURT



Sarah Milner, Court Clerk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Community Development/Code Enforcement –
Josh Mohler, Fire Marshal, Cheryl Paul, Jeff Hunter,
Community Development Coordinator

SPECIAL EVENTS/ MAIN STREET



Lynn Riley, Special Events/Main Street Coordinator,
Toni Fuller

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT



Priscilla Emrich,
Library Director



Library Staff – Sabrina Jackson, Wendy Black,
Cristina Howe, Taylor Brent, Kimberly Perkins

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT



Derrick Richardson,
Electric Superintendent



Electric Crew – Travis McCreight, Jamie Valderez, Justin Adams, Scott Langston,
Gunnard Elliott

GARAGE DEPARTMENT



Keith Foxworth, Scott Bradley, Sidney Cox

CITY OF LIVINGSTON PERSONNEL

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Matt Parrish, Police Chief



Police Department Officers

Row One: Lt. Marty Drake, Sgt. Kevin Blackburn, Sgt. Ronnie Bogany, Sgt. Dallas Early, Sgt. Tito Reyes, Sgt. Chris Simmons

Row Two: Det. Kaleb Barker, Det. Donald Dyson, Kendall Benfer, Tremaine Bogany, Ryan Boyd, Jacob Edwards,

Row Three: Chris Huestis, Jordi LeBouef, Chad Lilley, Taryn Lopez, Jack Mueller, Scott Paske

Row Four: Britton Shoellhorn, Dennis Clifton (Reserve), Mike deVilleneuve (Reserve), Nita Bowen (Reserve), Paul Holmes (Reserve), Stan Galloway (Reserve)

POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT STAFF



Row One: Trisha Patton, Gina Early, April Bradley, Melissa Blackburn, Lee Ann Barnes

Row Two: Stephnie Brown, Hanna Miller, Gary Richburg, Kristi Fogleman, Adron Harvey

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



Hec Long,
Public Works Director



Street Crew – Clint Walters, Jose Ojeda, Dylan Stafford, Carlos Orosco, Jose Rodrigo Narvaez, Thomas Lauhoff
Not pictured – Leonard McGowen



Parks Crew – Darren McNeil, Juan Cruz, Robert Harvey, Jeffery Hunter, Cody Marsh, Harry Kemp, Pedro Hidalgo



Paul Baker, Assistant
Public Works Director



Jason Britton, Public Works
Compliance Coordinator



Water Crew – Jason Cecil, Shawn Nichols, Ryder Lee, Wesley Green, John Jacobs



Wastewater Crew – Ernesto Zuniga, Tim Smith, Calvin Bogan

CITY OF LIVINGSTON ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES

The City of Livingston would like to recognize each employee for their years of service and extend appreciation to each of these ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES who worked diligently to provide service to our citizens during the challenging year of 2022.

City of Livingston Full-Time Employees Listed by Years of Service:

Tim Smith, Sewer – 40 Years
Priscilla Emrich, Library – 37 Years
Keith Foxworth, Garage – 31 Years
Sarah Milner, Municipal Court – 31 Years
Matt Parrish, Police – 30 Years
Ronnie Bogany, Police – 25 Years
Julie Miller, Utility Billing – 24 Years
Jerri Greene, Utility Billing – 23 Years
Cody Marsh, Parks – 23 Years
Paul Baker, Public Works – 22 Years
Hec Long, Public Works – 22 Years
Ellie Monteaux, City Secretary/Assistant City Manager – 22 Years
Carlos Orosco, Street – 22 Years
Marty Drake, Police – 21 Years
Chad Lilley, Police – 21 Years
Scott Paske, Police – 21 Years
Kevin Blackburn, Police – 19 Years
Jason Britton, Public Works – 19 Years
Cheryl Paul, Community Development – 19 Years
Toni Fuller, Trade Days/Special Events – 18 Years
Kaleb Barker, Police – 17 Years
Stacy Edwards, Human Resources – 16 Years
Sabrina Jackson, Library – 16 Years
Josh Mohler, Fire Marshal – 16 Years

Jason Cecil, Water – 15 Years
Derrick Richardson, Electric – 15 Years
Dallas Early, Police – 13 Years
Jose Ojeda, Street – 13 Years
Luisa Santiago, Utility Billing – 12 Years
Scott Bradley, Garage – 11 Years
Kimberly Perkins, Library – 11 Years
Trisha Patton, Police – 11 Years
Jamie Valderez, Electric – 11 Years
Scott Langston, Electric – 10 Years
Jim Wright, City Attorney – 10 Years
Ernesto Zuniga, Wastewater – 10 Years
Wesley Green, Water – 9 Years
John Jacobs, Water – 9 Years
Tito Reyes, Police – 9 Years
Gina Early, Police – 8 Years
Gunnard Elliott, Electric – 8 Years
Jeff Hunter, Community Development – 8 Years
Travis McCreight, Electric – 8 Years
Lynn Riley, Trade Days/Special Events/ Main Street – 8 Years
Clint Walters, Street – 8 Years
Stephnie Brown, Police – 7 Years
Jeffery Hunter, Parks – 7 Years
Shawn Nichols, Water – 7 Years

Donald Dyson, Police – 6 Years
Juan Parra, Administration – 6 Years
Bill Wiggins, City Manager – 5 Years
Juan Cruz, Parks – 4 Years
Jacob Edwards, Police – 4 Years
Tremaine Bogany, Police – 3 Years
Cristina Howe, Library – 3 Years
Harry Kemp, Parks – 3 Years
Jose Rodrigo Narvaez, Street – 3 Years
Taylor Brent, Library – 2 Years
Calvin Bogan, Wastewater – 2 Years
Christ Huestis, Police – 2 Years
Ryder Lee, Water – 2 Years
Taryn Lopez, Police – 2 Years
Leonard McGowen, Street – 2 Years
Jack Mueller, Police – 2 Years
Chris Simmons, Police – 2 Years
Justin Adams, Electric – 1 Year
LeeAnn Barnes, Police – 1 Year
April Bradley, Police – 1 Year
Sidney Cox, Garage – 1 Year
Cheralon David, Accounts Payable – 1 Year
Thomas Lauhoff, Street – 1 Year
Gary Richburg, Police – 1 Year
Hanna Miller, Police – 1 Year

Employees with Less Than 1 Year of Service:
Linnette Barker, Finance
Kendall Benfer, Police
Ryan Boyd, Police
Ashley Bruce, Utility Billing
Robert Harvey, Parks
Pedro Hidalgo, Parks
Jordi LeBouef, Police
Darren McNeil, Parks
Britton Shoellhorn, Police
Dylan Stafford, Street

Part-Time Employees:
Wendy Black, Library
Kristi Fogleman, Relief Dispatcher
Adron Harvey, Relief Dispatcher

Reserve Police Officers:
Nita Bowen
Dennis Clifton
Mike deVilleneuve
Stan Galloway
Paul Holmes



City of Livingston
200 West Church Street
Livingston, TX 77351-3281
www.cityoflivingston-tx.com

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 11
LIVINGSTON, TX 77351

A Great Place to Call Home

2022 CITY OF LIVINGSTON ANNUAL REPORT

