



City news

Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendars for these upcoming events for all ages and many interests.

February 13, 2024	* City Council Meeting * 7:00 pm * Council Chambers
February 13, 2024	* Lions Club Annual Pancake Supper * 5:00 – 7:30 pm * Community Center
February 19, 2024	* Presidents' Day * City Offices CLOSED
March 12, 2024	* City Council Meeting * 7:00 pm * Council Chambers
March 29, 2024	* Good Friday * City Offices CLOSED
April 9, 2024	* City Council Meeting * 7:00 pm * Council Chamber
April 15 – May 15, 2024	* Eagle Lake's Crazy about Birds Photo Contest * Registration Deadline: April 5, 2024

Eagle Lake Police Department

Mission Statement: "Our mission is to serve and protect the citizens of Eagle Lake, while building strong relationships based on mutual trust and respect. We will carry out our mission with the highest level of professionalism, integrity, fairness and excellence."

From left to right: Sergeant Patrick Gonzales, Officer Jessie Lopez, Administrative Assistant Pat Mathis, Sergeant Dustin Blackburn, Chief Donald Chaney, Investigator Eliut Lopez, Officer Brandon Horton, and Officer Kiera Jones.



Animal Control: The City of Eagle Lake Animal Control Ordinance provides for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the city by controlling the animal population and establishing uniform rules for the control of animals and eradication of rabies. The ordinance fully outlines how to properly restrain dogs whether it's going for a walk, letting them use the restroom outside, or out for an afternoon in the park. When taking a dog out under any of these circumstances, they need to be on a leash AT ALL TIMES. Additionally, leashes shall not be longer than, or allowed to exceed, ten feet in length or five times the length of the dog. This means retractable leashes too. Animals not on a leash are considered unrestrained and categorized as a public nuisance. All pets need to be secured on a leash or in a fenced in area at all times when outside the home/business. Animals found "at large" will be impounded and the owner can be subject to fines/fees for violating the ordinance. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum as provided in **section 1.01.009**.

Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2 Animal Control

§ 2.02.004 Dogs running at large.

No person shall permit any dog to run unconfined or unrestrained anywhere out-of-doors in the city. This regulation shall apply to all public places and to all private property. No person shall permit any dog to be out-of-doors in any place unless the dog is secured in such a manner that it will not cause injury to any person. This section shall not apply to police department K-9 dogs while in the performance of official duties. (Ordinance 2012-01 adopted 1/10/12)

§ 2.02.005 Confinement of dogs; fence required.

Every person who owns, keeps, feeds or harbors any dog that is not secured in an acceptable manner shall not leave such dog unattended in any place except inside a building or out-of-doors in a fenced yard, with a fence adequate to prevent the dog from leaving the yard. (Ordinance 2012-01 adopted 1/10/12)

§ 2.02.006 Barking dogs.

No person shall keep or possess within the limits of the city any barking or howling dog which disturbs the peace, comfort, or repose of persons of normal nervous sensibilities. (Ordinance 2008-07, sec. 5(F), adopted 10/14/08)

The Safe Outdoor Dogs Act – 5 Things you NEED to know:

- Owners must use approved cable tie-outs, trolley systems, or “zip lines”, no tethering with weight or chains.
- Tether must be attached to a properly fitting collar or harness.
- Must have adequate shelter from extreme weather conditions.
- Must be able to avoid standing water.
- Must have access to clean drinkable water.

Street Improvement Project: We all drive on city streets daily and face the same potholes our citizens do. We are diligently working to address issues. We have a crew of 6 hard working Public Works staff members who not only have to try to keep up with road repairs, but also have to keep the water flowing to your homes, the sewage flowing away and the ditches moving so we can get storm water out of our city. This most recent set of storms caused significant damage to water lines with wind chills down near 0 degrees. That was followed by 7-10 inches of rain which obviously led to many other issues including numerous potholes.

There are some realities when it comes to potholes. First, when it rains, they fill with water. That means you can't see them, which leads to more people driving through them or “hitting” them. Every time a car “hits” a pothole, it gets bigger. Second, potholes cannot be filled or repaired while they are wet. The fill material won't stay in the pothole. That means we have to let them dry out before we can fill them.

A large street improvement project WILL BEGIN as soon as all the details are finalized. The city did issue new debt in 2023 without any change to our current taxes, and that money will be dedicated to streets and the infrastructure below them. This requires our patience as we deal with detours and delays. At their January meeting, the City Council further approved the use of up to \$1 million from utility reserves to further expand the number of roads we could replace. The engineers are working on the plans for the improvements, and we anticipate being able to go out for bids to begin the projects in April or May. This is a \$4 million project plan. It requires proper engineering and review to ensure that the investment of that money lasts.

Will every street be improved? No, they won't. It would cost significantly above what the bond will provide to do them all. And it is not just the roads, it will be infrastructure under the repaired roads too – water, wastewater, storm drains, etc.

If you have questions, talk to any of your City Council Members or go by City Hall and speak with the City Manager. We will be happy to discuss this with you.

Tennis & Pickleball Courts: The Joe S. Reed Tennis Courts located on Golf Course Road received damage to the fence due to high winds. Repairs will be completed soon.

Veterans Memorial Park: Looking for a place to work out? Download the App for the Fitness Court® and workout from dusk to dawn.



Resolution No. 2024-05: Council passed a Resolution on January 9, 2024 establishing a formal request to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to designate a **"No Thru-Truck Traffic"** Route along Main Street. If the resolution is approved by TxDOT, the council plans to enact an Ordinance in the City of Eagle Lake to enforce the "No Thru-Truck Traffic" along Main Street. This means that there will be legal provisions and regulations in place to prohibit trucks from using Main Street as a thoroughfare. The Eagle Lake Police Department would then be responsible for enforcing these regulations.

Trash Pickup on Wednesday for everyone: Please have your garbage carts set out by 7:00 a.m. every Wednesday. If you have bulky items such as a dresser, chair, etc. that will not fit in a cart, you can put these items out by your blue carts so GFL can pick those items up with a grapple truck on Thursday. This truck has an arm that an operator can use to grab and pick up bulky items. Please pile your limbs beside the street, not under a tree or power line, so the grapple truck can pick them up safely. Brush/limbs/clean fence boards must be bundled in 4 feet lengths.

AMI Water Meters/Account Access: Did you know the EYE ON WATER App is FREE?

You now have online account access to your water usage information. You can see your water usage and set leak alerts, so you will be notified in case of a leak. This can save you time and money, so what's not to love. Download from Google play or the App Store today. Details can be found here:

<https://www.coeltx.net/utilities/page/eye-water>



City Council Meetings Availability: City Council Meetings are held the second Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Meetings are always live streamed via Zoom and audio recordings are available on the city website.

After-Hours Information: The City of Eagle Lake Public Works Department provides 24-hour emergency services. To report emergencies after normal business hours, weekends, or holidays, please call (979) 732-2388 or (979) 310-3051 and the appropriate Public Works personnel will be contacted.