

Hard decisions following hard talk on budget

By James Draper

The City of Gladewater’s going back to square one on the budget with less than a month until Fiscal Year 2027.

It’s a hard turn that follows on the heels of heated exchanges last week between the mayor and city treasurer.

Almost a month passed between council members’ first budget workshop July 30 and the second on Aug. 25. A bit more than a week since, the third dive into the numbers for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 begins at 6 p.m. tonight.

Questions about the city’s three-month reserve quickly boiled over into frustration last week. At the time, it wasn’t clear how much the past year’s projects, repairs and purchases had eaten into the balance – without the requisite council approvals.

“At no point should anybody have been in the reserve fund dipping it down like that and letting it go anywhere below three months without this council being made aware of it beforehand,” Mayor Brandy Flanagan-Shipp said. “This is not OK.”

Where did it go?

“A lot of the expenses that occurred over the past year were things getting fixed and being proactive,” Gladewater Treasurer Meghan Davis said. “It’s not just one specific department.”

At one point, it appeared more than half the three-month emergency fund had been depleted along with excess funds. Following Tuesday’s meeting, updated numbers put it at about 94 percent of the target.

“Any money that’s been spent has been spent on years of neglected infrastructure,” Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith said later. “What I want to see is Gladewater not taking a step backwards from where we’re at, because if you’re not making progress, you’re losing ground.”

Department heads are watching their pennies, he told the council, but the city’s employees are also tasked with keeping Gladewater on solid footing.

“Some of the excessive spending, probably, that’s because of me telling them to fix these things.”

The progress is evident, council member Kevin Clark said. “We’ve seen the productivity from the staff. We’ve seen roads paved. We’ve seen new things that we’ve not done in years,” he agreed. That said, maintaining a reserve is a priority.

“The numbers that we’re seeing right now aren’t matching the expectations,” Clark added later. “In trying to do our due diligence in not putting an undue burden on our constituents, we are halting the process to determine what we can do to be responsible to the community.”

Per a General Fund Policy adopted in July 2025, the city keeps three months of operational expenses in-hand to cover revenue shortfalls, unanticipated expenditures and continuing operations during economic downturns, natural disasters and similar emergencies.

Considering a variety of factors, the number shifts every year.

From the latest figures, the relevant expenses for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 total \$11,618,926. Divided by 12, that’s \$968,244 per month, putting the current reserves level at slightly more than \$2.9 million.

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Photo by Chris Jones

Bears, Lions open season with wins

By Tyler Sutton

The Gladewater Bears opened up what they believe will be a huge season as they hosted the Daingerfield Tigers at the Jack and the Bears came away with a dominant 39-14 victory.

Gladewater won the toss and wanted to get the ball first and it took their run game no time to get going as senior RB Trey Watts had a pair of long runs and set up fullback Lucas Vasquez for a short 2 yard TD run and the two point try was good to make it 8-0 Bears. But Daingerfield answered right back as QB JT McCuin took it in from 2 yards out to make it a 8-6 game. But the two point try for the Tigers was fumbled and scooped up by the Bears Destin Sherridan and returned for two and gave Gladewater a 10-6 lead after 1 quarter.

After the Tigers got the ball back to start the 2nd quarter after a Gladewater turnover on downs, the Tigers could do nothing and punted. The Gladewater run game then took over as Watts had three

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With his concentration locked in, Roughneck wideout Cal Jester (10) leaps high, pulling down a 37-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Mason Wright. The spectacular grab brought the Necks to within striking distance during a second-half shootout that eventually saw White Oak fall by a score of 39-34.

Photo by Mike Peery



Gladewater firefighters battle blazes

Two grassfires and a burning barn kept Gladewater emergency responders busy over the weekend, and the local firefighters are warning locals to be extremely cautious amid ongoing drought conditions.

Only one fire’s cause was immediately apparent, Gladewater Fire Department Capt. Aaron Nugent said, and the others are being investigated. One of the weekend’s incidents consumed half of a barn on Hwy. 80 toward Big Sandy, a total loss for the homeowner. There were no injuries reported, only property damage.

Especially in current conditions, the source can be anything from a fallen power line – the culprit in one blaze – to a cigarette, sparks from a trailing chain or a piece of glass in the wrong place at the wrong angle to the sun.

“It could be a refraction off of a beer bottle.”

He even warned one resident to move a construction light into the shade lest the wandering sun use it as a magnifying glass. Crazy as it sounds, it’s better to be safe than sorry, Nugent added.

Upshur keeping same tax rate, but taxpayers paying more

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Monday scheduled Sept. 15 as the date for both holding a public hearing on, and voting to adopt, the proposed property tax rate for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Although the county proposes to retain its current tax rate of 51.4 cents per \$100 valuation, taxpayers will pay more than last year because that rate will raise nearly \$600,000 more revenue than it did then.

Some \$524,000 of that comes from new properties, said County Judge Todd Tefteller.

After holding a public hearing Monday on the matter in Gilmer, the court also approved Sept. 15 as date for adopting the 2026-27 county budget.

County Auditor Connie Williams said the proposed general fund and insurance fund budget combined is about \$25.15 million, about \$1.18 million above the current 2025-26 fiscal year budget.

She said the budget increase resulted from raising funding for the Road and Bridge Department, salary hikes of at least \$1,200 for all full-time county employees, and raising the county’s share of paying for current employees’ forthcoming retirement.

Other factors, she said, were costs of improving the 115th District Courtroom at the county’s justice center, and setting up an animal control program.

Williams said that some years ago, the court (which had an entirely different membership then) had cut the county’s share of the retirement cost in half. Later, she said, the court raised it back to \$1.50 for each \$1 an employee put in, and Tefteller said the new budget will restore the county contributing \$2 for every \$1 an employee pays toward retirement.

In other action Monday, the court approved interlocal agreements with five school districts to have protective school resource officers who are deputies on Sheriff Larry Webb’s staff.

They include Union Grove, Big Sandy, New Diana, Gilmer and Ore City ISDs. The county already had reached such an agreement with Harmony ISD, leaving the small rural Union Hill ISD as the only district lying wholly or primarily in the county not to contract with the county for an SRO.

Webb told the court the schools are paying about \$70,000 each for the service.

In other business Monday, the court approved county Emergency Management Coordinator Marc Nichols’ request to donate a 2013 Ford sports utility vehicle to the city of Gilmer in exchange for the city donating the county a 2017 Ford 4x4 pickup which was being driven by city Fire Chief Billy Joe Williams.

Nichols indicated the pickup was better suited for his work than the SUV, which he has been driving. He termed the transaction, which involves no exchange of money, a “win-win for both of us (county and city.)”

OPINION/COMMENTARY

Scars

A year and a half after the attack on the Twin Towers I was in New York City speaking at Columbia University at a national scholastic journalism convention. It seemed odd to teach yearbook theme to hundreds of teenagers in a world that was different, in a city that was different, to a people who were different because we had been attacked on American soil by terrorists.

New Yorkers carried on but were subdued. Even a year and a half later rubble filled where the Towers and other buildings once stood. The rubble was fenced in and the crowds were fenced out. And there were guards who protected that rubble because it wasn't just rubble.

It was quiet around the site. It was ugly and devastating and invoked heartbreak and anger. Now I understand that it is a beautiful memorial and historical site...much like the sunken battleship the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor. Separated by 60 years the stories have much in common. Ordinary people rose to an extraordinary circumstance in one unexpected moment.

I had the privilege of meeting and visiting with several firefighters who had survived the fall of the Twin Towers. There were also a lot of rookies I met who had replaced the 343 lost in the darkness of that day.

You didn't have to ask who the veterans were. Even if they were the same age as the rookies their eyes were different. You could see 9/11 in them. I met a NYPD officer, Sgt. Richard Miranda, who helped evacuate over 3,000 elementary children from the area. He took me to an off limits floor in a high rise next to the site and for about 45 minutes told me his story.

I listened. Really listened and saw the best of what we could be. But I also saw the scars. Scars borne by people who survived and scars on that city and her people.

Scars are interesting things. Some people are embarrassed or ashamed of their scars. Some hide them. Some ignore them and forget they are even there. And some scars are worn proudly.

The Best of
Suzanne
Bardwell



Those scars produce strength and tell a story that needs to be remembered.

On this 17th observance of 9/11, we need to remember to pray for all those who serve us, who put their lives on the line because of the job they were called to do. Many of their stories we will never know, but that doesn't make them any less true.

Gary Borders
Capital Highlights



Industry warns of blackouts if data center opposition overreacts

The pushback against booming data center construction continues to grow, even as the state's grid operator warns of rolling blackouts in West Texas if new transmission lines aren't built, the Texas Standard reported.

Dozens of legislators and state officials have been calling for scrapping the transmission buildout so the Legislature can reassess, while Gov. Greg Abbott's announcement of an audit of all data centers to be connected to the grid has forced the Electric Reliability Council of Texas to pause construction of the lines.

"Whatever the complexities of the policies engaged here — and the degree to which the deployment of these high-capacity power lines and the construction of data centers are distinct issues — in this moment, it's the politics that matter at least as much as the policy," said Jim Henson, director of the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin.

The Public Utility Commission approved a plan to build 765-kilovolt transmission lines across the state to meet transmission needs following Winter Storm Uri in 2021, which underscored the state's grid vulnerabilities. Oil and gas operators in West Texas worry that the region has far less generation capacity than the eastern half of the state.

"The world's most important energy basin is currently running on a patchwork of portable generators that just are not equipped for long-term needs or production growth," said Todd Staples, president of the Texas Oil and Gas Association.

The final decision on whether to build the lines rests with the PUC, whose five members are appointed by Abbott. The governor has not taken a position on the issue.

Wildfires sweep through N. Texas

The Ross Fire in North Texas scorched 85,000 acres in just three days across Jack and Palo Pinto counties, with it doubling in size in a few hours last week, The Texas Tribune reported. As of Sunday morning, the Texas A&M Forest Service said the fire was 31% contained.

No injuries have been reported, but some rural residents were advised to evacuate. With much of the state experiencing extreme dry heat, the Forest Service reported 10 active fires as of Sunday that have scorched more than 90,000 acres across Texas.

Fire severely damaged Worth Ranch, an 800-acre historic Scouting America camp along the Brazos River.

Judge blocks drag show ban

A federal judge once again blocked a Texas law banning certain drag show performances, The Dallas Morning News reported. The judge said the law's restrictions violate the U.S. Constitution.

U.S. District Judge David Hittner last week ruled that Senate Bill 12 is an unconstitutional ban on free speech and permanently barred Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton from enforcing the law.

The 2023 law, heavily backed by Republican lawmakers, prohibited "sexually oriented performances" in front of minors or on public property where children might see them. The law did not prohibit all drag shows. In a 36-page ruling, Hittner concluded that the law was both overly broad and unconstitutionally vague.

Paxton said he would appeal the decision "immediately."

Tribe opens temporary casino in East Texas

The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe recently opened a new temporary casino in Leggett, just north of Livingston, with plans to build a much larger resort on the site, the Houston Chronicle reported.

"Naskila Casino Leggett is the beginning of new beginnings for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas," Ricky Sylvestine, tribal council chairman, said in a statement. The new 24-hour facility features more than 300 electronic bingo machines as well as gaming rooms and a grill.

The tribe held a groundbreaking ceremony in June for a 685,000-square-foot casino with a large gaming floor, a 366-room hotel and other entertainment amenities. The first phase is planned this be finished in late 2028.



Affordability

Over the past few years, costs of living have increased significantly faster than wages, thus creating a major affordability problem for millions of Americans. It is a hot-button campaign topic at present, but the real issue is much more visceral. It is multifaceted, and solutions won't be simple. Let's briefly explore how we arrived at this point.

The affordability issue at its current level of urgency has its origins in the later stages of the pandemic. As things opened up, consumers who had received cash infusions from various programs and stimulus efforts were eager to spend. This pent-up demand occurred while supply chains were disrupted, sending prices skyrocketing (which is inevitable when demand far outstrips supply). As a result, inflation was rampant at about 9%.

Inflation moderated due to aggressive monetary policy (interest rate increases) and the opening of supply chains, but only to around 3%. While certainly an improvement, it did not significantly alleviate the affordability situation; a reduction in the rate of inflation is nonetheless an increase in the already-elevated prices.

Other factors have compounded the problem. Tariffs have raised prices on many consumer goods, as well as inputs to the production of many others. Our analysis indicated a cost per household of about \$1,500 per year. Because the tariffs fell disproportionately on steel, aluminum, lumber, and other inputs, they also put upward pressure on housing prices.

Immigration policies have created substantial worker shortages in several key sectors, especially construction (which affects housing costs) and agriculture (which affects food costs). Higher construction costs, together with an increasing number of major climate events (such as storms, floods, and wildfires) have resulted in significant increases in insurance rates, further eroding housing affordability.

Dr. Ray
Perryman



THE ECONOMIST

Beyond these challenges is the situation in the Middle East, which has significantly raised energy prices and transportation costs. It has also created added geopolitical uncertainty, putting upward pressure on long-term interest rates (which, in turn, raises mortgage costs).

The Texas economy has been hit harder in some ways, as the nation's top state for international trade activity and as an importer of labor. These effects are partially offset by the facts that (1) our baseline cost of living is somewhat below the national average and (2) the average cost of gasoline and diesel, though elevated, remains less than most parts of the country. Texas also has a high percentage of low-wage workers, which exacerbates the consequences.

A combination of forces created something of a perfect storm. Although wages have increased, they have not kept pace with the cost of living. Coupled with the rising cost of health care (and health insurance) and other items, it's no surprise that affordability is garnering a lot of attention. Stay safe!

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perrymangroup.com), which has served the needs of more than 3,000 clients over the past four decades.



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IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE WHAT WE BELIEVE

Many people have the idea that it makes no real difference what a person believes just as long as they are honest and sincere in their belief. They think the only thing that matters is just living up to whatever you believe. Let's think about this.

Isn't it strange that many people say that about religious beliefs when they know it is not true in other areas. Take, for example, a man who mistakenly boards the wrong airplane. We all know his honesty and sincerity will not guarantee that he will go where he wants to go. Or what if a stockholder believes in the soundness of a company that is actually about to fail? We know that the sincerity of his confidence in that company will not guarantee it won't fail! In religion not only does it make a difference what one believes, it makes an eternal difference.

According to George Barna Research 43% of Americans agreed with the statement: *"It doesn't matter what religious faith you follow because they all teach the same lessons."* In addition 50% of Americans agreed with the following statements: *"All people will experience the same outcome after death, regardless of their religious beliefs;"* and *"All people are eventually saved or accepted by God no matter what they do, because he loves all people He has created."*

My friend, as long as there is a true and a false, a genuine and a counterfeit, it will make a difference what we believe. And for that reason, the Bible says, *"Believe not every spirit, but try (test) the spirits whether they be of God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world"* (1 Jn. 4: 1).

The Bible also says, *"Do not be carried away by varied and strange doctrines"* (Heb. 13: 9). And in Colossians 2: 8 God tells us *"Beware lest anyone take you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ,"* Jesus warned, *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves"* (Matt. 7: 15).

Friends, those are just a few of many warnings in the Bible that it does make a difference what we believe. Think on these things

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Lee-Bardwell Library opens writing contest for senior students' Christmastime tales

In the midst of efforts to support Texas authors and independent literature, Lee-Bardwell Public Library's getting into the publishing biz this holiday season.

Staffers are already at work on their Christmas anthology, and they have two early Christmas presents to support a couple of local high school seniors with a flair for writing.

Executive director Brandy Wynn announced the library's Christmas Short Story Contest last week, asking Gladewater City Council members and residents to help spread the word: Two winning teenage writers will each receive a new laptop and case, and their Yuletide-themed stories will be featured in the library's coming collection.

The contest opens Sept. 1 for submissions from local seniors, including public or home school students, living in five independent school districts: Gladewater, Union Grove, White Oak, Big Sandy and Sabine. The story deadline and other details are still TBD; Wynn got the news out soonest to go ahead and get the writing wheels spinning.

The winners will be announced Dec. 14 during the annual Gladewater Christmas Parade.

Stay tuned for more information or reach out to the library via leelibrary@cityofgladewater.com or by calling 903.845.2640

It's dry, folks - Gladewater adopts emergency operations plan to qualify for state assistance

No surprise, local drought conditions are worse this week. In a worst case scenario, though, Gladewater's in slightly better shape.

Council members here signed off on the 2026 Gregg County Emergency Services Operations Plan Aug. 25. It's standard operating procedure, but it's an important one.

"This is so when we go into a drought contingency plan or a fire burn ban this will cover us if we have some issues," Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith said.

Gregg County instituted its local burn ban in mid-August, and the City of Gladewater immediately followed suit. Upshur County's in no better shape as far as moisture is concerned, and commissioners there have a similar countywide prohibition in place.

"It we have an issue with fire that comes in and there's state funding that comes in to help with emergency stuff, we would be covered by going under this plan," Smith said.

Should the need arise and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott issues an emergency declaration, Gladewater's poised to receive assistance.

"It's a no-brainer," councilman Kevin Clark agreed. Both Upshur County and Gregg were already on the lowest

rung of the Keetch-Byrum Drought Index (KBDI) last week, and they shifted a little bit deeper into the danger zone the past seven days.

As of Aug. 31, Gregg County's mean has fallen from 723.33 Aug. 24 to 748.61 on a scale from 0 to 800. The KBDI max in the county is 773; the minimum is 715.

By comparison, Upshur County rating has moved from 722.02 last week to 747.19 Monday with a max of 783 and a minimum of 692.

Gov. Abbott pushes three-year college degrees

Gov. Greg Abbott is pushing Texas public universities to offer students three-year bachelor's degrees, The News reported. His proposed legislation is part of an effort to cut college costs for Texas students.

The legislation also requires universities to offer at least 10 degrees that can be completed in three years and 90 credit hours, down from typical bachelor's degrees that require four years and 120 hours.

"Every additional year means more tuition and fees, but also more in housing and living expenses.

It's also more time before students are able to go into the job that they are seeking while they're in college," Abbott said at a campaign stop at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches.

The Texas Legislature will need to approve Abbott's proposal before it becomes a reality. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board would work with universities to ensure that the reduced-credit degrees maintain "high academic standards."

THECB has formed working groups to identify which degree programs and high-demand occupations would be best suited for the accelerated programs.

Registration open for UT Health ET Breast Cancer Survivor Summit

Registration is open for the UT Health East Texas Breast Cancer Survivor Summit. The event will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Green Acres Baptist Church Crosswalk Conference Center in Tyler. This year's theme is "Bloom Beyond the Battle."

The summit will celebrate the strength and resilience of breast cancer survivors. The most common cancer diagnosed among U.S. women, breast cancer accounts for 32% of all newly diagnosed cancers in women, and more than 4 million women in the U.S. are living with a history of the disease, whether in treatment or survivorship.

The summit will feature a physician panel with expert insights, a panel discussing thriving as a survivor, vendors and resources for survivors, a breakfast buffet, door prizes, fellowship opportunities and more.

The event is free to attend, but registration is required as seating is limited. Each survivor may bring one registered

guest over the age of 18. In keeping with the theme, attendees are encouraged to wear something floral.

The registration deadline has been extended to Sept. 12. To register, visit: <https://uthealtheasttexas.com/survivor-summit/>

County storytime held Thursdays

A book will be read to young children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Sept. 3).

"Have You Seen My Acorn?" by DK Ryland will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events, which are for children up to age 11.

"Music and movement" will follow each reading of the book. Amy Allred, children's coordinator for the library, said clapping and stretching to music "help with brain development."

Each session also will feature an acorn-related craft. Amazon describes Ryland's work as a "humorous picture book about a squirrel who enlists the help of his woodland friends as he searches for his missing acorn."

Ryland's website sums up the plot thusly: "Squirrel dug and dug, but he couldn't find it. Which could only mean one thing... someone took his acorn!"

"So he asks Deer, and Skunk, and Raccoon. And even Fox! But nobody has seen his acorn, and when owl pipes up with a meandering monologue about a small tree nearby, he is no help at all. Will Squirrel ever find his missing acorn?"

In other library news, the facility's book club meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday, and a new event called "Play With A Purpose" is set for 10 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9.

For more information on the upcoming events, contact the library at 903-843-5001.

Blood drives scheduled

Carter BloodCare of Tyler will hold three blood drives in Upshur County between Sept. 21 and Oct. 1, announced Carter field recruiter Donna A. Russell.

The drive Monday, Sept. 21, is scheduled from 7 a.m.-10 a.m. at Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative at 1200 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154) in Gilmer. Donors are urged to give in honor of Upshur Rural lineman Ty Jordan's four-year-old daughter, Evie Mae, who has leukemia and needs donated blood as a "lifesaving resource," Russell said in a news release. Another drive is set from 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, at Walmart at 1923 N. Wood (which is also U.S. 271) in Gilmer.

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Fine arts lecture at Letourneau

LeTourneau University's Fall 2026 Fine Arts & Humanities Lecture Series will kick off with a lecture titled "The History of Rock Music." (Poster below)

The lecture will be held on Thursday, September 10 at 11:00 AM in the Berry Auditorium of the Glaske Center for Engineering, Science & Technology on the LeTourneau University campus.

Dr. Jim Taylor, Director of Fine Arts and Professor of Music at LeTourneau, will trace the developments of rock music from rhythm and blues in the 1950s through the music of the late 1970s, illustrating his comments with clips of the most formative artists of each genre.

Dr. Taylor has played in rock groups, attended concerts of leading artists in the '60s and '70s, and was part of the throng of hippies at Woodstock. He is a widely published composer and arranger, record producer, and current performer of vintage pop music; academically, he has degrees in Music Composition, Studio Writing and Production, and Choral Conducting. He has conducted his own choral/orchestral works at Carnegie Hall and in Paris, Kyiv, Budapest and Vienna.

Admission to the lecture is free of charge and the public is invited to attend. A map of the LETU campus can be found at www.letu.edu/map.

Other lectures in the series fall 2026 include:

Tue. Oct. 13, 11 AM
The Impact of Photography on Society, Mr. Marc Bailey, LETU Instructor of Photography, Certified Professional Photographers of America

Thur. Nov. 13, 11 AM
"What Does Jerusalem Have to Do with Mars?"



Dr. Randy Compton, LETU Professor, English Language and Communications

For more information on

this lecture or the lecture series, please contact Dr. Taylor at jimtaylor@letu.edu or (903) 233-3379.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.07903 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.07588 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.07903 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2026 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 from the same properties in both the 2025 tax year and the 2026 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2026 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 4589 FM 1252 W, Kilgore, Texas 75662.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Commissioners of Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) / 100

FOR the proposal: Greg Colquitt, Clyde Willoughby, Jennifer Phillips
AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT: Mike Clements, Daniel Patterson

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Gregg County Emergency Services No. 2 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 this year:

	2025	2026	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.07809	\$0.07903	Increase of \$0.00094 per \$100, or 1.2%
Average homestead taxable value	\$226,968	\$236,679	Increase of 4.28%
Tax on average homestead	\$177.24	\$187.05	Increase of \$9.81 or 5.53%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$629,796	\$668,848	Increase of \$39,052 or 6.20%

For assistance with tax calculation, please contact the tax assessor for Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 at (903) 237-2552 or Michelle.Terry@co.gregg.tx.us or visit <https://greggcounty.texas.gov/departments/tax-assessor-collector> for more information.

ACROSS

1 KTVT 1960s TV hit: "___ Bang Theater"

5 TX Roy Orbison's first hit: "___ Dooby" (1956)

6 TXism: "nary a ___" (no one)

7 many Texas vets have used the "___ Bill" for college

8 TXism: "___ as a fiddle"

9 TX Van Cliburn won a piano competition in ___ at age 23

15 TXism: "___ cut the mustard" (unable)

16 around 300,000 Texans fought in this conflict (2 wds.) (1950-53)

19 TXism: "playful as ___ clover"

21 state of the Bush Compound

22 home of Dyess Air Force Base

27 ___ Stanley Gardner was an honorary Texas Ranger

28 small horses

29 LBJ's Secretary of Defense: Robert Mc ___

30 TXism: "so ___ couldn't stir 'em with a stick"

32 panhandle rancher: ___ Waggoner

33 something that never happened in the Astrodome (2 wds.)

36 Texas Bluebonnet is also called a ___ flower

37 Texas Crossword's Charley to Guy (abbr.)

38 this Rob directed 2016 film "LBJ"

39 Texas pecans are sold ___ whole

41 TXism: "tear jerker"

42 donor

45 TXism: "portable cow catcher" (2 wds.)

46 Davy Crockett's state (abbr.)

47 "Ripley's Believe ___ Not"

48 TXism: "___ to the dogs"

49 Texas truck stops, e.g.

52 TX Willie sang "Blue ___ Cryin' in the Rain"

53 this Ducey hit last Ranger homer in Arlington Stadium

54 TX Buddy Holly sang "Peggy ___"

55 Dallas' ___ Thornton Freeway

3 TXism: "snug as ___ rug"

4 TV series of TX Gale Storm (3 wds.)

8 TXism: "plain as the nose on your ___"

9 TXism: "put your ___ mouth is"

10 TXism: "got knocked down a peg ___ two"

11 dir. to Dallas from Denton

12 hunter's clothing

13 TXism: "fits like ugly ___ ape"

14 TX Audie Murphy was most decorated of this war (abbr.)

15 seat of Hemphill County

16 pottery oven

26 this Borgnine was in "Abilene" with TX Red Steagall

28 opinion ___ (survey)

31 TXism: "get ___ ducks in a row"

34 TXism: "the tail ___"

35 Joan Crawford was born in Texas as Lucille Fay ___ Sœur

37 "Mr. Miss Texas": ___ Magness

40 mythical god of love

43 TXism: "call ___ day" (quit)

44 LBJ won in 1948 with fictitious ___

50 old Harlingen home of CAF: ___ Field

51 "Life ___ good!"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1807

See Answers on Page 3

GLADEWATER BEARS

2026 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

VARSITY

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
8/13	TROUP (SCRIMMAGE)	7:00	HOME
8/21	RUSK (SCRIMMAGE)	7:00	AWAY
8/28	DANGERFIELD	7:00	HOME
9/4	PITTSBURG	7:00	HOME
9/10	WEST RUSK	7:00	AWAY
9/18	SPRING HILL	7:00	AWAY
9/25	ATHENS	7:00	HOME
10/2	OPEN	-	-
10/8	*SABINE	7:00	AWAY
10/16	*TATUM	7:00	AWAY
10/23	*WHITE OAK	7:00	HOME
10/30	*LIBERTY EYLAU	7:00	HOME
11/6	*ATLANTA (SR. NIGHT)	7:00	HOME
11/9	ATLANTA	6:30	AWAY

JUNIOR VARSITY

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
8/13	TROUP (SCRIMMAGE)	5:30	HOME
8/21	RUSK (SCRIMMAGE)	5:30	AWAY
8/27	DANGERFIELD	6:30	AWAY
9/3	PITTSBURG	6:30	AWAY
9/8	WEST RUSK	6:30	HOME
9/17	SPRING HILL	6:30	HOME
9/24	ATHENS	6:30	AWAY
10/1	OPEN	-	-
10/8	*SABINE	6:30	HOME
10/15	*TATUM	6:30	HOME
10/22	*WHITE OAK	6:30	AWAY
10/29	*LIBERTY EYLAU	6:30	HOME
11/5	ATLANTA	6:30	AWAY

8th GRADE (B / A)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
9/3	PITTSBURG	4:30 / 5:00	HOME (SCRIMMAGE)
9/8	WEST RUSK	4:30 / 5:00	AWAY
9/17	SPRING HILL	4:30 / 5:00	AWAY
9/24	ATHENS	4:30 / 5:00	HOME
10/1	OPEN	-	-
10/6	SABINE	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
10/15	TATUM	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
10/22	WHITE OAK	4:00 / 4:30	HOME
10/29	LIBERTY EYLAU	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
11/5	ATLANTA	4:00 / 4:30	HOME

7th GRADE (B / A)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
9/3	PITTSBURG	4:30 / 5:00	HOME (SCRIMMAGE)
9/8	WEST RUSK	4:30 / 5:00	AWAY
9/17	SPRING HILL	4:30 / 5:00	AWAY
9/24	ATHENS	4:30 / 5:00	HOME
10/1	OPEN	-	-
10/6	SABINE	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
10/15	TATUM	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
10/22	WHITE OAK	4:00 / 4:30	HOME
10/29	LIBERTY EYLAU	4:00 / 4:30	AWAY
11/5	ATLANTA	4:00 / 4:30	HOME

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2026 WHITE OAK ROUGHNECKS

VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
8/14/26	PALESTINE WESTWOOD/MEXIA	PALESTINE	TBD
8/20/26	GRAND SALINE	WHITE OAK	TBD
8/28/26	SPRING HILL	SPRING HILL	7:00 PM
9/4/26	WINNSBORO	WINNSBORO	7:00 PM
9/11/26	ARP	WHITE OAK	7:30 PM
9/18/26	SCURRY-ROSSER	WHITE OAK	7:00 PM
9/25/26	WEST RUSK	WHITE OAK	7:00 PM
10/2/26	BYE	-	-
10/09/26	LIBERTY-EYLAU	LIBERTY-EYLAU	7:00 PM
10/16/26	ATLANTA	WHITE OAK	7:00 PM
10/23/26	GLADEWATER	GLADEWATER	7:00 PM
10/29/26	TATUM	WHITE OAK	7:00 PM
11/06/26	SABINE	SABINE	7:00 PM

TOUGH * AGGRESSIVE * PHYSICAL

2026 Varsity Football Schedule				
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTE
Friday, August 14	Overton	HOME	5:00 PM	Scrimmage
Thursday, August 20	Como-Pickton	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage
Friday, August 28	Queen City	Away	7:00 PM	-
Friday, September 4	Quitman	Home	7:00 PM	-
Friday, September 11	Elkhart	Home	7:00 PM	Homecoming
Friday, September 18	Tenaha	Away	7:00 PM	-
Friday, September 25	---	---	---	Open Week
Friday, October 2	Paul Hewitt*	Home	7:00 PM	-
Friday, October 9	Elysian Fields*	Away	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, October 15	Ore City*	Away	7:00 PM	KYKX Game of the Week
Friday, October 23	Waskom*	Home	7:00 PM	Pink Out
Friday, October 30	Beckville*	Away	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, November 5	Harleton*	Home	7:00 PM	Senior Night

2026 JV Football Schedule				
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTE
Friday, August 14	Overton	HOME	5:00 PM	Scrimmage
Thursday, August 20	Como-Pickton	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage
Thursday, August 27	Queen City	Home	5:00 PM	-
Thursday, September 3	Quitman	Away	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, September 10	Elkhart	Away	6:00 PM	-
Thursday, September 17	Texas High	Home	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, September 24	---	---	---	Open Week
Thursday, October 1	Paul Hewitt*	Away	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, October 8	Elysian Fields*	Home	7:00 PM	-
Tuesday, October 13	Ore City*	Home	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, October 22	Waskom*	Away	7:00 PM	-
Thursday, October 29	Beckville*	Home	7:00 PM	-
Tuesday, November 3	Harleton*	Away	7:00 PM	-

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Sports roundup

Bears, Lions open season with wins, Necks fall

Continued from Page 1

long runs of 17, 13 and 36 yards and the Bears got back in the endzone when Sheridan took a jet sweep in from 2 yards and another two point conversion made it 18-6 Gladewater.

The Tigers got the ball back but could do nothing again on offense and the Bears lead 18-6 at the half. Daingerfield got the ball to start the second half but again did nothing and turned the ball over on downs once again.

And the Bears made them pay as Vasquez again found the end zone this time from 4 yards and the rout was on as Gladewater lead 25-6 after 3 quarters.

Gladewater then put the game away as after yet another Tigers turnover on downs, Watts broke free and burst into the endmzone for a 15 yard TD to make it 32-6. Then QB Achillies Hess got in on the action with a 7 yard TD run and it was 39-6.

Daingerfield did finally get into the endzone again late but it was far too little, too late itas it only made it the 39-14 final. “We did exactly what i believed we would. Offense came out clicking and the defense held a very good Daingerfield offense in check,” said coach Jermaine Lewis.

The Bears begin the season at 1-0 and will be back at home at the Jack again for week 2 when they host the Pittsburg Pirates. Kickoff is at 7 PM

The Gladewater Lady Bears volleyball team spent the week in Kilgore. First with a double match where they took on Kilgore and Grace Community. Against the Lady Bulldogs,



Photo by Chris Jones

the Lady Bears came away with a 3-1 win (25-16, 25-13, 23-25, 25-22) and fell to Grace Community 2-0. Then the where back in Kilgore for The City of Stars tournament where they went 3-1 losing in the championship game to host Kilgore.

The Lady Bears are now 11-9 on the season and will be back at home to host Hearts Bluff.

The White Oak Roughnecks football team kicked off the Tanner Thiel era as they renewed the Battle of Hawkins creek with old rival Spring Hill and in a back and forth battle fell in a heart-

breaker 39-34. Spring Hill led 9-0 at halftime and boosted the lead ot 16-0 when Keilan Logan returned the second half’s kickoff 76 yards for a touchdown, but White Oak used a third-quarter TD run by Chase Carroll followed by a safety and a touchdown run by Cameron Vail to make it a 16-14 contest with 8:45 left in the game. Spring Hill answered

White Oak’s TD from Vail with a 60-yard scoring jaunt by Brailynn Thomas, and after Trent Jackson kept the Roughnecks close with a 37-yard TD run less than a minute later, Thomas broke loose again this time for 64 yards and the

score to keep Spring Hill in front 30-22.

The Roughnecks also answered quickly when Mason Wright hooked up with Cal Jester on a 37-yard TD pass at the 4:48 mark, but the failed try for two points left White Oak trailing 30-28.

Logan raced 20 yards for a Spring Hill touchdown with 3:43 remaining to put the Panthers on top 37-28, but the Roughnecks weren’t finished. Wright tossed a 24 yard TD pass to Jackson with 2:21 remaining to make it a 37-34 contest, but on the ensuing 2 point try Spring Hill’s Isaiah Ryan intercepted a pass three yards deep in the end zone

and sprinted 103 yards down the Panther sideline to give the home team a 39-34 lead.

White Oak had one final shot with 17 seconds left but a QB sack ended the game.

The Roughnecks fall to 0-1 and will next head to Winnsboro for week 2, Kickoff is at 7 PM.

The White Oak Ladynecks volleyball team had a very busy week at home starting with hosting Central Heights where they were swept 25-21, 25-23 and 25-15.

That was followed by hosting the annual Shirley Atkins tournament where the Ladynecks went a perfect 3-0 in

pool play beating Pittsburgh (3-0), Carthage (3-0) and Hughes Springs (3-0). Then in bracket play, they defeated Tyler HEAT 3-0 and Sabine 3-1 before falling to Madisonville in the championship game 3-1 for a 5-1 record.

White Oak is now 12-12 on the season and will next be in action when they host Gilmer and head to Pine Tree.

The Union Grove Lions kicked off year 2 under Kyle Adams as they hit the road to Queen City and came away with a easy 41-22 victory.

Hudson Wightman rushed for 181 yards and 3 touchdowns and also caught 3 passes for 14 yards and another TD.

He also had a interception on defense. QB Brycen Porter had 17 carries for 97 yards and 2 touchdowns. He also passed for 39 yards and a touchdown. On defense Andy Peck had 11 tackles and a sack and Daniel Fernandez had 11 tackles.

The Lions improve to 1-0 and will next be in action with their home opener against Quitman. Kickoff is at 7 PM.

The Union Grove Lady Lions volleyball team continued their non district schedule as they made the short trip to Overton to take on the Lady Mustangs and were swept 3-0 (25-22, 25-13, 25-21).

That was followed by heading to Hawkins for a tournament where they went 2-2 with wins over Waskom (2-0) and Greenville Homeschool (2-0) and losses to Greenville Homeschool (2-0) and Jefferson (2-0).

The Lady Lions are now 6-7 on the season and will next be in action with home games against Waskom and Quitman.

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CROSS COUNTRY

All 3 area local schools were in in cross country action where for Gladewater in Whitehouse at the Wildcat Willie Wildcat Classic where for girls:

SR Nobelle Humphries brought home 1st at 12:17
SR Arianna Arrizia brought home 2nd at 12:19
Kendall Yount brought home 42nd at 17:56

The White Oak cross country team was in Mineola for Mineola Yellowjacket Invitational where boys:

Cooper Tucker brought home 16th at 15:59
Issak Olvera was 33rd at 16:45
Nathan Stringer was 43rd at 17:05
On the girl’s side:
Maddie Hart was 24th at 13:06
Sophie Fisher was 36th at 13:25

Union Grove was also in Mineola where for the boy’s:

David Shaver was 49th at 17:21
And on the girl’s side:

Landry Harris brought home 10th at 12:31
Rachel Potter was 32nd at 13:21



High above the coverage, junior receiver Trent Jackson (2) secures a 24-yard touchdown pass. This acrobatic grab was the second TD reception of the night for Jackson—son of new Roughneck Volleyball coach Chaka Jackson—who transferred this season from Longview High School. Photo by Mike Peery



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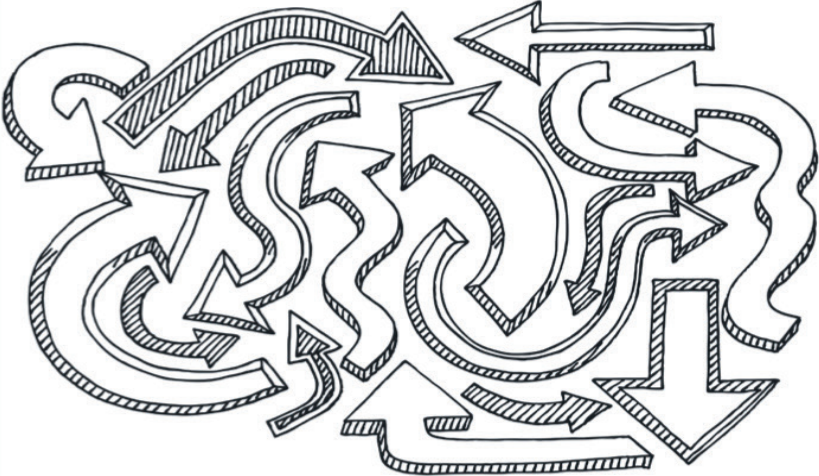
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08/23/2026	06:34:11	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1607 EAST LAKE DRIVE
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08/23/2026	06:58:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ESCORT	GREGG COUNTY
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08/23/2026	09:28:35	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	E UPSHUR/CENTER
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 09:28:57				
08/23/2026	10:07:28	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	614 CANFIELD STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 10:08:22				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
08/23/2026	13:26:29	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	1500 1B FM 2685
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 13:26:43				
08/23/2026	13:39:04		MISCELLANEOUS	1302 EAST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 13:39:28				
08/23/2026	13:40:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	2705 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 13:40:52				
08/23/2026	14:05:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 14:06:14				
08/23/2026	14:08:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	E USPHUR/SUBWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 14:08:33				
08/23/2026	15:35:50	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER/EMPIRE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 15:35:59				
08/23/2026	16:41:42	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	105 WOODLAND TRAIL
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 16:42:38				
08/23/2026	20:28:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	RECKLESS DRIVER	GEORGE RICHEY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 20:29:05				
08/23/2026	21:16:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	MILL/ E BROADWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 21:16:20				
08/23/2026	21:27:13	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1484 FM 2685
Sent To Dispatch- 08/23/2026 21:29:05				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
08/24/2026	02:00:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	OLD LONGVIEW HWY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 02:00:52				
08/24/2026	07:52:34	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	UPSHUR CO
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 07:54:50				
08/24/2026	10:16:50	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	1004 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 10:19:20				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
08/24/2026	10:23:38		THEFT	186 N MILL STREET

08/24/2026	12:23:05		EMS	1520 E SHEPPARD DR
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 12:23:50				
08/24/2026	12:30:52		ANIMAL CONTROL	1009 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 12:31:42				
08/24/2026	12:42:25	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	LITTERING-ILLEGAL DUMPING	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 12:59:54				
08/24/2026	13:36:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	W END OF BRIDGE ON 271
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 13:36:19				
				606 W UPSHUR AVENUE
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/24/2026	14:01:57	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	300 MONEY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 14:04:04				
08/24/2026	14:11:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 14:14:25				
				107 W COTTON
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/24/2026	14:42:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	1625 E BROADWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/24/2026 14:45:39				

08/25/2026	03:17:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	135/BAR
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 03:17:13				
08/25/2026	03:48:05		EMS	511 WOOD STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 03:49:24				
08/25/2026	05:33:09		RECKLESS DRIVER	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 05:35:25				
08/25/2026	07:00:44	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1296 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 07:02:17				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 10:11:04				

08/25/2026	10:22:16	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	EMS	2305 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 10:23:07				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/25/2026	10:46:17		TEST CALL	208 N DEAN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 10:46:44				
08/25/2026	11:03:52	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 11:04:16				

08/25/2026	11:08:54	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	207 S MAIN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 11:11:03				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/25/2026	11:35:05	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE- ILLEGAL BURN	700 EAST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 11:35:24				
08/25/2026	13:37:49	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 13:37:59				
				1109 E BROADWAY AVENUE
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

GPD Arrest Report

Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
8/23/2026	MITCHELL, REGINA ANN	1482 FM 2685	DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED
		GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	
8/24/2026	HAMMETT, MICHAEL WAYNE	2011 OLD LONGVIEW HIGHWAY	WARRANT- LOCAL
		GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	
8/25/2026	NATION, JESSIE WILLIAM	1621 N MAIN STREET	WARRANT- LOCAL
		GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	
8/27/2026	BROWN, TED WILLIAM	200 MAPLE AVENUE	POSS CS PG 1/1-B <1G
		GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	
8/27/2026	GRANT, JAMES WENDELL	887 N LEE STREET	RESIST ARREST SEARCH OR TRANSPORT
		GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	- ALL OTHER OFFENSES

08/25/2026	14:57:56		ANIMAL CONTROL	2309 WEST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 15:00:19				
08/25/2026	15:28:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 15:28:43				
				227 S MAIN ST
08/25/2026	15:37:44	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	900 NORTH STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 15:37:54				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
08/25/2026	15:37:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER
Sent To Dispatch- 08/25/2026 15:38:02				
08/25/2026	16:21:27	GLADEWATER	SUSP	HWY 271 NORTHBOUND
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 02:43:15				
				602 CANFIELD STREET
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/26/2026	07:09:47	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	511 S TYLER ROAD 1
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 07:10:15				
08/26/2026	07:12:44		ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 07:13:17				
08/26/2026	07:30:54	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	22 GREENWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 07:31:16				
08/26/2026	08:37:41	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	SANDERS/RODEN
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 08:38:18				
08/26/2026	09:22:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	400 BLOCK OF S TYLER RD
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 09:22:51				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
				UPSHUR/CENTER

08/26/2026	10:03:26	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	EMS	1408 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 10:03:54				
08/26/2026	10:42:46	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 10:43:02				
08/26/2026	12:30:13	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	E BROADWAY/CENTER
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 12:35:16				
08/26/2026	13:06:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	S TYLER/CLAIR
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 13:08:01				
				132 N LEE STREET
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/26/2026	16:49:20		EMS	1620 N LYNN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 16:49:53				
08/26/2026	19:21:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 19:22:02				
08/26/2026	19:27:30	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	807 S TYLER ROAD
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 19:29:21				
08/26/2026	19:30:56	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 19:31:13				
				500 S TYLER ROAD
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/26/2026	23:14:43	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AB911	608 N TENERY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/26/2026 23:20:10				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/27/2026	01:22:49	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	E LAKE/ MONTE CARLO
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 01:23:11				

08/27/2026	01:38:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 01:38:14				
08/27/2026	01:48:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	AIRPORT
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 01:48:59				
08/27/2026	01:54:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	401 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 01:57:21				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/27/2026	02:57:25	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	701 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 06:19:47				
08/27/2026	06:18:48	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	2201 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 06:19:47				
				GLADEWATER, TX 75647

08/27/2026	07:14:26	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1511 EAST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 07:14:47				
08/27/2026	09:55:56	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 LYLE/JEANETTE
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 09:56:24				
08/27/2026	10:14:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	FOLLOW UP	601 N MAIN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 10:14:44				
08/27/2026	10:14:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 205 E ELEANOR STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 10:15:09				
08/27/2026	12:16:34	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 65 COACH COOKSEY
Sent To Dispatch- 08/27/2026 12:17:35				
08/27/2026	13:29:54	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	19 JULIAWOODS



Hard decisions following hard talk on budget

Continued from Page 1

The treasurer’s post-workshop update puts the total balances of all liquid accounts (as of July 31) at \$2,748,621.32 which is \$156,110 short of the three-month reserve policy.

Notably, the city is currently owed \$234,239 in a lift station reimbursement from Texas Department of Transportation as well as \$473,508 for generators (tied to Snow-mageddon funds).

“Once we receive those reimbursements, we will be in compliance with the fund policy,” Davis reported.

It’s a total that needs to be presented to council members regularly, the mayor said, without delay: “I don’t know how many times I have asked for this number and would never be given it.”

The exchange on the reserves and unflagged expenditures took up a significant portion of the meeting, delaying discussion of the developing budget and leaving most of the department heads and city employees in the room without an opportunity to weigh in.

With the clock ticking on budget season (Fiscal Year 2027 begins Oct. 1) the council and city staffers will now start fresh with a needs-based budget.

“The very first budget we were given was a wish list,” Clark said that night. “It was not a budget, it was a wish list. We don’t have any money to fund any part of that,” and he’s concerned about increasing taxes after other large expenditures.

“I’m not saying we don’t need a fire truck, but how are we buying a million dollar fire truck and we’re into our reserves?”

The council closed the Aug. 25 session with a record vote on a proposed tax rate for FY2027. At 0.63758 per \$100 valuation, it’s a 14.5 percent increase, the highest rate the city can adopt without going to the voters.

Despite a unanimous decision, the number had the elected officials on edge, and they’re exploring ways to both dial that number back and to avoid any increase to water rates.

“Could you please give us a budget with absolutely none of the wish list items and everything,” councilman Milton Anderson asked, “only what we physically need to operate.”

The forthcoming budget will focus on operational expenses first; other expenditures can be added upon consideration. Also on the night’s agenda is an executive (closed) session consultation with the city attorney on the ad valorem tax rate and related budget and financial matters as well as two personnel items, considering the city treasurer and city manager.

“We’ve got to do this all over,” Mayor Pro Tem Sonny Anderson said Aug. 27. “We’ve got to have a clear financial report. That’s what we haven’t had; this is what we’re looking for now.”

In addition to cutting expenses, council members briefly discussed revenue options beyond property taxes, sales tax, grants, reimbursements and other sources.

What about Gladewater Economic Development Corporation funds? Milton Anderson asked.

Raised from a half-cent sales tax, those funds are restricted by law to GEDCO’s purposes, helping fueling local commerce.

“We don’t need to do that,” Flanagan-Shipp replied, but some monies could be utilized to help defray some project costs in specific circumstances.

Likewise for Hotel Occupancy Tax funds: currently, all those monies go to Gladewater Chamber of Commerce and are restricted by law to tourism, promotion, historic preservation and a few other uses.

Overall, “I do not want operations suffering, but we cannot in good conscience sit here and go up on tax rates and go up on water rates at this point with what’s been presented to us,” the mayor said.

According to the updated numbers, Smith said, “We’re good on the fund balance. I think as far as the budget goes, it’s like I said before that it was going to be a tough budget. It’s going to depend on what the council decides on the tax rate. I just want the city to continue to grow and repairs be made.”

Toward the end of the meeting, council member André Clay had one final question for Davis: “What do you need? I never did hear anybody address that.”

Per the city treasurer, “I need to be able to do more focusing on this and the financials and the day-to-day instead of doing more data entry,” in addition to HR, payroll and troubleshooting around City Hall. “What I’m asking for is another person. When I ask for another position, it is to delegate more.”



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SUNDAY, SEPT. 13 4:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
MONDAY - WEDNESDAY, SEPT 14-16 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, SEPT. 17 6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, SEPT. 18 6:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 19 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.

Event Calendar

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Sept. 11
EXHIBITS AND CARNIVAL OPEN TO PUBLIC
\$35 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BLAZE 102.7 AND 106.9
LEE MATHIS & THE BRUTALLY HANDSOME BAND ON STAGE

Sept. 12
\$35 ARMBAND & FAMILY DAY BROUGHT TO YOU BY KYXK 105.7
LION SONGS BAND ON STAGE

Sept. 13
\$35 ARMBAND MEGA 99.3 FIESTA DAY
"NERY SANCHEZ Y SU Banda Tarasco and LEALTAD
Stage sponsored by Telco Plus CU

Sept. 14
\$30 ARMBAND
SENIOR CITIZENS ADMITTED FREE
TOMMIE HELM BAND ON STAGE

Sept. 15
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KOYE 95.7 107.8
ANHEDONIA ON STAGE

Sept. 16
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KETK EAST TEXAS AND FOX 51
JUDD HAGEN BAND ON STAGE

Sept. 17
\$30 ARMBANDS CBS 19
MISS GREGG COUNTY PAGEANT ON STAGE

Sept. 18
\$35 ARMBANDS
JOSH DAVIS - ELVIS TRIBUTE ON STAGE

Sept. 19
\$35 ARMBAND
SENIOR CITIZENS ADMITTED FREE
DEL RIO BAND ON STAGE

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