



Mayor's Newsletter

May 2022

Mayor Bobby Warren - bwarren@jerseyvillagetx.com

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Your city council will meet this month to begin discussing and preparing the 2022-2023 city budget. This is the single most important task entrusted to your elected officials. In addition to reviewing upcoming operating expenses and improvements to our roads, sidewalks, and parks, we will also discuss property tax rates and exemptions.

Since I was first elected to city council in 2017, we have increased the residential homestead exemption from 8% to 14%, doubled the over 65 exemption from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and increased the disabled person exemption from \$20,000 to \$200,000 (that's not a typo – a tenfold increase). All of this has been made possible thanks to the success of our economic development program. Sales tax revenues have increased by over 20% in the last five years, decreasing our reliance on property taxes.

While property taxes are always a concern, there is heightened interest this year due to skyrocketing property values. One of my priorities during our budget meetings is to increase the homestead exemption, with the goal of setting it at the maximum 20% level allowed under state law. At the same time, we will need to address increased costs that will come over the next fiscal year. We're all aware that inflation is very real, but I remain optimistic that we can balance the need to continue providing high quality city services against the tax burden placed upon our residents.

In addition, there are steps you can take to possibly reduce your property taxes. I encourage anyone concerned about their property tax appraisal to submit a protest to the Harris County Appraisal District before the May 16th deadline. Also, review your exemptions to ensure you are receiving your residential homestead exemption and any other exemptions for which your family may qualify.

Do you have questions about the budget process, property taxes or any other issue in Jersey Village? Come out to my next town hall on Thursday, May 26th at 7:00pm at the Jersey Village Civic Center. I have held several over the past year, and these meetings are a great chance for citizens to ask questions in an informal conversational environment. I hope to see you there!

Your neighbor,

Bobby Warren
Mayor