



# City Newsletter

December 2023

Dear Neighbors,

As we come to the end of 2023, I want to thank the City Council, our fantastic City staff, and all of you for your support for this community that makes Bunker Hill Village the special place it is.

**Twinkle Light Parade** – Thank you all to those who attended and participated in the 7th annual Twinkle Light Parade – what a magical way to start the holiday season! I am especially grateful for the coordinated efforts of the Memorial Villages Police Department who ensured the parade was safe and successful. I would also like to thank Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church for generously providing its facilities, the Police Foundation for the snow, H-E-B for the delightful cookie decorating station, and Dr. Adam Smooke for the delicious hot chocolate and brownies. I feel fortunate to live in a community with such great partnerships and comradery that adds to the spirit of community that lies at the heart of Bunker Hill Village.

Keeping with the celebration of community spirit, I am pleased to announce that I awarded the yearly recognition awards from the City to two well-deserving community volunteers and leaders. First, Paul Reinbolt was awarded Volunteer of the Year and Mayor Pro-Tem Susan Schwartz was awarded Public Servant of the Year.

**2023 Accomplishments** – It is with pride that I reflect on the accomplishments of 2023 – the successful approval of the 2024 Budget that again lowers the tax rate from \$0.275 to \$0.271 per \$100 assessed value, successful completion of Water Well #5 at Bunker Hill Elementary (BHE), installation of underground detention at BHE to continue our flood control efforts, and substantial completion of the City’s new Public Works and Disaster Operations Building.

**2024** – As we look forward to 2024, our commitment to enhancing the residents’ quality of life remains unwavering. The FY 2024 Budget includes the City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that reflects the goals of the City through planning, scheduling, managing, monitoring, and financing capital projects (without incurring debt) that will enhance our City. The FY 2024 Budget earmarks funding for street and sidewalk improvements, including overlay of primary streets, such as Strey Lane, Taylorcrest, Knipp Road, and Bunker Hill Road. Additionally, the CIP allocates funds for the water/wastewater line replacement, improvements to water plants, and water meter replacements. These investments reflect our commitment to long-term infrastructure improvements that will benefit our City for many decades to come.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our wonderful Bunker Hill Village residents!

*Humbly Yours, Mayor Robert Lord*

P.S. Keep a lookout for the announcement of a Town Hall Meeting in January or early February to address the water bill rates and causes for increased bills. As I always tell our team, customer service, fiscal responsibility and transparency are keys to a successful and respected local government.

## Twinkle Light Parade

City streets illuminated on Thursday, December 14, 2023, as the City of Bunker Hill Village celebrated the 7th annual Twinkle Light Parade!



# Resident Resources



## Easily Pay Utility Bills

Take advantage of Auto Draft for a secure, convenient way to pay your bi-monthly utility bill to avoid late fees and risk of being disconnected. The program enables residents to set up their utility bill payments to be automatically drafted from their bank account each billing cycle. Drafts are processed from your bank account two (2) business days before the due date. To sign up or update your account, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/citizens/utility-billing-auto-draft-request](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/citizens/utility-billing-auto-draft-request). For questions or more information about this service, contact Utility Billing at [info@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:info@bunkerhilltx.gov).

Payments may also be made in-person or to the secure drop-box located in front of City Hall.



## Be Water Wise and Winterize

Protect your pipes to prevent costly damages this winter. Helpful tips to keep the water flowing and protect your property from water damage due to frozen or broken pipes:

- Insulate exposed pipes and outdoor faucets
- Drain and turn off irrigation system
- Know the location of all shut-off valves in the event of a broken pipe, and keep clear of debris and obstacles at all times

For more information, visit [www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm/frozen-pipes.html](http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm/frozen-pipes.html)

## Put a Freeze on Winter Fires

The National Fire Protection Association reports heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Practice heating equipment safety this winter:

- Have a qualified professional annually inspect and clean your heating system to ensure proper working condition
- Keep flammable objects at least three feet away from heat sources
- Plug heat appliances directly into the wall outlet



Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

For more winter heating safety tips, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).



## MVPD House Watch Program

Planning to be away from home this holiday season? Ensure peace of mind by registering your home in the MVPD House Watch Program. The program is designed to provide residents with a means of having their homes checked periodically by an officer when they are away from home for an extended period of time. To register, visit [www.mvpdtx.org](http://www.mvpdtx.org).

## Christmas Tree Recycling



Each year Texas Pride collects live Christmas trees for recycling. Place trees curbside for pick-up on **Saturday, January 6, 2024**. Trees must be free of all stands, ornaments, and lights. Flocked trees are not eligible for recycling.



## After Hours Emergency Service Calls

The Public Works Department is on-call 24/7/365 ready to respond to water leaks and/ or sewer stoppages on City lines. For immediate attention outside of regular business hours, including nights, weekends and holidays, contact MVPD Dispatch at 713-365-3700.

## City Holiday Hours & Trash

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays, City Hall will be closed starting **Monday, December 25, 2023\* to Monday, January 1, 2024.\*** Regular business hours resume Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 7:00 a.m.

**\*No trash collection on Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1.** Per City Ordinance, construction and lawn maintenance are prohibited on Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1.

## Summer Internship

Apply to intern at the City of Bunker Hill Village! Bunker Hill Village college students working toward a degree in Government, Public Relations, Public Administration, Engineering, or Business are encouraged to apply for this paid position. Applications are available at [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/positions-available-at-bunker-hill](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/positions-available-at-bunker-hill). Applications are due Friday, March 1, 2024, with interviews to follow. For more information, contact [info@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:info@bunkerhilltx.gov).