



**Brownfield Cubs.....22**  
**Andrews Mustangs.....35**



**Meadow Broncos.....53**  
**W-U Wildcats.....6**



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# THE BROWNFIELD NEWS

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## City Council adopts \$21 million budget

Brownfield City Council gave its final approval Thursday of a \$21 million budget to fund another year of city operations.

The budget amounts to \$20,960,224, an increase of less than one percent over the current year's budget, even with the addition of several large purchases.

City Manager Eldon Jobe said administrators "purposefully tried to keep everything down because we know we'll have the added expense of our public safety building. We have held budget workshops and we feel like this is a good budget."

The spending plan includes a \$900,000 expenditure as partial payment for the new Public Safety Building, which will house the police department and eventually the fire department.

Other expenditures outlined in the budget include \$215,000 for seal coating and \$125,000 for upgrades in the city's parks, such as new playground equipment and picnic tables.

The city's garbage department will purchase 300 new 3-yard dumpsters at a cost of \$150,000, as well as a new packer truck also valued at \$150,000.

Total capital expenditures, which includes vehicles and equipment upgrades, are proposed at \$1,856,367 for the coming year.

The budget, approved after two public hearings drew no comments, shows revenues from ad valorem taxes at just over \$1 million, city sales taxes at \$885,000 and local franchise taxes just shy of \$200,000.

The ad valorem tax rate approved Thursday to support the budget is

53.1659 cents, an increase of one penny per \$100 valuation over last year's rate.

The proposed tax rate will generate an additional \$41,166 in revenues for the city, but falls well below the rollback rate of 55.1762 cents.

The tax rates were figured using the city's total certified value, recently calculated at \$198,219,513, an increase of \$4.2 million over last year.

The General Fund, which accounts for the city's operation, upkeep and safety amounts to \$6,612,050 in the proposed budget, including \$2.6 million for the police department and \$618,000 for the fire department.

The street department accounts for \$933,000 of the spending plan, with \$588,000 going toward parks and recreation, which the city has placed an emphasis on improving in recent years.

The city's largest revenue sources, its self-owned utilities, contribute heavily to the budget.

Revenues from the sale of electricity amount to \$8.6 million and the water and sewer department generates just under \$2.5 million.

There are no changes to utility rates included in this year's budgets and residents will not see a rise in their usage rates.

"We had some good workshops and put together a good budget," said Mayor Bob Simpson.

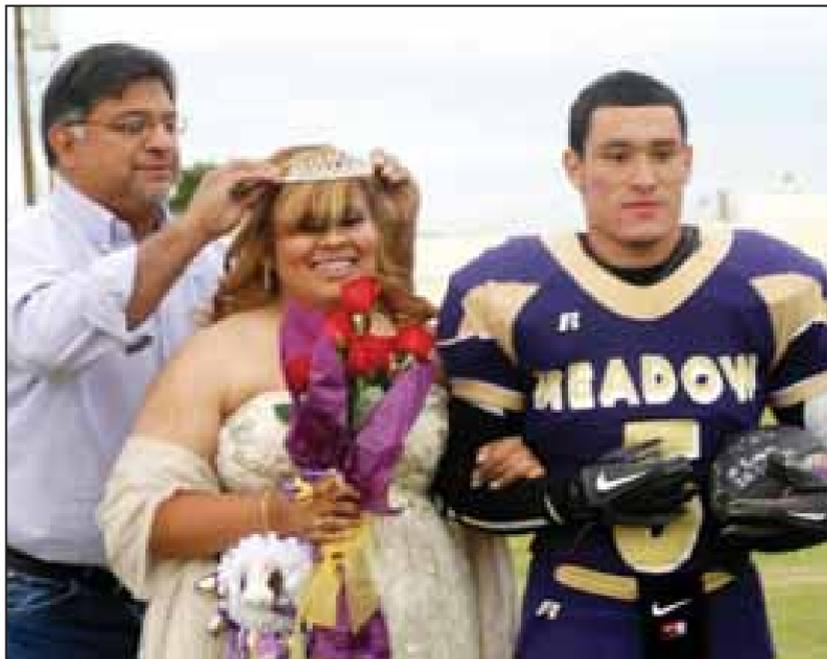
The budget and tax rate were accepted by unanimous votes of the council.

Present were Cynthia Morin, Tom Hesse, Roxanne Barr, Rod Bearden, Mayor Simpson, Geronimo Gonzales and Jackie Pinson.

Absent was Brent Besler.



Brownfield ISD employees Brian Paiva, left, and Felix Riojas, right, worked the grill outside the football stadium in Andrews Friday night for the Cub Fans Tailgate Party hosted by BISD. Dozens of Brownfield faithful enjoyed sausage wraps, stuffed peppers and grilled shrimp before the game.



Meadow senior Amri Rodriguez was named Homecoming Queen at Friday night's match against the visiting Wellman-Union Wildcats. Amri is shown with her escort, Andrew Flores, and being crowned by Marty Quintanilla in honor of last year's King, Houston Quintanilla.

## Adopt-A-Teacher program support grows locally

Interest has been strong locally in a new Adopt-A-Teacher program designed to show community support for more than 200 faculty and staff members that keep Brownfield's schools running.

Almost 100 volunteers signed up in the first week the program was announced, according to organizers, but about that many more are needed.

Anyone in the community who is interested in adopting a Brownfield ISD employee can do so.

A form included on Page 4 of this issue can be filled out and returned to the Brownfield News office, 409 W. Hill.

Or the information requested on the form can be e-mailed directly to organizers at adoptateacher.brownfield@gmail.com.

All the organizers ask of the volunteers is their support for the teacher or staff member they adopt for the duration of the school year.

There is no monetary involvement and no time commitment.

"The idea is simply to pair each BISD employee who joins the program, with a person in the community who cares and will support them," said Brian Brisendine, a co-founder of the new program. "That support can be as simple as an occasional e-mail, phone call or

note letting them know that they are thought of and appreciated."

The Adopt-A-Teacher program will pair a volunteer from the community with each BISD employee who signed up, including teachers, aides, administrators and staff.

Program co-founder Kathy Henson stressed the importance of including everyone who works in the school buildings.

"They are all a part of taking care of our kids," she said. "So they all deserve to know that the community appreciates them for what they do every day."

The employees filled out an information sheet prior to the school year that will be provided to the volunteer they are paired with.

All pairings will be randomly selected by the organizers and any adult in the community who wishes to participate is invited to do so.

"Our schools are the backbone of our community and our goal is simply to let them all know that the people of Brownfield understand and appreciate the diligence and dedication that goes into education our children," Brisendine said. "Every one of us can almost instantly think of a teacher that made a difference in our lives, so I think my friends and neighbors in this community will step up to the plate and support our schools."

## Deadline looms for citizens to register to vote in Nov 6. races

Eligible, unregistered voters residing within Terry County have less than a month to sign up to take part in the Nov. 6 general elections process, if they wish to have a say in the outcome of several state and federal level offices.

Terry County Clerk Kim Carter, this week, issued a reminder to unregistered, eligible voters, that they have until Oct. 9 to register for the upcoming November general election process.

"There is still time for those who have not registered, or who may

have voter information changes that are required for voters to participate in the elections process," said Carter.

"We want everyone who can to come and register so they will have an opportunity to come out and have a say (in the next elections process)."

Local residents who are not registered and wish to take part in the November elections, or may have voter information changes -- such as a change of address -- may register/make those changes at the

Terry County Clerk's office, located temporarily in the American Legion Building on Seagraves Hwy.

The Clerk's office is open from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

As of Wednesday, the clerk's office reported 7,279 registered voters were officially eligible for participation in the Nov. 6 general elections process, which is highlighted by the U.S. Presidential race between incumbent

See VOTER...Page 4

Sat 9/15	Sun 9/16	Mon 9/17	Tue 9/18	Wed 9/19



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