



# ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

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## Rockwall City Manager Mary Smith Names Ed Fowler as Police Chief

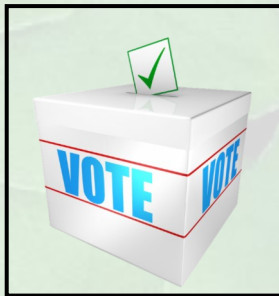
Rockwall City Manager Mary Smith has officially named Edward Fowler as Chief of the Rockwall Police Department. Fowler has been serving as Interim Chief since last August, after former Chief Max Geron retired from the role. The U.S. Marines veteran returned to his hometown after serving in the Gulf War, and has spent 33 years with the Rockwall Police Department, working his way up the ranks.

Chief Fowler began his law enforcement career with the Rockwall PD in 1990, serving in a number of leadership roles over the years, including Assistant Police Chief from 2020-2022 before his promotion to Interim Chief last summer. "Chief Fowler has demonstrated that he can lead the Rockwall Police Department, and that his experience in law enforcement coupled with his tenure with the City makes him the best person to lead the department into the future," said Rockwall City Manager Mary Smith.

Starting as a patrol officer and field training officer, Chief Fowler later became a motorcycle officer and accident reconstructionist. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2002, supervising the patrol, community services, criminal investigations and SWAT divisions. In 2010, he was promoted to Lieutenant where he served as a division commander in patrol, administrative services, criminal investigation, and the SWAT Team. In 2017 he became Captain, and in 2020 he became Assistant Chief.



"I'm honored and privileged to have the opportunity to lead and care for an exceptional group of men and women who provide the highest levels of customer service to a fantastic community and the citizens that we serve," said Chief Fowler. "I would also like to thank City Manager Mary Smith for her leadership and guidance, which have been invaluable over the past 6 months."



### City of Rockwall to Cancel General Election

The City of Rockwall recently called an election to be held on May 6, 2023 for the purpose of electing the Mayor and three City Councilmembers, one each for Places 1, 3 and 5. Terms for all elected Rockwall City Councilmembers are for a period of two years. Two incumbents, Clarence Jorif (Place 3) and Dennis Lewis (Place 5), filed appropriate paperwork to appear on the ballot in hopes of serving an additional two-year term in office, and are uncontested in their races. Additionally, current Councilmember and Mayor Pro-Tem Trace Johannesen (Place 4) has filed for Mayor, and Tim McCallum has filed for Place 1; both are uncontested for the seats.

The filing deadline to submit an application to run for City Council in the General Election was Friday, February 17, and the last day to declare write-in candidacy on the ballot was by 5 p.m. February 21. The City Secretary did not receive candidate filings from anyone other than those listed above. Therefore, the Rockwall City Council will take action to cancel the election due to no opposed candidates at its meeting on Monday, March 6. All four candidates will take the Oath of Office at the regular City Council meeting on Monday, May 15, to begin serving their terms.

## SPRING

### Happening Around Town

#### Saturday, April 1

*Spring Eggstravaganza, The Harbor, 1-4 p.m. (information at Playrockwall.com)*

#### Thursdays, May-July

*Concert by the Lake Series, The Harbor, 7-9 p.m.*

#### Saturdays, May 6-September 30

*Rockwall Farmers Market, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 8-12 p.m.*

#### Fridays-Saturdays, May-October

*San Jacinto Music Series, San Jacinto Plaza, (Downtown Rockwall), 7-9:30 p.m.*

#### Saturday, May 20

*Founders Day Festival, Harry Myers Park, 1-9 p.m.*

*For more information:*

*Rockwall.com, PlayRockwall.com*

## Out and About in Rockwall



### Rockwall Heroes Receive Lifesaving Award

The Rockwall City Council has recognized local first responders with Lifesaving Awards. First on the scene to help the unresponsive man was Rockwall Police Officer Jason Blackwood, who administered chest compressions until the Rockwall Fire Department and EMS arrived. Then, Captain Brad Vallance, Driver Engineer Justin Barker, and Firefighter Bogdan Rusmanica, of the Rockwall Fire Department, along with a crew from Medic Rescue, took over CPR and advanced care efforts. The man was transported to the hospital and was later released. He attended the meeting to show his thanks and support of the local heroes.



### Rockwall Youth Advisory Council Conference

This school year, the twelve City Council-appointed high school student members of the Rockwall Youth Advisory Council (YAC) have been involved in a variety of activities to learn more about local government, including building inspections, water delivery, municipal court proceedings, and so much more. The group recently attended a summit with other YAC members across Texas, where they attended skill-building workshops, heard from motivational speakers, shared ideas, and connected with other YAC students from across the state.



### Discovery Statue Project Update

The Discovery statue is really moving along at a great pace and is on track to be installed very soon. The statue is a larger than life size depiction of the three pioneers who dug a well and discovered the rock wall for which our city was named.

The pieces are being constructed at the Schaefer Art Bronze Foundry in Arlington. One of the men of the statue is complete, and the second one is nearly done. Rockwall Mayor Kevin Fowler and others visited the foundry recently to see pieces of the statue being poured. The bulk of the work now is being done on the third and final man.

The artist, Jim Bryant, who is volunteering his time and talents, is providing a license for his original artwork to the City and serving as a consultant on the project.

### Love Your Landscape... Spring is Around the Corner

Spring is definitely on the way. That means it is time for the first application of fertilizer to get your lawn in tip top shape. Here's what you need to know to get that lush green lawn you've been dreaming of all winter.

- Apply 1.25lbs of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of grass
- A balanced fertilizer such as a 20-5-10 is a great place to start
- This would require 6.25lbs of fertilizer per 1,000 square feet
- A 50lb bag would cover 8,000 square feet.

At this point, any plants that have not started showing new growth from winter damage can be removed. It's time to start fresh for the new season.

