

Fellow Citizens,

May 1st is election day for local elections in Texas, with early voting (in person) beginning April 19th. Our local polling location will be the Grayson College South campus at 1455 W. Van Alstyne Pkwy. Please allow me to address the topics on the ballot.

Firstly, Texas school districts are local entities and are separate from city government. Our friends at the Van Alstyne ISD have two items on their ballot, an election for place 2 on the ISD Board of Trustees and their bond issue. Please see the VAISD webpage ([vanalstyneisd.org](http://vanalstyneisd.org)) for more information on that ballot. Everyone who resides in the Van Alstyne city limits is also in the Van Alstyne ISD geographic boundary and will be allowed to vote in that election.

The city also has a ballot issue. The state of Texas collects 6.25% sales tax and most cities including Van Alstyne collect another 2% for a total of 8.25%. The 2% can be spent on local projects. Of that 2% the voters of Van Alstyne have approved allocating 0.25% to the Community Development Corporation, 0.25% to the Economic Development Corporation and 0.25% to a fund that is dedicated to city street maintenance and improvements. That last item needs to be re-approved by the voters every 5 years and is now due for reconsideration.

If the city ballot measure passes, our local sales tax rate will remain the same and the city will continue to spend those designated funds on street maintenance and improvements.

If you have questions on the city election please email me at: [mayor@cityofvanalstyne.us](mailto:mayor@cityofvanalstyne.us).

Best Regards and Happy Voting!

Jim Atchison