Est 1871 City of Bryan Employee Newsletter Fall 2015

Letter from the City Manager

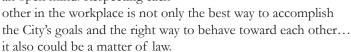
Fall is a time for family and friends, a new fiscal year, and football. The City of Bryan began this season by offering a few ways to enjoy all four. First, the City, in partnership with Texas A&M, is offering free parking and shuttle rides from Downtown Bryan to campus to support the Aggies at all seven home games. Typically, shuttles run three hours pregame and one and one-half hours postgame, so be sure to come and visit the local shops before heading out to Kyle Field or celebrate after a win at a downtown restaurant or bar.

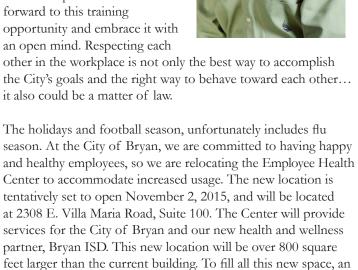
On October 1, the City entered a new fiscal year, FY16, after ending a successful FY15 thanks to your commitment and diligence. With this new year, many of you have or will receive a market adjustment in salaries. As you may know, the City conducted a market salary study over the past few months, in partnership with the City of College Station, to better ensure employees' pay is within or moving closer to industry and market standards. We found the City's pay ranges and actual pay rates/salaries on average to be lagging the market. Many positions and pay ranges were found to be quite a bit below market; others were found to be above market. It was determined the best way to address this discrepancy was to adjust the minimum ranges 2.5%-4% and the maximum ranges 4%-5%, and to provide a 2% market adjustment to employees (with a few exceptions). The 2% increase was not a 'cost of living' adjustment (COLA) but rather a market adjustment to complement the new ranges and is in addition to the performance based review and compensation we typically do annually for all employees. The City will continue to assess its compensation philosophy and salary market competitiveness and strive to always pay employees fairly and in line with both.

To ensure our working environment is always the most professional it can be and respect is always foremost in the minds of our employees, we soon will be scheduling mandatory training for all employees in all departments on the topic of Respect in the Workplace. This training will explore

the principles for building and maintaining a respectful workplace and steps to eliminate and avoid disrespectful behavior in the first place. Please look forward to this training opportunity and embrace it with an open mind. Respecting each

your flu shot!





I hope you take time this fall to spend with your friends and families and to celebrate how fortunate we are to live in a city such as Bryan! Your hard work to make this city a wonderful place to live, work, and visit does not go unnoticed.

additional nurse practitioner, a licensed vocation nurse, and an

office assistant will be brought on staff. Beginning in January, the

Employee Health Center also will offer additional hours from 8

a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays; weekday hours may be expanded

and changed, too. Be sure to schedule an appointment to get



Bryan in the News

Bryan Ranks No. 2 in Nation in Terms of Small City Growth, No. 8 Among Cities of All Sizes

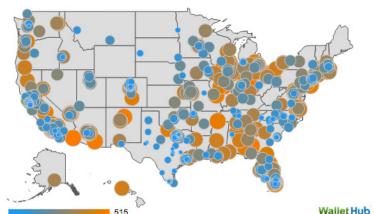
Bryan ranks No. 2 Best In Terms of Small City Growth in a recent study from the leading personal finance outlet WalletHub.com.

In order to identify the American cities that have grown the most rapidly in socioeconomic terms, WalletHub compared 515 U.S. cities across 10 key metrics, ranging from population growth rate to unemployment rate decrease.

Other Texas cities to join Bryan in the top 10 on the list of Small City Growth include Mission (1), Edinburg (3), Pharr (5), Allen (6). College Station ranks no. 4 in the Midsize City Growth behind Odessa, Frisco, and Midland.

Read the full report:

https://wallethub.com/edu/fastest-growing-cities/7010/



Bryan Business Boom Continues, Next Phase Begins on ATLAS Town Center

A building boom continues in Bryan from homes to hotels.

News 3 takes a look at some of the new developments in Bryan and what the city is doing to build business including sometimes offering incentives.

ATLAS Town Center is a community targeting those who want to work and live near the Brazos Valley's booming BioCorridor.

The Stella Hotel broke ground at the site near Traditions Golf Club in Bryan last month.

"That's going to be a real nice boutique hotel I believe right at 180 rooms. We're starting to see a few of the out parcels too that come in," said Cody Cravatt, who is the Development Manager for Bryan and can't remember his office ever being this busy.

"Across the board it's just astronomical," he said.

Building incentives are one of the major reasons why ATLAS is setting up shop.

"When they can bring in something that's just unique and totally going to help everybody, you know, we're absolutely willing to work with them," he said.

He says there are some criteria economic development looks at.

"They make determinations on what kind of incentives can be offered based on value added tax, number of employees and average payroll," Cravatt said.

From January to August, values for construction in Bryan topped \$129 million, up from \$94 million the same time last year.

Cravatt says there is competition against College Station, and being an older city has some setbacks.

"You know, you get aging infrastructure, you get aging buildings, so we've got a lot of internal stuff that we've got to work on," he said.

A new option for families is also coming. Plans have been announced for a Jumping World USA Trampoline Park next to the Bryan Target.

"I know City of Bryan and College Station are little limited on things to do for the little kids so I think that's going to be a neat little addition over there," Cravatt said.

Values may be up, but building permits are actually down in Bryan, according to the city.

Permits so far for the year top 927.

Last year at the same time, there were 988.

The city is also working to redevelop the old Ice House on North Main Street Downtown, and offering incentives to developers who'd have the property conveyed to them if they meet certain requirements.

Story from KBTX.com

Bryan in the News

City of Bryan Adopts POLCO to Increase Engagement with Citizens Platform Provides Crowd-Sourced Sentiments to City Officials

The City of Bryan has approved the use of POLCO's technology platform to broaden civic engagement on local policy questions. POLCO, a platform that brings people together to participate on current policies, is working with the City of Bryan to roll out their inaugural partnership.

"POLCO creates an instant presence in a virtual 'town hall' type meeting for our community," Kean Register, City Manager of Bryan, Texas, said. "In a day and age when people are tied to other commitments in our community and too busy or unable

meetings, POLCO provides a chan-



nel so every voice can be heard by the constituents' representatives. I can only see this as a positive for our citizens' ideas, issues and concerns. I'm looking forward to seeing just how much POLCO benefits the City of Bryan and increases engagement by segments of our community that would have previously been unheard."

Once a city begins using POLCO's technology, citizens' use is simple. Citizens register and login at www.polco.us, where they can see the agenda items and policies their city officials have posted. From there, they can learn about, discuss, and vote on policies, and see other citizens doing the same. The service is free of charge to participating citizens.

"Participating in your government's policies is important to ensure the best and most representative polices get enacted. One great thing about POLCO is that it makes it really easy for citizens to see the current issues, and vote in a validated way that can help guide the quality of life in their own community," creator Nick Mastronardi added.

> POLCO hopes the City of Bryan is the first of many municipalities to adopt this platform and will present their technology at the Texas Municipal League's Annual Conference and Exhibition in September.

POLCO has been backed by

Bryan-based accelerator Seed Sumo and has spent the summer of 2015 in a class of 7 companies handpicked from 1,277 entries. The POLCO team competed in August as a top 10 finalist in the Mountain View Apps Challenge in Mountain View, California, and competed in a Shark Tank casting call in Austin, Texas.

For more about POLCO or to register as a contributing citizen, go to www.polco.us.

Bryan Development Services Receives Award for Health & Wellness Plan

The City of Bryan Development Services Office received an Honorable Mention Award for Long Range Planning on September 25, 2015, from the Central Texas Section of the American Planning Association for the development of the City of Bryan Health & Wellness District Master Plan.

The master plan, aimed to develop the land surrounding the main campus of St. Joseph's Hospital, was a product of the collaboration between the City of Bryan and St. Joseph's Hospital. The goal of the Health & Wellness District Master Plan was to compile a document that would serve as a guide to create an identity for and improve the aesthetics of the district, and provide increased access to healthier lifestyle choices for the residents of Bryan. Throughout the yearlong planning process, from March 2014 to April 2015, members of the Bryan community worked alongside the Development Services Staff and professionals from LRK Consultants to create a united vision and implementation plan for

improvements to the study area, which includes approximately 262

acres in the heart of Bryan.

The Central Texas Section of the APA recognizes individuals, organizations and communities for outstanding achievements and contributions to planning within Central Texas.

The criteria that the Central Texas Section uses to select recipients of awards include:

- innovation in the originality of a concept
- significant refinement of existing procedures
- potential application of the project to other areas in the field of planning
- quality of the analysis, writing and presentation of the project comprehensiveness of the application of planning principals
- broad effects of the project on other public objectives of the city is taken into account

About APA:

The American Planning Association is a nonprofit public interest and research organization representing over 40,000 practicing planners, officials, and citizens involved with urban and rural planning issues.

Bryan in the News

Clara B. Mounce Library Receives Grants for Adult Literacy Program

Clara B. Mounce Library has received generous grants from the Dollar General Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grants will be used to fund 60 students enrolled in the Burlington English program, an ESL program offered by the Bryan College Station Library System.

The Burlington English Program combines face-to-face classroom instruction, taught by trained volunteer teachers, and computer-based remote instruction for homework. Students are welcome to use the library's public access computers to complete the computer-based portion of the program on their own time.

"Volunteer teachers from our community give their time every week to help both ESL students and adults learn to read," Youth and Family Literacy Services Coordinator Bobbee Pennington said.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the library's ESL programs. Donations are also accepted to help fund the library's adult literacy programs.



We've got alpacas and sheep and dogs and snakes and big birds. All at Mounce Library until Noon... instagram.com/p/3wNxxmxNfk/

J CITY OF BRYAN @CITYOFBRYAN · 5 MONTHS AGO

Animal Hero Day at Mounce Library: http://www.bryantx.gov/animal-heroes-day-2015/

City of Bryan awarded federal funds from Transportation Alternatives Program Program provides opportunities to expand transportation choices

The City of Bryan was one of 15 cities statewide to receive funding under the competitive program that awarded \$25 Million to project sponsors with populations less than 200,000. The City of Bryan submitted five projects for consideration that were prioritized by the City Council. The City's top two projects were funded as announced in the TXDOT minute order issued Sept. 24, 2015. Bryan is scheduled to receive \$3,743,301 in federal funds for local matching funds of \$1,604,272. The City of Bryan is required to fund the design of both projects under the program.

The federally funded Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides opportunities to expand transportation choices and enhance the transportation experience through categories of activities related to the surface transportation system. The TAP focuses on nontraditional transportation projects and only applied toward the construction cost of those facilities. The type of projects eligible for construction funding were on and off road trails, sidewalks, traffic calming, lighting, safe routes to school, safety related infrastructure and transportation projects to achieve ADA compliance.

The first project funded is the South College Avenue Phase 1 shared use path, sidewalks and bike route. Up to \$2,152,919 in federal funds (approximately 70 percent of the estimated construction cost) have been allocated to the project with the City of Bryan providing local matching funds totaling at least \$922,680 (30 percent) for the project. The scope of the project includes installation of a 12 foot shared use path along the east side of S. College Avenue

from the City limits at Hensel Park to Brookside Drive. A bicycle route will be installed along Cavitt Avenue from Brookside to Villa Maria and 6 foot sidewalks will be installed along both sides of S. College Avenue from Brookside Drive to Villa Maria. The City of Bryan's Capital Improvement Program in FY16 includes funding for the design of the pavement reconstruction of S. College Avenue from Villa Maria to Sulphur Springs (the limits of city maintenance – TXDOT maintains the remainder to University Drive).

The second project funded is the installation of street lights along the stretch of FM158 (Boonville Road) from Earl Rudder Freeway (SH6) to Harvey Road (SH30). This project will provide much needed lighting to miles of existing sidewalk and shared use paths that were constructed by TXDOT years ago. Up to \$1,590,382 (70 percent of estimated construction cost) in federal funds have been allocated to the project with the City providing a local construction match of at least \$681,592 (30 percent).

Both project nominations included multiple letters of support from citizens, homeowner associations, BISD, Brazos Transit District and other local/regional organizations, for which the City of Bryan is grateful for their support. Brazos Transit District not only supported the projects with a letter but also agreed to provide \$350,000 from pre-approved Letters of No Prejudice to help fund the city's local match.

Construction on both projects could begin before the end of 2016.

Bryan Blue and You

Bryan Students Build Obstacle Course For Police K-9 Team

Bryan police officers stormed into Rudder High School just before noon Tuesday.. armed with pizza!

The officers brought lunch to the Rudder FFA welding team to say "thanks" to the students who put together a new obstacle course for the police departments K-9 officers.

It took the students several weeks to put it together in between other class projects and assignments.

Rudding High School Agriculture Instructor Larry White says the students were excited to help with the donation to the police department.

"What they get is the giving back. The sense of doing something in return for their community," said White.

For privacy reasons, the school wouldn't let us talk to the students on camera, but Bryan police officers tell News 3 they are thankful for the new obstacle course.

"It's really good work. Professional looking," said Officer Al Hauke.

Officer Hauke and Sgt. Chad Hanks are both partnered with trained police dogs for routine patrol and other tasks including building searches, tracking, evidence recovery, narcotics searches, suspect apprehension, obedience, gunfire discipline, and tactical deployments.

Story from KBTX.com





Bryan Police Dept. @BryanPolice - Sep 14
We received this photo today thanking Officer Owens for helping out a stranded motorist. Thank you!







I met Officer Berndt & Officer Oliver at the PVAMU recruiting fair yesterday and have to say they were some of the friendliest and kind people I spoke with all day! My husband and I just moved into Bryan and officer Oliver gave me some great information on my area, helpful services and phone numbers, etc. just needed to brag on them for a little bit. My pup Clyde really appreciates them too! Thank yall for everything, I'll see yall around





Upcoming Events

October 30 - United Way Hamburger Fundraiser

Sue Haswell Park
11 a.m. - 1 p.m
\$5 - includes Burger, chips,
drink & cookie
(upgrade to double meat/
double cheese for \$2 more!)

November 20 - Lights On!

Downtown Bryan Gloria Sale Park 6 p.m.

December 4 -Holiday Magic

Sue Haswell Park 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. *Free Shuttle from Blinn College

December 11 -Downtown Bryan Christmas Parade

December 19 - Breakfast with Santa

Neal Recreation Center 9 - 11 a.m.

Registration begins Dec. 1 Register at parks.bryantx.gov

New! Parks & Recreation Classes:

November 3: Holiday Scrapbooking

November 10: Culinary: Cake Pop Ornaments

December 8: Holiday Greeting Cards

December 10: Culinary: New Years Cookie Greeting Cards

Register at: parks.bryantx.gov

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



The City of Bryan's Municipal Court's Traffic Safety Fair is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend! Parents will find tons of useful safety information and kids can enjoy a day full of safety related activities and games. Bryan Fire Department trucks, Police Department canine demonstrations and prizes awarded for the best kid's costumes - don't miss this great opportunity to enjoy some family fun time and learn about traffic safety.



Training Updates

NEW! COB Training Liaison Committee

Through a series of discussions and meetings between various employees and departments, we determined it would better serve the City as a whole to form a Training Liaison Committee (appropriately named TLC). Throughout our current training program, we have incorporated input and feedback from employees and managers with the goal of trying to meet the needs of all involved; however, this new committee will allow us to approach our training needs in a different manner which will benefit all employees and departments.

The committee is comprised of one employee from each City Manager's Direct Reports' areas, and that individual serves as a liaison between the Training Liaison Committee and their respective department(s). The purpose and direction of this committee will be further developed and communicated after our initial meeting on September 30th. We extend a thank you in advance for the members' dedication and input.

| Training Liaison | Department(s) Represented |
|--|---|
| Melba Barreiro, Legal Assistant | Legal |
| Jared Birkhead, Environmental Operations Supervisor | Public Works |
| April Bonifazi, Customer Operations Business Analyst | BTU |
| Jose Castro, Community Service Coordinator | City Secretary, Municipal Court* |
| Cody Cravatt, Development Manager | Community Development, Coulter Field, Development Services*, Economic |
| | Development, Library |
| Teresa McGinnis, Human Resources Generalist | Human Resources |
| Bryan Russell, Police Sergeant | Police |
| Ricky Van, Assistant Fire Chief | Fire |
| Stephanie Wilkins, Database Administrator | Information Technology |
| Kathy Yeager, Facility Services Assistant | Administrative Services, Facilities*, Fleet, Municipal Golf, Parks & Recreation, Risk |
| | Management |

Fall Onsite Classes: register via HR Training & Talent Development Webpage

Did You Know?

We have over 1,000 online courses available in our Leaning Management System (LMS). All course descriptions can be viewed easily via our Online Course Catalog which filters sessions by title, length, department, category, and source. This allows each individual to determine which course is most relevant to their interest and role.

Please visit our MyCob HR Training & Talent Development webpage for easy access and further information or contact Human Resources.

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| DECEMBER M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 12 22 23 24 25 2 | Hiring for the Right Talent: 1 |
| DECEMBER M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | 8:15-10:15 @ Council Chambers |
| DECEMBER M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | Leadership Development |
| DECEMBER M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 1 | Bob Lewis, Lewis Training & Consul |
| M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 4 7 8 9 10 11 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | Mentoring, Coaching & Eng |
| M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | 10:30-12:30 @ Council Chambers |
| M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | Leadership Development |
| M T W Th F 1 2 3 4 4 7 8 9 10 11 1 11 14 15 16 17 18 1 12 1 22 23 24 25 2 | Bob Lewis, Lewis Training & Consul |
| 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 | Customer Service Series |
| 21 22 23 24 25 | |
| | 19 Job Specific Development |
| 28 29 30 31 | Kevin Tutt, Tutt & Daggs |
| | December 10 th every 2 Years |
| | COB Policies & Procedures |
| | Standards of Conduct - "1 I |
| | 3:30-4:30 |
| | Employment Laws & Policies Human Resources |

BTU Highlights

BTU congratulates Ray Berger on his outstanding achievement!

BTU is proud to announce that Ray Berger, Safety and Training Officer, completed the needed training to become a Certified Safety and Health Official (CSHO) in both Construction and General Industry. It required approximately 250 classroom hours through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Training Institute Education Centers. This accomplishment has been 12 years in the making for Ray, who says "Safety is not about the rules and regulations and filling out forms. Safety is a culture of doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do. Having this training, knowledge, and experience helps me to understand the regulations so I can show our teams how to apply the regulations into our culture." In having a CSHO on the BTU team, we are provided a high level of assurance that our work environment is safe and secure for our employees.

BTU's General Manager Gary Miller said, "I am very proud that Ray put in the time and effort to complete this certification. Having a CSHO as BTU's Safety Officer is extremely valuable as we strive to make safety our number one priority."



BTU Linemen Apprentice Rodeo



On July 17, BTU Linemen participated in the quarterly "Apprentice Rodeo"—a timed competition that showcases the skills and knowledge that apprentices learn during their field training. Each apprentice is assigned two tasks and are judged by experienced lineman in the following categories—workmanship, execution, safety, and knowledge of the assigned task. In the event of a tie, their time score is used to determine the winner.

The tasks they are challenged to complete include troubleshooting common voltage issues, fault locating, climbing and descending a pole around obstacles, proper rope rigging and knot tying, hurt man rescue, and relocating a cutout, to name a few.

Congratulations to Justin Livingston who was crowned this quarter's Rodeo champ!

Noteworthy









Communications and Marketing Department won the Award of Excellence at 3CMA for the Culinary Promotional Video.

Congratulations **Ryan Stout** and the

Communications Team!

Ashley Bennett received the her certification as a Certified Park and Recreation Professional.

Cindy Vargas awarded the Exemplary Five Star Award from Texas Department of State Health Services. She won this award last year as well!



Follow us on Facebook!

The **Risk Management Department** is about to release a Facebook group to improve your access to our services.

As a current employee, if you have a Facebook profile, you can request to be a part of the group. Find us on Facebook at: City of Bryan Work Safe, this is a Facebook Group, not page. Once a week, we will post reminders of upcoming benefit deadlines or changes, safety tips, or wellness information. Employees will also be able to send questions in regards to benefits, safety and wellness.



newrepublicbeer

Sep 17, 3:58pm via Twitter for Android

Props to BTU and the @CityofBryan for getting power restored so quickly

3 favorites

City of Bryan is one of 352 cities in Texas that has one or more court clerks/administrators participating in the Texas Municipal Court Clerks Certification Program. These individuals below have been certified at the level indicated by passing an exam and completing annual training requirements. We congratualte them on their hard work and encourage them as they move on to the next level!

Linda Allbritton, Level II
Jackie Arredondo, Level II
Jose Castro, Level II
Ashley Michaksky, Level II
Marilyn Newton, Level II
Farrah Peterson, Level II
Nora Schumacher, Level II
Danielle Starling, Level I
Edna Trejo, Level II
Donna Wade, Level I



BTU presented with the Award of Excellence for our website from American Public Power Association. Congratulations on this award! Accepting the award from APPA:

Carey Hutchison, David Werley, and Ken Smith

Work Safe City of Bryan!

New Hires & Anniversaries

New Hires

Animal Services:

Jasmine Corpus Angela Higgins

Engineering:

Matthew Dawson-Mathur

Finance & Accounting:

Lindsey McWhirter Adrienne Yust

Fire:

Landon Bissett Rayse Richardson

Golf Course:

Jonathan Jaeger

Library – Bryan:

Sarah Howard Alyson Reynolds

Library - College Station:

Ashley Harris

Neighborhood Youth

Services:

Bubba Bean

Police:

Kelsey Garner Steven Luna Charles Walters II

Solid Waste:

Charles Henderson Dan Kidd

Solid Waste - Recycling:

Kevin Jefferson Jr. Matthew Pineda

Streets and Drainage:

Jorge De Paz Candido Kurk Fowler

Ruben Gomez Justin Gonzales Michael Hutchens

Traffic Operations:

Gabriel Ledezma Solomon Nyanhongo

BTU Administration:

Heather Grajales

BTU Customer Operations:

Kaitlynn Martin Austin Ray Rebeca Rivera Vernon Skenandore II

BTU Distribution:

Joshua Baker Seth Toten

BTU Engineering & System

Planning:

Deedra Rodriguez

BTU Production:

Nicolas Cook

BTU Transmission:

Dragan Kaurin

Follow us:



Facebook.com/CityofBryan



Twitter.com/CityofBryan

Do you have a question, comment, interesting fact, employee accomplishment or other story to tell?

Send it to comm@bryantx.gov

Anniversaries

5 Years:

Juan Alvarado - Water Distribution

Bryce Campbell - Fire

Susan Chmelar - Finance & Accounting

Daniel Goodenow - Fire Trevor Laroche - Fire

Nora Schumacher - Municipal Court

Jacob Sherrod - Fire

10 Years:

Joel Bravo - Police

Kimberly Bridges - Library - Bryan Carlos Carpio - Environmental Services

Brett Carsey - Fire

Wanda Clark - Fire Florencia Galaviz - Risk Management

Kevin Hillestad - Facility Services

Sally Jurica - Executive

Koren Lopez - Police

Corey Owens - Police

Kendra Perkins - Library - College Station Martin Zimmerman - Development Services

15 Years

Gerald Burnett - Fire

Brenda Galvan - Environmental Services Victor Harris - Wastewater Treatment

Travis Hines - Police

Larry Jordy - Fire

Christopher Loup - Police

Paul Mahoney - Police

Kelley McKethan - Police

Kean Register - Executive

Elsie Tennell - Streets & Drainage

Bobby Williams - Police

20 Years

Steven French - Police

Allen Sylvester - Police

Denise Vajdak - Information Technology Services

25 Years

Jackie Maynard - Police Elbert Moore - Solid Waste

Mary Lynne Stratta - City Secretary

30 Years

Laura Mills - Library - Bryan

Jimmy Zanek - Fire