



PRESS RELEASE – Jan. 4, 2017

Communications: 972-624-3104

City launches upgrades to video services

THE COLONY, Texas — With the start of the New Year, the City of The Colony is proud to announce new features within its live and streaming video service for [City Council](#), [Planning & Zoning](#), and [Community Development Corp. board](#) meetings.

The city has long streamed and broadcast live on television the meetings of those governing bodies but the end-user interface was limited, especially online. Now the meetings can be [viewed live](#) or in an archive by any browser, iPad or iPhone through the city's website, www.thecolonytx.gov.

“Maintaining transparency in government has always been and always will be a major priority for our city,” City Manager Troy Powell said. “We know it can be challenging for residents to make the time to attend in person so we’re excited and eager to invest in new technology aimed at increasing the viewership of our public meetings online.”

As part of the 2016-17 FY budget, the city partnered with [Granicus](#) late last year to streamline the recording process of those meetings. The result has been not only to broaden the interface options but also to decrease the turnaround time for making archived recordings available to the public and the media.

In addition, recordings for City Council meetings now include a new feature that integrates the meeting agenda with the video, enabling viewers to click through to specific agenda items.

“All of the business we conduct at City Council meetings is important but some items may have more relevance to an individual resident than others,” Powell said. “Now, viewers no longer need to watch entire meetings or guess their way through the slide-bar to find the information they seek.”

The archives for each entity are available through the “Government” tab on the city website. The live feed is available by clicking through to “Community TV” under the “Online Services” tab.

The Colony Government Television is broadcast 24 hours a day on Time Warner Channel 16 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99, including live meetings when scheduled. City Council and Planning & Zoning meetings are rebroadcast at various times throughout the week.

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