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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **Finance Dept. Earns Amazing 19<sup>th</sup> Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

**Granbury, Texas** – At the December 1 City Council meeting the City of Granbury’s Finance Department was presented with a very rare award, the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

To receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as a financial plan, as an operations guide, and as a communications device. For most cities, winning this award ONCE would represent the pinnacle of achievement in the finance budget presentation world ... for “*most*” cities.

However, winning the 2020 DBPA represents an amazing 19<sup>th</sup> win for the City of Granbury and Finance Director Eva Gregory and her hard-working staff of Elizabeth Bailey (Former Assistant Finance Director), Cassie Bethune (Financial Analyst) and Katie Moses (Accounting Specialist).

Although she abjured any well-deserved credit for herself, Gregory was quick to give praise to her departmental team.

“While I’m very proud of the award the finance department received, I feel so fortunate to be part of our amazing team,” Gregory said. “I would like to recognize all the city departments for their support and valuable input during the budget process. Without the collaboration and the teamwork, this budget award would not have been possible.”

Granbury Mayor Nin Hulett was the first official of the evening to speak to the Finance Department.

“I want to congratulate these ladies, personally, on achieving this once again,” he said. “It’s not an easy thing to accomplish. These ladies have done this year after year after year.”

“This award is a mirror of their excellence...of what they do,” said City Manager Chris Coffman. “I want to thank you for your excellence in all that you do and how you pursue it.”

Speaking on the 278-page budget book that Gregory and her staff prepared, Coffman lauded the award-winning document by saying, “it is very transparent in the way that it is written, in the way is presented ... it’s really easy to read.

“But, like the mayor said, this is not an easy award to achieve. There are 27 key points that this budget document has to meet, and there are very intricate details that they have to ... articulate in this document.”

“In my humble opinion, I believe that the adoption of the budget is the most important action that the City Council takes,” Coffman said addressing city council during the ceremony. “The city charter lays out specifics that the city manager is supposed to provide to you. I’m able to do that because we have a great finance team that helps put this document together.”

“We went through budget workshops, based on strategic planning, and we incorporated all of that into this budget document and it lays out the path that we go, it shows where we’ve been and all the things that are yet to come.

“This is our 19<sup>th</sup> year in a row to win this award ... it’s a rare achievement. It’s not the ‘norm’ for governmental organizations to achieve this award,” Coffman said. “It’s a special award because of the improvement and the continual level of excellence that our City has a reputation of, now.”

For questions or more information please contact Granbury Public Information Officer Alex Southern at 817-573-6764 or at [asouthern@granbury.org](mailto:asouthern@granbury.org).

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