

The Board of Aldermen met on November 21st and here are some highlights from that meeting

The board passed two ordinances pertaining to fireworks stands. The first ordinance had to do with where the stands can be placed in the city. Those locations are any commercial district designated C-1, C-2, C-3 and any industrial district designated I-1 and I-2. The second part of this ordinance has to do with parking requirements; the second ordinance had to do with the fees charged for a permit to operate a fireworks stand in the city limits of Troy. For a fireworks stand that is up to 1,000 square feet the fee will be \$2,000.00 and for a stand over 1,000 square feet of retail space the fee is \$4,000.00. Each different location will require its own permit. One other thing to remember, the board did not change the ordinance that makes it illegal to shoot off fireworks inside the city limits of Troy.

The board accepted the resignation of George Clay from the Planning and Zoning Commission and from Helen Clay from the Park Board. Both George and Helen will be missed, they were valuable members of these organization and worked hard to make Troy a better place. I personally, along with the City of Troy, want to thank them for their dedication to civic duty and we wish them luck.

The board approved me signing the Missouri Department of Natural Resources-Stat PARK Grant Award LWCF Project Agreement. This agreement allows the city to accept a grant of \$150,000.00 to be used to start developing some new baseball and soccer fields on twenty two acres of ground in the Crooked Creek subdivision that was donated to the city by the Lincoln County R-III School District. By developing this ground into a park with athletic fields, it will take pressure off of the fields in Fairgrounds Park so that they can be maintained better because of less use.

The board awarded a Request for Proposal for Grant Writing and Grant Administration Services on Proposed Project of Infrastructure Improvements to Mennemeyer Road.

On Saturday evening November 12, 2016, the overnight crew of Police officers caught two subjects who committed a burglary on Ellis Street at Advanced Eye Care. The same subjects had burglarized the Dapper Dog earlier in the week. On the evening of November 13, 2016 in the middle of the night, a suspect was caught in a vehicle on Greg's Repair Shop/Auto Sales stealing stereos. Also in his car were several other car stereos, a hand gun and other stolen items.

In the Public Works Department, they placed 60 tons of asphalt and 18 cubic yards of concrete for various street repairs around the city.

A total of 35,458,000 gallons of water were pumped during the month and the daily maximum was 1,322,000 gallons which were pumped on November 5th. All bacteriological samples were reported absent of any contamination.

In the sewer department, our new software for mapping the sewer lines, water lines, storm sewer and sanitary sewer manholes is working great. This new software allows us to correct inaccuracies in the locations of these items; so that if the need ever arises that we have to look for these things we will be able to pinpoint their location. A few years ago as you remember, Joplin, Missouri had a terrible tornado cut through the city doing massive damage. With all of the debris that was left behind, the emergency responders were not able to locate much needed infrastructure. Had they had this type of software, they would have been able to go right to the location that they needed. I pray that we never need to use this information because of that type of event, but it is good to know that we have it if we need it.

We discussed with the County Health Department the need for a F.O.G. ordinance (Fats, Oil and Grease) and the enforcement of grease trap maintenance at various businesses around town. When these contaminants get into the sewer system, it wreaks havoc by clogging sewer lines and destroying the bacteria at the wastewater treatment plants that make the plant function. It is very important to eliminate these items as much as is possible. They cleaned 400' of 18" truck line to test our squeegee plan. It was an overall success. The camera truck was successfully set up with the new computer and pipe-tech software. 3,900 feet of sewer lines were camera checked and smoke tested and 11 lateral clean out caps were dug up and repaired to keep surface water from entering the city's sewer system.

All snow plowing equipment has been checked and is ready to go; the drivers drove each snow route to become familiar so when the first snow flies they are ready to go.

All eight sirens were tested on 11/08/2016 and all are working properly.

In the Parks Department, numerous tree stumps (over 20) were removed in all of the parks and some at City Hall. These were not only from the trees recently removed but also stumps that have been an eye sore for years. Increased Police patrols in the parks have made a noticeable difference but there is still a bit of a problem with loitering and littering. NO PARKING IN THE GRASS and 2 HOUR PARKING signs were placed in Fairgrounds Park. The two hour signs were placed near the duck ponds to keep high school kids from parking there all day while they were in school.

Several members of the Administrative Department toured the Southeast WWTP (MBR) courtesy of Wastewater Superintendent Peasel. The knowledge gained will help when an explanation is required to educate citizens on sewer rates and the associated costs involved to process wastewater. Also, the Utility Clerk, Michele Frye, attended the Missouri Rural Water Conference on topics of billing and data analysis.

Candidate file begins Tuesday December 13th at 8:00 am for the April municipal election. There are three aldermanic seats up for election, one in each of the three wards. If you have ever felt the urge to participate in city government and make a difference in the future of the City of Troy here is your chance.

That is all for this month. I hope you had have a nice Thanksgiving. Be nice to each other and God bless you all.