

The Troy Board of Alderman met on January 18, 2017 and took the following actions.

They approved a request by the Historical Society of a Cemetery Tour on Thursday, June 1, 2017; they approved the 2017 Troy Chamber "Movies in the Park" on soccer field A - Saturdays June 17th, July 22nd, August 19th; Approved the February Regular board of Alderman Meeting be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017; and they approved moving Tim Muldoon from an alternate-to-member of the Board of Adjustment; Jamie Dowling and Rachel Dunard were appointed to the Park Board; approved a request by 12 Stones Community Church to hold an Easter egg hunt in Fairgrounds Park on Saturday, April 15, 2017 from 7-11a.m.; approved a liquor/business application for Troy PB Inc. 205 N. Lincoln Dr.; approved closing out the grant from 2011 for a waste-water project with CDBG monies. The Board also discussed, but took no action, on the increase of 30% in dispatching user fees as mandated by the Lincoln County Commissioners; they awarded the Main St. Sidewalk Project to the lowest bidder Cannon General Contractors Inc. The board approved and authorized the mayor to sign a three year extension with Meridian Waste Solutions of \$18.00 per month, 1xper week residential, recycling and Yard Waste taking us through the 30th of June 2021. The board also authorized the mayor to sign Pool Management 2017 Aquatic Center Contract with Midwest Pool Management in the amount of \$26,400.00 maximum and a management fee of \$90, 546.00 maximum base salary. The board also discussed and approved 5% payment to Missouri Municipal League for providing support for suit/settlement and blocked passage of two telecom industry House bills regarding City of Maryland Heights.

In the Police Department, they have restarted their Juvenile community service program with the Juvenile office. The department passed its yearly inspection through the State and Federal Agency in reference to their equipment. All seems to be going very well in the Police Department and we have started doing extra patrol at our new Middle School in the southern part of the City.

In the Treasurer's Report, sales tax deposits for January of 2017 rebounded after three months of decline. They were 21% higher than deposits for January of 2016. The 1% local sales tax was 21.38% higher and the ½% Transportation tax was 20.08% higher and the ½% Capital Improvement Tax was 21.42% higher than January of 2016. For the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year our sales tax receipts are up by 1.71% as compared to the same period last in FY2016. Revenues are ahead of budget for cigarette taxes, franchise taxes, building permit fees, fines and court costs, motor fuel tax and interest. Cemetery lot sales have already exceeded the budget for the year. Water right-to-connect fees have already exceeded the budget for the year and we have collected 31 of the 43 budgeted sewer right-to-connect fees. At the same time all of the major funds are well below budgeted expenditures.

In the building Department, through the first six months of this FY, there have been 37 permits issued for new housing starts valued at \$4,702,940.00 and 5 for commercial properties valued at \$9,172,058.00.

In the Parks Department, they have been working on a concept design for the new park at Crooked Creek. This is a preliminary design to determine what exactly will fit in the space available. There are a couple of interesting opportunities available for the parks and we will give you more information on those as those plans take shape. I want to remind citizens that if they would like to dedicate a bench in a park for a special person or occasion, we do have the capability to do that for you. Please contact Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Howell at 528-4712 for more details.

In the Administrative Department, representatives from CenturyLink have been reviewing sites to install fiber-optic Ethernet lines in the next several weeks at Public Works, City Hall, Water Plant and MBR

Plant locations. Work has progressed with CenturyLink's Design Engineer for the new Shortel phone system. Their business services technician, along with Alliance Technology, have been preprogramming firewall equipment and updating software to ensure a smooth transition when it comes time to switch from the old to the new phone system.

The City has published a Request for Proposal on LED Lighting with specifications on five different projects in the City; namely, City Hall, Public Works (including salt shed, storage shed, and kennels); Main Street lighting, MBR Plant; and Fairgrounds Park. The bid process should be completed, and a recommendation made for Board consideration at the February 22, 2017 meeting. Energy savings from the LED upgrade should pay for these changes in just a few short years, and then the City will continue to save on its energy usage for many years to come.

In the Human Resources Department, Director Tonya Hawkins has been working with several of the Department Heads to upgrade various job descriptions. The aim of this effort is to keep these descriptions as current as possible in these rapidly changing times. There is no point in requiring a new or potential employee to know how to operate a piece of equipment that has been replaced by another more sophisticated piece of equipment. Believe it or not, this is a more arduous task than it may sound like and we appreciate the efforts of all of those involved.

Finally, City Clerk Jodi Schneider and I will be attending the Missouri Municipal League Legislative Conference in Jefferson City on February 14-15, 2017. We will be meeting with our State Senator Jeannie Riddle and Representative Randy Pietzman along with other members of the legislature from the surrounding area. The idea is for us to let our representatives know what subjects, both good and bad, we think are important to our local citizens. I feel these face to face meetings do so much more than sending a letter or an email. When you look someone in the eye, you can tell how they feel about a subject a lot better than words on a page. I will let you know the results of those meetings in next month's message.

I think that is all for this month. Except for a few tough days dealing with some ice, this winter has not been too bad yet. Let's hope that this trend keeps up and that spring will start soon.

Remember to be kind to one another and be careful out there. God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.