

There were two public hearings to discuss the rezoning of lots 3,4 and 5 of RLP Development business park from C-2 Neighborhood Commercial District to R-3 Multiple-Family Residential District. In addition to that RCH Development applied to have those same lots approved for Planned Development. RCH Development has applied for tax credits from the State of Missouri to build 42 Senior housing units. After the two public hearings the Board of Alderman approved the requests. If the financing is awarded by the state the units could be available for rent by the middle of 2016.

The Police Department was kept very busy during prank week at TBHS. The Police arrested 8 – 12 individuals in reference to property damage in the Whitcomb Woods Subdivision. Friday night of that week three extra officers were put on duty plus the Chief to handle multiple car stops. Quite a number of people were taken home to their parents who had to be awakened between 1:30am and 2:20am. There was severe damage done to the glass hearse the belongs to Kemper, Millard and Keim Funeral Home. That investigation is ongoing.

The Police Department will be taking delivery of three new vehicles within the next week or two. After the striping is put on the squad cars they will be put into service and the three oldest cars will be removed from service and sold on GovDeals. That is a website where government agencies can buy and sell used equipment.

In the Public Works Department is finally stopped raining long enough that we could get the streets in town restriped. They finally look finished and it certainly makes a difference, especially at night. Speaking of streets, we are out for bid on resurfacing the following asphalt streets: Friendship Ct., Creech St., Prospect Circle, Alden St. and Elm Tree Road down by Whitetail Crossing Subdivision. In addition, the city is out for bid to repair Blair Ave and Trail Ave. Those two streets will have both the storm sewer and sanitary sewer lines replaced and the streets resurfaced so that they drain properly in the future. We will also be replacing the sidewalks so that they become ADA compliant.

We have been doing extensive smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system in order to reduce the amount of fresh water that is getting into the system. We have found numerous clean out caps missing, broken pipes that are taking on water and some downspouts and sump pumps hooked up to the sewer. Just as a reminder, it is illegal for anyone to hookup downspouts or sump pumps to the sewer system. If you find that you have that situation on your property, contact the Public Works Department at 528-4646 or the Building Department at 528-1254 and they can give you some ideas on what to do with the water after you disconnect.

We picked up nine at-large dogs during the past month. Five were returned to their owners one was rescued by an adoption agency and we still have three dogs in the pound. If you are missing your dog, call 528-4646 to check to see if it is in the pound.

Sales tax deposits for September of 2014 were up 1.36% vs. last September. The 1% local sales tax was .71% higher, the ½% transportation tax was 3.39% higher and the 1/2% capital improvement's tax was .74% higher than last September. September's deposits would be for July's collections. For the first quarter of the 2014-2015 fiscal year our sales tax deposits are up by 11%.

The Building Department issued two permits for new housing starts in the month of September and that brings our total for the year to five. This is not the busiest time of the year for housing starts so let's hope that it picks up dramatically when spring rolls around.

The Board of Alderman approved the following people to serve on the Storm water Committee, Dale Black, Nick Martin, Bart Berneking; Gary Cockrum and Jeff Sheets. In addition, Alderman Dennis Detert will be serving at the board representative. At the same time the board approved new storm water advisory committee policies and procedures.

Mrs. Sue Johnson resigned from the Park Board after 22 years of service. We thank her for her dedication to the parks and the city during that time. The Board approved Mr. Donald Norton to replace Mrs. Johnson and we welcome him to the Park Board. Ryan Howell was named president of the Park Board and Heather Waggoner is the new secretary. Stay tuned for some new and exciting things coming out of the Park Board going forward.

It appears that I have come to the end of this month's message. There seems to be a lot going on at this time and I will continue to try and keep you informed.

Be safe out there and above all be kind to one another and God bless you all.