

The Board of Alderman is currently in the process of working out the budget for the fiscal year 2014/2015 which begins July 1, 2014. All of the department heads submitted their department budgets and City Treasurer Linda Flinn compiled the information so that we can see where we are with what we would like to spend vs what we have to spend. By the time of my next message the budget will be complete but please watch the website for the public hearing and the meeting when we will be voting to approve the new budget. That way you can give us your input.

The Police Dept. is on the lookout for tall grass and they are issuing 7 day notices to get it cut. If the grass is not cut at the end of the seven days they will issue you a citation which with court costs would run about \$90.00. I am pretty sure that it would be cheaper to pay someone to cut the grass than pay the fine.

Office Brandon Jett gave a tour of the Police Department to The Tiger Cubs who said that they learned a lot and had a blast. If you have a group that would like to take a tour of the Police Department please call 636-528-4725.

The Water Department has completed the water main flushing and fire hydrant testing for this year. To date we have repaired four water main breaks so if you see water coming out of the ground and you don't know where it is coming from please call 636-528-4646. That is the same number to call to report your favorite pothole that needs to be repaired. Speaking of potholes we have used 23 tons of asphalt and 30 cubic yards of concrete in the last month on street repairs. While fixing a sewer backup behind Buzzy's Liquor Store we discovered that Ameren Missouri had broken the line while putting in a new utility pole. This situation has been repaired at the expense of Ameren Missouri.

We had four calls for dogs running free this past month. Three were returned to their owner and one was taken to an animal adoption agency. I need to remind you that starting July 1 it will be time to purchase and or return your dog tags. The tags only cost a dollar and you need to bring in proof of rabies vaccination. So come in and see Becky, she will be happy to help you and if on the off chance that your dog should get out we would be able to contact you from the information on your dog's tag.

Sales tax deposits for May of 2014 were up 12.47% vs May of 2013. The 1% local sales tax was 14.17% higher, the ½% transportation tax was 13.41% higher and the ½% Capital Improvement tax was 8.12% higher. Our sales tax receipts for Fiscal Year 2014 are up by 2.63% as compared to the 2013 Fiscal Year.

The Building Department issued 6 permits for new housing starts in the past month bringing our total for the year to 30 which means we should reach our projected number of 35 for the fiscal year.

The city has agreed to shift insurance carriers to United Health Care which should save the city approximately \$90,000 plus in the upcoming fiscal year. That should go a long way toward helping to balance the budget.

Congratulations to Troy City Clerk Jodi Schneider on being named to the Board of Directors for the Missouri City Clerks Association for a three year term. As a Director her functions are to support the executive board and prepare/oversee preparation of the Division's budget.

On the Cherry Blossom Way repair project, the City has all of the necessary easements in place and has forwarded the final plans to the Economic Development Authority for approval. In the meantime Ameren Missouri is relocating its power poles so that once approval is given we will be able to go out for bid and the begin construction. Once the project gets going we anticipate a 270 day construction period.

That appears to be it for this month. Now that school is out and the aquatic center is open please watch out for children out walking. Many of you will be taking family vacations so have a wonderful time and come back home safely. Please be kind to one another and as always, God bless you all.