

October 2015

I would like to start by recognizing Mr. Bernard O'Hanlon for his service to the City of Troy. "Bernie" served on the Park Board for almost 23 years, along with more recently serving on the Board of Adjustment and representing the City with the Missouri Extension. His time and dedication to the City are very much appreciated, and we wish Mr. O'Hanlon success in whatever he chooses to do next. God bless you, Bernie.

At the Board of Alderman meeting on September 21st, Mrs. Helen Clay was appointed to serve on the Park Board. I would like to welcome Mrs. Clay and thank her for volunteering.

The board approved a 5K Walkathon on behalf of Gabriel Ward, who has been diagnosed with bladder outlet obstruction and kidney failure. The Walkathon will take place November 7, 2015. It will begin and end in Fairgrounds Park near the bandstand.

The Park Board met on September 14th and discussed year end procedures at the pool and an estimate of revenue and expenditures for the season. A final report will be presented when we get the unused salary from Midwest Pool Management. The board discussed pool hours for the 2016 season. Closing the pool an hour earlier might present an opportunity to offer more programming at the facility. A discussion took place on the subject of field allocation policy and potential rental rates for athletic field time starting in 2016. There was a Praise and Prayer event in Fairgrounds Park on September 13th. The event was very well attended, and a second one is planned for October 25th. During the week of October 12th, the parking lot in Fairgrounds Park and Monroe St. through the park were repaired and then resurfaced. All of the paving took place during a single day so as to minimize the disruption to people using the park.

The Historic Preservation Commission discussed the purchase of plaques for historic properties within the national Registry District. The TCVB will budget \$3,000.00 for plaques this year. The TCVB would cover the entire cost of the plaques for the Lincoln County Courthouse and the old jail and the first \$100.00 dollars for the plaques on businesses in the district. The remaining balance is to be paid by the business. The HPC Board also had an overview of the Missouri Sunshine Law and what pertains to the Commission put on by City Attorney Jesse Granneman.

In the Public Works Department, the Cherry Blossom Way replacement project is progressing and has a final completion date of October 31st. I know that we are all anxious for this project to be finished, but the final product will be a huge improvement to what was there before. At the same time, some repairs to Main Street at the corner of Cherry Blossom Way will be repaired with the hope of completing that work before Cherry Blossom Way is complete in order to minimize any disruptions. The City has taken receipt of 1,000 tons of salt in preparations for the coming winter season. All of the tornado sirens were tested and found to be functioning properly.

The Wastewater Project to upgrade our treatment plants is moving along. The firm of Woodard & Curran presented three options on which type of processing system should be used to maximize our capacity. An estimated cost was given, and now the city must decide which process to go with.

Sales tax deposits for September of 2015 were 6.54% more than deposits for September of 2014. The 1% Local Sales Tax was 7.17% higher, the 1/2% Transportation Tax was 45% higher and the 1/2% Capital Improvements Tax was 7.15% higher than September of 2014. For the first quarter of the 2015-2016 fiscal year, our sales tax deposits are up by 4.25%.

In the building department, we had four new housing starts which brings the total of new starts for the fiscal year to 11. I can report that the new middle school down at Crooked Creek is progressing nicely. They are running a little behind because of the rain at the beginning of the construction season, but they are still planning to open to students during the 2016 school year. Also, on September 24th there was a ground breaking for the new safe room/performing arts center at the high school. Construction will be beginning soon and again the plan is to open during the next school year.

That is it for this month and I want to apologize for being late this month. The next message will be more timely so it will not be far behind. I hope everyone has a safe Halloween. Automobile drivers should watch out for the children that are trick or treating because I promise they will not be watching out for you.

Be kind to one another and God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Mark