

Hello Fellow Residents!

Wow! I can't believe how quickly the last 2 years has gone! It has truly been an honor to serve and represent our community, I look forward to the next term with a sense of excitement for our friendly small town! We will see a couple of council changes in January. I'd like to thank Mark McChane for serving the last 2 years - your input will be missed! I'd also like to thank Gary Wurtz for his time serving our community - you have truly had an impact over your many years and I thank you for the positive influences you leave behind. Dennis Bass, Dave Galbraith and Mayor pro-tem Heather Sallis all return for another term. Dale Wilson and Travis Rodden are newly elected, and I look forward to their input and working with them! Please take a minute to thank all of our council members, when you run into them, for the hard work they do to grow, improve and maintain this city while keeping our budgets balanced. City Council meetings are currently the 2nd Tuesday of every month, please check on-line for agendas and stop by the office or if you have any questions.

We also have had to see our city clerk Julie leave for a new position ~ we wish her well but will miss her knowledge and smiling face at the office! I'd like to thank deputy clerk Sarah for accepting the interim clerk position. We plan to fill this position early

next year. A final employee note... Tom, our longest-term employee, has let us know he will be retiring next fall. We will update you with dates and some sort of celebration/send-off as time goes on. We are currently interviewing for this position and plan to have someone on staff and training for the next few months.

Please stop by or give me a call anytime to chat about this wonderful little city we are blessed to call home!

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM MAYOR LISA SMOCK

NEW ORDINANCE: The City Council has added a new Noise and Vibrations Ordinance to the code. Contact City Hall for detailed information.

NEW OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 7:30-4. Fridays 7:30-Noon.

MAYOR'S PARK: What an amazing hidden retreat this beautiful space is! It has been so fun to see so many residents out enjoying a walk or using one of the many spaces at this park! We are trying to wrap up a few items left on our grants:

* The sign at the entrance to the park will be ready to go as spring approaches and the brickwork can be finished * We are working on trail maps of the park so you can track your miles as you enjoy the trail * The new shelter at the front of the park should be completed by the end of this year

* We plan to move the used shelter to the back of the park in the spring to continue to be rented * An area alongside the trail has been treated and seeded for a pollinator wildflower walk. It may take a couple years to fully grow, but it will be beautiful when it reaches maturity * We are planning to add a few more mulched trails along our side of the creek, more seating areas, & educational signage about our habitat.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: The Gilbertville and Lafayette Roads construction is set to begin in the spring! We will keep you updated on the start date as soon as we know. The project could take up to a year and will include curb and gutter as well as sidewalks on both sides of the street. The project will be a complete re-do of Gilbertville Rd. from Amber Lane up to the corner of Lafayette Rd. And Lafayette Rd. will have a complete re-do from the Casey's corner down to the bridge at the McCoy Rd. intersection. New waterlines will be installed at this time. The water main portion of the project is funded mostly through the ARPA funds the city received, and 80% of the road construction is being funded through a state funded block grant. The city has been saving for the past 3 years to pay our portion of the project and will not be taking out any type of loan for this construction project!

DOG PARK: Willow Run opened this spring and has been a wonderful amenity for our dog owning/loving residents! The park is located in Evansdale so you will get your pass for \$10 for the year at Evansdale City Hall. Fees collected from the pass help to cover costs of maintaining the park. It also insures that dogs that use the park are vaccinated and registered, which keeps all of our pups safe! Work continues on additional features at the park; including a new shelter and lighting, both should be completed by the end of December. Next spring you will see a new water fountain and possibly some sort of agility or play equipment added through our generous grant from Black Hawk County gaming and fundraising efforts from the committee and residents who love this park!

Recycle for our planet! Please remember to do our part and recycle! You can call Waste Management and set up your own cart for only \$5.00 a month, just call 1-888-960-0008!

SNOW REMOVAL : We hate to mention the word **snow**, but *that* time will soon be here. During winter, snow removal is a top priority. We realize our citizens rely on the streets being plowed, preferably early in the morning. This, however, is not always possible. The snow accumulation and volume of traffic normally dictates when snowplowing operations will begin. The city has a designated snow

removal route. The first pass through is to get the streets opened. They then go back to do clean up. Conditions may warrant the application of sand and salt mixture. Materials will first be applied to the priority areas and intersections. Materials may also be spread at spot locations to allow traction. ***Remember all vehicles must be removed from city streets during plowing periods.*** Vehicles parked in the street may be ticketed or towed. Remember it is unlawful for any persons to remove snow and ice accumulation and deposit it into the street. Additionally, please do not put your trash can in the street during snow removal!

PLEASE NOTE: Do not rinse grease or greasy items down the drains! This is causing some serious and **COSTLY** issues with the lift stations!

Do you ever wonder why the City seems to have so many watermain breaks in the winter months? The reason a water main will break is because of the frost going deep into the ground. When the ground freezes it shifts, which shifts anything buried in it. Hence, shifting the water line and breaking it. Please be patient when/if this does happen this winter. Repairs are done just as quickly as possible in these extreme conditions. When these repairs are made it is necessary to turn the water off. **THAT IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT THE CITY HAVE**

A CURRENT PHONE NUMBER FOR YOU. We always try to call you as soon as possible and give you notice. Please contact City Hall if you have an updated number.

ILLEGAL DUMPING AT THE RECYCLE BINS:

DO NOT put beside the We have old AC units, garbage. If know what to



your unwanted junk recycling containers! found refrigerators, cans of paint and you truly do not do with something, call us and we will help you figure it out. There are surveillance cameras located on the back of City Hall and violators will be sought after.

Do not forget to register your pet! 2024 pet tags will be available in January. \$3.00 until April then \$1.00 increase per month after.

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

**DECEMBER 22nd, 25th, 26th
JANUARY 1ST**

Building Permits: Remember if you are doing any home improvements to call City Hall to see if you need a permit.

*****CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG*****

**SANTA'S COMING TO THE CITY
HALL!!!**

**DECEMBER 21ST 2023 4pm-6pm
COME ENJOY REFRESHMENTS AND A
GOODY BAG!**