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City of Branson Departmental Updates

February, 2019

CITY CLERK/MUNICIPAL COURT:

- The City Clerk verified the petition to expand the boundaries of The Historic Downtown Branson Community Improvement District that was filed on December 5, 2018 and the Public Hearing on the expansion will be held on March 12, 2019, at the Regular Board of Aldermen meeting.
- The Municipal Court upgraded its online payment process to allow for online partial payment of court fines. Partial payments are only allowed through a court appearance and if they are ordered by the Judge.

FIRE:

- The firefighters completed CPR and Hands Only CPR refresher training and Forcible Entry Training. Several members also attended state certification training for Fire Officer II and Driver / Operator Core hosted at the fire department's training center. This training was also open to other fire departments across the State.
- Several members of the fire and police departments in partnership with the Taney County Sheriff's Department and Taney County Ambulance District participated in Active Shooter Hostile Event Response (ASHER) training.
- Fire personnel provided Hands Only CPR Training for employees at the Branson RecPlex and Sight and Sound Theater.
- Division Chief Randy Fogle attended the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials (NAARSO) Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. This training is a valuable resource for the safety of guests and employees of the attractions located in the Branson community.
- Members of the Fire & Planning/Development Department along with Communications Manager Melody Pettit staffed a booth at the Tri-Lakes Building and Home Show sponsored by the Vacation Channel. The booth focused on City Services and how to connect with the City via the web site and social media platforms.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

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- Attending Taney County Career days March 5-7, 2019.
- Applicant tracking to begin soon
- DDI training for situation/behavior/outcome interview training

PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Branson Parks & Recreation Department is currently registering for spring programs that include youth co-ed soccer, a spring break camp, and youth baseball and softball. You may register for all programs on our website at www.bransonparksandrecreation.com.
- New trail signs are currently being installed at Branson Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area. The new signs will be placed every tenth of a mile to allow better trail identification and help people orient themselves and to know where they are.
- Pickleball has proven popular at the Branson RecPlex. More courts are now available for open play on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Want to learn to play? Private and group lessons are also being offered.
- The Branson Park's staff is working with the 2019 Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program (MoNASP) State Tournament to run the Aspire Tournament on Sunday, March 24 at the Branson Convention Center. This new event will serve to allow archers who don't qualify for the State Tournament a chance to compete. As many as 500 new archers are expected to participate.
- The Missouri Parks & Recreation Association Conference was held in Branson February 26-March 1. The conference drew over 500 attendees from around the state. Staff from the Branson Parks Department were in attendance.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

- Staff from multiple departments met with the construction team for the new aquarium project for a preconstruction meeting. While not a required meeting, city staff highly recommended the opportunity which the aquarium team took advantage of and saw the benefit of. The meeting gave both groups the chance to make introductions and discuss the development/inspection process in an effort to promote open communication and help the project be as efficient as possible.
- The Budget & Finance Committee recommended approval of the staff's selection of Citizenserve Online Solutions, LLC to provide the city's new Land Management Software. The next steps will include to finalization of the contract and then presentation of the contract to the Board of Aldermen. The goal is for the project to be kicked off in April so it can go live by January 1, 2020.

POLICE:

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- The PD is conducting an educational campaign to ensure area businesses comply with the State mandate to properly display the Stop Human Trafficking poster.
- The 4th and final School Resource Officer has been assigned to serve the students and faculty at the Buchanan Campus. This assignment finalizes our School Resource Officer assignments; all Branson District campuses now have full-time School Resource Officers.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

- Curtis Copeland received a Resolution from the Missouri House of Representatives on February 4, 2019 for the research and reproduction of maps and other historical documentation which included an interactive map created by Curtis of the Henry Rowe Schoolcraft journey across the Ozarks in 1818 and 1819. Curtis along with other entities were invited to the last leg of Dr. Eric “Rick” Mansfield’s re-enactment of the Schoolcraft adventure. Dr. Mansfield completed his journey on February 4th in Potosi, Missouri and Curtis was honored to be included in the press conference panel and to walk with Dr. Mansfield the final leg of the journey.



UTILITIES:

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- The City's Utilities Department recently received notification from the Missouri Department of Conservation of their approval for the City to cross the Henning Conservation Area, within an existing electric utility corridor, with a proposed new 12 inch city water main. This water main is a key component in the planned water system extension and improvement in the areas of Highways 76 and 376 on the west side of Branson. Having the ability to install the water main across Henning will allow the City to serve water to areas of the City which have been annexed for a number of years but cannot currently be serviced by City water. The improvements will also remedy issues of lower than desired water pressures near the intersection of Hwy 76 and 376 and provide increased stored water volumes in the City's existing water system for use during peak water demands and for added fire protection. Engineering is currently underway for this improvement project.
- The Utilities water treatment division is responsible for the oversight of the City's water tower maintenance and cleaning program. During the week of February 25th crews from Utility Services, Inc. cleaned and inspected the interior of the 1-million gallon water tower at Hwy 76 & 165 and the 500,000 gallon tower near the Branson Junior High School. Each of the City's eight water towers are drained, cleaned and inspected on a routine schedule to assure required water quality is maintained. The inspection information is used to prioritize and schedule necessary repairs and repainting. Water tower maintenance programs of this type are strongly recommended by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.