

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR
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City of Branson Departmental Updates

March 2019

CITY CLERK/MUNICIPAL COURT:

- Lisa Westfall was sworn in as President of Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association. Thanks to those who were able to attend.
- Applications were opened for 14 Board and Committee vacancies.

FIRE:

- The Fire Department hosted a recruit firefighter testing for three vacant positions and to establish a hiring eligibility list. The top three candidates have conditional offers of employment and are currently in the pre-employment and background check process.
- The Fire Department provided training for area theaters on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1126 – the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience. This program prepares pyro technicians to take a state test and become certified. Additionally, firefighters presented fire safety programs at area attractions including The Track Family Fun Park, performed fire drills at all Branson Schools, and participated in the College of the Ozarks Career Fair.
- Branson firefighters completed annual Water Rescue Training and participated in a tabletop Disaster Exercise at the Branson Airport.
- The new Pierce Velocity 107' Ladder Truck has arrived... stay tuned for more about this in the near future!

PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Park's Department is completing a project at the Branson RecPlex to switch out nearly 500 fluorescent light bulbs to a more energy efficient LED bulb. This project was partially funded with a sustainability grant through the City of Branson and could result in an annual savings of over \$5,000.
- Tree trimming was recently completed at North Beach Park. The project was paid for by a Tree Resource, Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) Grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation. In total, 50 trees were trimmed as part of an overall tree management program to properly trim and care for trees.
- The Park's Department is in the final stages of a rehabilitation project at the Branson AquaPlex to sandblast and paint the swimming pool. The pool is set to open Memorial Day weekend.

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- The walking path at Stockstill Park was recently repaired. Over 30 yards of new concrete were poured in areas that were washed out in flooding that occurred in 2017.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

- It has been a busy first quarter for development with \$53.5 million in construction value permitted. This total is typically what we have seen for the year-end total the past several years.

POLICE:

- The police department attended a “SEEKERS” meeting. This group is comprised of Branson area parents that have children with various special needs. The name stands for “Support, Encouragement, Empowerment, Knowledge, Education, Resources, and Solutions.” The police department was able to explain to this group what training our officers have in regards to dealing with people that have special needs or are in some form of mental crisis and as well as other special situations. Specifically, the police department explained the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training that is a department priority. BPD plans to send every department employee to this week long training over the next two years. This training is through the National Alliance on Mental Illness and provides first responders with in depth knowledge on the various illnesses, involved medications and how to best interact with those suffering from them.
- Officers had a successful month in quickly solving several felony crimes. In one week alone, the day shift squad identified and arrested a suspect from a burglary, located a stolen car and arrested the driver, and located 2 stolen golf carts and one gator, also arresting the suspects. During this same week, Detectives identified two suspects in several burglaries at Ballparks of America.