

City of Branson Departmental Updates

June 2019

CITY CLERK/MUNICIPAL COURT:

- Applications were opened for positions on the Board of Appeal and Human Resources Committee.
- A two hour training was presented to the Mayor and Aldermen over general procedures for the Board.
- A lot of behind the scenes activity has been taking place for Laserfiche. Currently, the entire Department has been reviewing all ordinances and resolutions so they meet quality control standards prior to going into Laserfiche. To date, Staff has reviewed 6,441 Ordinances and 1,065 Resolutions. This goes back to the very first ordinance that was passed. Review includes such things as making sure the ordinance numbers are correct and match the minutes, all exhibits are attached and checking for other missing pages. In order to correct issues, Staff has been researching the Master Files and other archived documents looking for the additional information. If after research the documents can't be found, the issues are documented and being added to the file for future reference.

FIRE:

- The fire department welcomed new Firefighters Raymond Jimenez and Anthony Griggs. These two men filled vacancies in the roster after completing two-week intensive recruit academy to complement their firefighter training certifications required prior to application to the City. Firefighter Jimenez came to us from the US Army and Firefighter Griggs from the Southern Stone County Fire Protection District.
- The firefighters completed their annual health & wellness physicals based with one-on-one meetings with an Occupational Health Physician. These physicals meet or exceed National Fire Protection Association standards and are designed to watch for and head off health risk trends based on the fire service job performance requirements.
- The Technical Services Division has permitted five (5) fireworks stands and six (6) commercial fireworks displays. All fireworks stands / tents were inspected prior to opening and are checked several times each week. Each commercial fireworks display is also inspected prior to the event and firefighters are on-site for safety during each display.
- The fire department's "B-Safe" fire safety house was on display at the Taney County Fair to teach residents fire safety in the home focused on common fire hazards, smoke alarms, and exit drills in the home.
- Congratulations to Division Chief Mike Novak who completed his fourth year class in the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy located in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Park Maintenance staff recently placed a new roof on the Stockstill Park restrooms. The old shingled roof, which was 25 years old, was replaced by a new metal roof. Park staff is now working on replacing the roof at the tennis building.
- Branson Parks Department has partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation to offer catch and release fishing in the ponds at Eiserman Park. Children ages 15 and under will be allowed to fish

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the ponds during designated hours. Fishing poles and tackle boxes will also be available for use at no cost during the hours of operation at the Community Center.

- Things are in full swing at the Branson AquaPlex. The popular Tropical Tuesdays are offered on Tuesdays starting June 18 through July 9 and will feature a live DJ with fun games and prizes.
- A free swim day sponsored by The Track Family Fun Parks was held at the pool on June 26 and saw 436 people attend. The free day also served as food drive for CAM, bringing in over 400 lbs. of canned and boxes food items. Another free swim day is scheduled for July 24.
- A greenhouse at the Branson Community Center is supplying fresh produce for the senior lunch program. The Branson Senior Center Board installed the greenhouse and found volunteers to grow vegetables to help off-set the cost of the salad bar that is available for the senior meal program.
- Eiserman Park now serves as home to a newly designed 9-hole disc golf course. The course features manicured landscaping and water hazards. Tee markers offer an option for beginners and advanced players.
- Tournament season is in full swing at the Branson RecPlex. Tournaments that are being held include basketball, pickleball, adult softball, youth baseball and youth softball. For the 10th consecutive year, the Park's Department hosted the USSSA girls NIT Classic Softball Tournament. This tournament is attended by 95 teams from Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Illinois.
- The large flower bed along Veteran's Blvd. has been planted with pretty yellow marigolds.
- An opening ceremony was held on June 26 to kick off the start of the USSSA Boys U11 Global World Series. The festivities included a pool party and bar-b-que. 19 teams from 5 different states are in attendance.



POLICE:

- Met with the store managers at the Tanger Outlet Mall in an attempt to increase their ability to work with the Police Department regarding crimes at their stores. This is in line with our agency's focus to build positive working relationships with all facets of our community. These meetings allowed us to provide useful information to the store managers regarding what is needed for successful cases and prosecution of offenders. This exchange also allowed us to update the managers on current crime trends and successful crime prevention methods.
- Hosted the golf tournament during National Law Enforcement Recognition Week. The tournament was held at the LedgeStone Golf Course and there were a record number of participants this year. This

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allowed networking among officers and also with the civilians that were teamed up with some law enforcement groups.

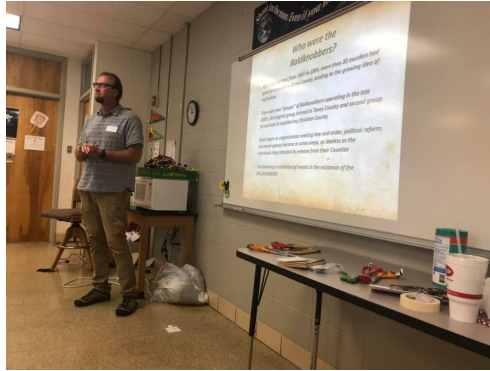
- The Law Enforcement Week was held from June 8th through the 15th and saw officers and retired officers from across the country attend. During this week, Officers were recognized for their contributions to this country and offered several discounts at area attractions, lodging, etc. The week's Headquarters was in the middle of Branson, which brought many law enforcement visitors directly to our city. There was a successful auction for Benefit the Badge, a shooting competition, a bass fishing tournament, a police car parade at the Branson Landing, K9 Demo's during the Law Enforcement Day at Silver Dollar City, a Banquet on the Branson Belle and a police motorcycle competition at the Home Depot parking lot. Officers were also treated to various shows in Branson. We are extremely grateful for all of our business and community support throughout this week!
- Several of our officers on the new police building committee met with the architects to assist in their special needs assessment. Our employees are excited to see this process begin and our looking forward to contributing to make the new Police Station one that our officers and community will take pride in.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING:

- Kirby Dieterman, Stormwater Coordinator, attended a seminar in Northwest Arkansas regarding the use of Low Impact Development. These practices include the use of bio-swales, rooftop gardening and solar panels. The bio-swales are of special interest due to the fact that they would help alleviate flooding by holding water on a property and also improving the water quality of the run-off from storms.
- June 13th Curtis Copeland presented the history of the Taney and Christian County Baldknobbers and the making of Baldknobber the Movie to the Science of Southwestern Missouri Class at Ozark Junior High in Ozark, Missouri. Curtis spoke about the importance of GIS in our world to the students and stated that the students were engaged, interested and enjoyed learning about the history that happened under their feet 130 years ago!
- The GIS Division has received the new LIDAR data from Pictometry International per our contract. This data covers the entire 60 square mile project area and is used for multiple purposes including detailed contour and topography mapping. This data is already being utilized on the Compton Wastewater Treatment flood protection project. Stay tuned for implementation of the new aerial photography as it will be available very soon.
- The GIS Division has released a brand new Parks and Trails interactive web map for our citizens and visitors. Check it out!
<https://cob-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=0750beb76904460cb46be568a5aaae0b>
- At the request of the Parks & Recreation Department and Emergency Services, the GIS Division has released a new web application called "Lakeside Forest Trails Wayfinder". This is an interactive map that citizens and visitors can pull up on their smart phone or mobile device and navigate the trails at Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area located off of Fall Creek Road by utilizing the onboard GPS in their devices.
<https://cob-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=54c51e1ced944db39d4e551c3024cb09>
- Public Works Streets Department employees have been busy clearing under the Gretna Road and Shepherd of the Hills Expressway bridges to bring them into the compliance with MoDOT standards. They have also been working with the Branson School District to improve the sidewalks and bring them

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up to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act before the start of the new school year. These employees are continually mowing the right-of-ways and repairing potholes on our secondary roads for the safety of residents.



UTILITIES:

- Utilities has received proposals from 12 engineering firms providing their information and proposed approach in designing improvement to a pumping force main at City sewer lift station #17 and for improvements being considered with water and sewer lines in the Spring Creek subdivision. Staff will begin review of each proposal and rank each in accordance with the City's current professional services evaluation process. Staff will then make recommendation of the top three firms to the Capital Improvements Committee for review and consideration. Once this phase of the process is complete, staff will then negotiate a contract with the selected firm to be presented to the Board of Aldermen for their consideration.
- The Utilities Department has prepared the 2018 Water Quality Report. This report is derived from all treatment techniques, sample analysis and sample test results compiled during the 2018 calendar year. All public and private drinking water suppliers are required by EPA and MDNR to furnish this report to each of its customers. The City's water system had no violations during 2018 and all process operations met safe drinking water standards.