



Winchester Newsletter

Jan - Feb, 2021

City of Winchester - 109 Lindy Blvd., Winchester, MO 63021-5299

CITY CALENDAR



- JAN - 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY Celebrated, City Hall Closed**
- 4 - Ballfield Permit Applications** available @ City Hall at 9:00 a.m. *(Tentative)**
- 13 - City Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- 18 - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY City Hall Open**
- 19 - Candidate Filing for April 6th Election closes @ 5:00 p.m.**
- FEB 3 - Pavilion & Gazebo Reservations begin** (for April 1st - October 31st) *(Tentative)**
- 10 - City Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- ♥ **14 - VALENTINE'S DAY**
- 17 - PRESIDENT'S DAY (City Hall Open)**
- MAR 10 - City Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- ♣ **17 - ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

*Due to the COVID-19 situation, reservations for the ball field, pavilion and gazebo are tentative. Please call City Hall for any possible updates.

NOTICE OF ELECTION DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

CITY OF WINCHESTER

A **Municipal Election** will be held in the City of Winchester, St. Louis County, Missouri, on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, to elect a **Mayor for the term of four (4) years and one Alderman from Ward I and one Alderman from Ward II, each to serve a two (2) year term.**

Declaration of Candidacy for said offices must be received by the City Clerk, Monday thru Friday, during regular business hours. Filing began on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. The closing date will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

A candidate must be a qualified voter properly registered under the laws of the Constitution of the State of Missouri. A Candidate must not be in arrears in any unpaid City of Winchester taxes and must have been a resident of the City of Winchester for at least one year preceding the election.

The City of Winchester is divided into two Wards known as Ward I and Ward II. The dividing line between Ward I and Ward II shall be a line beginning at the intersection of the center line of Sulphur Springs Road and the eastern prolongation of the south rear property line of Hillcrest Boulevard; thence westwardly along the south rear property line of Hillcrest Boulevard to its intersection with the center line of Lindy Boulevard, thence northwardly

Winchester City Hall
Voice-TDD: 636/391-0600
FAX: 636/391-6365
Email: cityhall@city.winchester.mo.us

Business Hours
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Monday through Friday
Board Meeting: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.

MAYOR
Gail M. Winham
Term Expires April, 2021
636/394-6023

WARD I

Joyce Davis
Term Expires April, 2021
636/391-1988

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Danielle Luebbert
Term Expires April, 2022
636/399-0859

WARD II

Tony DeLuca
Term Expires April, 2021
314/220-2119

Michael Schmidt
Term Expires, April 2022
314/706-8169

along the center line of Lindy Boulevard to its intersection with the center line of Hillcrest Boulevard thence westward along the center line of Hillcrest Boulevard, to its intersection with the southern prolongation of the west rear property line of Lindy Boulevard, thence northwardly along said west rear property line to its intersection with the north rear property line of Hillcrest Boulevard, thence westwardly along said north rear property line to its intersection with the west city limits of the City of Winchester.

Ward I shall constitute all of the area with the boundaries of the City of Winchester that lies South of the above described line dividing Ward I and Ward II.

Ward II shall constitute all of the area within the boundaries of the City of Winchester that lies North of the above described line dividing Ward I and Ward II.

Barbara Beckett, CMC
City Administrator/Clerk



CITY MEETING NEWS

In service to the community, your Board of Aldermen took the following action during November/December, 2020 meetings:

ORDINANCE #1095 - An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Winchester to sign an extension to the franchise agreement pursuant to Ordinance No. 544 of the City of Winchester with Allied Services, LLD d/b/a Republic Services for a period of five years.

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Allied Waste/Republic Services will dispose of your Christmas Tree at no additional charge to you. Please consider that trees will not be picked up if they are in plastic bags.

- ✿ Remove all tinsel and garland from your tree and
- ✿ Place your tree curbside before 7:00 a.m. on any regularly scheduled pick up day. 🎄



NOTE: AMEREN MISSOURI is offering an additional \$100 rebate through the Ameren Missouri Heating and Cooling Program over and above the existing program rebates. The promotion is designed to make it easy for customers

to upgrade their heating and cooling equipment to a qualifying high-efficiency model. Many good rebates are available through 2021.

Find more information and apply today at: www.amerenmissourisavings.com/hvac .



TAX FORMS - Reminder: City Hall *no longer receives paper income tax packages in the mail* from the IRS. Federal Income Tax Forms and Publications can be found at the www.irs.gov. The State of Missouri *will not be supplying* individual tax forms.

You can obtain tax forms by visiting the MoDOR website at: www.dor.mo.gov/tax. Both of the previously mentioned website's forms are "Fill-in". In other words, you can fill them out on line and print them. You may obtain forms by using the automated Fax-on-Demand system (Form by Fax) at 573-751-4800.

TAX ASSISTANCE (*Missouri Department of Revenue*) For senior citizens, disabled taxpayers or Veterans disabled as a result of military service, information on the Property Tax Credit is available on the Missouri Department of Revenue's website at : <http://dor.mo.gov/personal> Additional income tax assistance is available to those who qualify from Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Centers (VITA) and American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).



SNOOPING IN THE TRASH

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that once trash is placed near the curb for disposal, all expectation of privacy has been forfeited by the resident and anyone may legally examine the contents, including taking any items if they so desire. *In other words, it is legal for someone to go through your trash after you place it near the curb for disposal.* Therefore, police officials warn residents to be attentive to what they throw away (credit card statements, bank statements, other private information) so that they do not become a victim of identity theft.

PARK & RECREATION NEWS PARK OPEN-PLAYGROUNDS CLOSED

The Board of Aldermen has directed that the Playgrounds will be closed from November 1st until March 31st; however, *the park will remain open.*

Pursuant to the Covid-19 pandemic, St. Louis County Health Department issued requirements for playgrounds to be disinfected in order for the playgrounds to be approved for public use. The City had to submit a plan to the County to have their disinfecting procedure approved. After the plan was approved, the playgrounds were open throughout the park and residents and friends were able to make good use of the new playground equipment for a while.

That plan was initiated and carried through until the end of October. With the turning off of the water in the park November 1st, that plan could no longer be carried out. No satisfactory replacement procedure could be performed without running water available. There will be several “playground closed” signs posted in the park near the equipment.

The municipal park will continue to be open within the normal hours of 7AM to Dusk daily and closed from Dusk to 7:00 AM unless authorization is given by City Hall.



BALLFIELD RESERVATIONS -

At this time it does not appear to be likely that a full season of league team practice will be possible. Reber Park’s two ballfields which are normally used for practice in both spring and fall. **Spring Ball** runs from April through June, or when the fields are deemed usable by the City, until the end of June each year. **Fall Ball** practice runs from August through September.

Please call City Hall for any updated information as needed.



PAVILION & GAZEBO RESERVATIONS

Covid-19 is also effecting the opportunity to reserve the pavilion and gazebo. The City will attempt to post notices updating any change in status, but at this time, no reservations will be accepted. *As the season progresses, call City Hall for current information.*

COLD WEATHER TIPS



Check daily on elderly friends, relatives and neighbors who live alone.

The elderly and very young should stay indoors as much as possible. Offer to shop for elderly friends and relatives. Just like in the summer with heat, it takes some time to get acclimated to cold weather.

Wear layered clothing outdoors for better protection from the cold. Wear a cap to prevent rapid heat loss from an uncovered head. Cover exposed skin to prevent frostbite.

While indoors, try to keep at least one room heated to 70 degrees. This is especially important for the elderly and small children to prevent hypothermia.

Avoid drinking alcoholic beverages.

Eat high energy foods along with warm beverages and soup. **Avoid fatigue and exhaustion** during cold weather. Overexertion, such as shoveling snow or pushing a car, can strain your heart.

Carry extra clothing, blankets and high energy snacks, such as cereal or candy bars in your car for protection if car stalls. Keep the gas tank near full to prevent icing.

Be careful when using fireplaces, stoves or space heaters to stay warm. Carbon monoxide poisoning and home fires are very real winter hazards. For answers to any questions about using space heaters or any other heating method to stay warm, please call your local fire department.

MSD - PROJECT CLEAR

You have probably read informational articles in previous Newsletters with pointers on how to aid in improving MSDs efforts to keep our storm water clean. You may have wondered just how that pertains to Winchester.

The City of Winchester is one of 60 co-permittees acting under the coordinating authority of Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Division of Environmental Compliance to meet the commitments outlined in the Phase II Storm water Plan.

Under the Phase II Storm water Plan, Winchester is required to *submit an annual report* outlining how the City meets the Phase II Storm Water requirements *including activities such as the bi-annual "City Wide Clean Up" and "e-Cycle" events* that promote clean water and run-off discharge.

Several of the City's employees are members of the Missouri Stream Team. The Missouri Stream Team holds several clean up events for watersheds effecting our City and surrounding areas.

As a co-permittee, the City participates in monitoring what actually drains into our creeks and streams by *recording salt/chemical application for snow and ice removal.* Winchester also *informs our residents of ways to help keep the ground water clean and have less toxic runoff with ideas, tips and articles in our newsletter.* City Hall has pamphlets and project information and ideas for our residents so they can help mitigate Storm water pollution.

The city has *a street sweeper service twice a year* to collect debris to help reduce the amount of waste that enters the storm sewers from the gutters. . Everything that goes down the storm sewer eventually ends up in our streams and rivers polluting the water and affecting fish and other wildlife.

Chemicals, soap and animal waste are a few of the pollutants that effect the water when allowed to permeate porous surfaces like grass and gardens.

Saint Louis

COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH

Review of St. Louis County *Open Burning* Restrictions Ordinance effective October, 2019) St. Louis County Revised Ordinances (SLCRO) Title VI Chapter 612.345.

Open Burning means the burning of any materials where air contaminants resulting from combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. For purposes of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed, when, during the time combustion takes place, only those apertures, ducts, stacks, flues, or chimneys, as are necessary to provide combustion air and to permit the escape of exhaust gasses, are open.

The following activities are permitted in St. Louis County when not prohibited by other laws, regulations, or ordinances. All other open burning not specifically exempted is prohibited unless approved by the Director. (The two permitted circumstances below apply to residential districts such as Winchester.)

A. Recreational Fires

Recreational fires shall be comprised of only untreated seasoned dry fire wood which is free of leaves, needles, yard waste, garbage, rubbish, treated wood, or tree trimmings; and the total cumulative base area of the fire(s) shall not exceed nine square feet; and the recreational fire shall not cause smoke, ash, or particulate matter to remain visible in the air or upon surfaces beyond the property line where the fire is occurring.

B. Preparation of food, such as barbecuing

Fires shall either be contained through recreational food preparation equipment such as a grill, rotisserie, outdoor cooking stove or other device constructed for the use in outdoor noncommercial food preparation; or total cumulative base area of the fire(s) shall not exceed nine square feet; and the fire shall be comprised of only untreated seasoned dry fire wood or charcoal; and shall not cause smoke, ash or particulate matter to remain visible in the air or upon surfaces beyond the property line.

If you need more specific information for permitted open burning, please call 314-615-8924 or City Hall at 636-391-0600 and we will try to find the answer for you.



STREET LIGHTS - Help to keep Winchester safe and save your tax dollars by reporting any street light in the City that is:

- ☼ broken,
- ☼ off at night,
- ☼ on during daylight hours,
- ☼ or experiencing another problem.

Please call City Hall and let us know which street light is not operating properly and what is wrong with the light. *When you report the lighting problem to City Hall, it is helpful to refer to the light's "tag" number. The electric company "tags" each street light with a locator number on the light's pole. Your assistance allows us to report the lighting problem quickly and efficiently to Ameren Missouri.*

FACEBOOK: Check out our new Facebook page- City of Winchester, MO for City updates an upcoming events in Winchester and in our neighboring City of Ballwin. This page is up and page construction will be complete soon so please be patient. We hope you will follow and like us on Facebook!

STL LOUIS COUNTY

C.A.R.E.S.

Pursuant to the St. Louis County COVID-19 Municipal Relief Program, the County has awarded \$106,389.00 to the City of Winchester from the \$47 million of federal funds they were allocated through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act. The money for the fund was established by section 5001 codified at 42 U.S.C & 801.

The City Administrator researched the instructions for participation by the City and prepared the application. The application with supporting paperwork was submitted to St. Louis County and was approved. The money has been used to help defray the costs of police services and partnering with Republic Services to provide a one-time relief payment (\$2448) for costs due to increased volumes from Covid-19. **Resolution No. 2020-05** mentioned in the Nov-Dec newsletter authorized the Mayor of Winchester to accept CARES Act funding and execute a municipality relief program funding agreement with StL County.

UPDATE FROM REPUBLIC



SERVICES === The City of

Winchester has contracted with Republic Services for solid waste services for many years and have, once again, entered into a contract extending that service through 2026. Because the City was able to apply for CARES Act funding through St. Louis County/Federal Funds to defray the COVID-19 costs in Winchester for Republic Services, the City was able to keep the annual price increase in the contract at 3%. This remains the same as in the existing agreement. Other conditions having no change are mandatarly 1x/week trash, recycle, and yard waste collection. Collection hours are 7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cans should be set out before 7 a.m. but not more that 24 hours prior to collection and remain out no longer than 24 hours after pick-up.

A reminder of other services provided:

Bulk Collection.....No Change. 1x/week curbside collection with a limit of 2 items per week at no charge, scheduled prior to collection day. Outside of the limit, \$25/item.

Appliance Collection.....No Change. 1x/week curbside collection, scheduled prior to collection day...\$25/item.

NEVER PLACE THESE ITEMS IN THE RECYCLING CONTAINER:

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------|--------------|
| Plastic Bags | Clothing | Tools | Electronics |
| & Wrappers | & Shoes | Food | & Batteries |
| Soiled Paper | Greasy | Toys | Construction |
| | Pizza Boxes | | Waste |
| Styrofoam | Scrap Metal | | Diapers |
| Yard Waste | Medical Waste | | |

Republic Services is providing a mobile app to give you one simple tool to manage your recycling, waste and account needs. You can 1) pay your bill, 2) schedule a pick-up, 3) report a missed pickup, 4) discover new products, 5) repair a container and more. Visit www.RepublicServices.com/Account to sign up or download the app.

