

February 2008
City Manager Community Update
Available at www.maryville.org

City of Maryville
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City of Maryville

Community Update From the Office of the City Manager

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Check out the
Community
Newsletter
on the City's
website at
www.maryville.org

Contact City
Clerk, Sheila
Smal at
ssmal@maryville.org
to get on our
emailing list.



Don't Forget!

You need to be
registered to
vote by March
12 in order to
vote in the April
8 election.

Introduction

The purpose of this pamphlet is to keep you informed about the major projects and issues currently being addressed by the City of Maryville during the 2008 calendar year and fiscal year. As the City Manager, I encourage you as

citizens to provide feedback and constructive criticism about what you think we are doing right and what we as the City can improve upon for you as citizens. As employees for the City, we are here to serve you as best as possible

within the financial ability provided by you, the tax payers. I hope you enjoy this read on the major projects and issues facing the City and I welcome any questions or feedback you may have.

Ice Storm & Snow Removal

The 2007-2008 winter has been drastically different than any one in recent years. The ice storm coupled with regular snow events throughout the season has taken a significant toll on not only the City's snow removal budget, but also on budgeted items for personnel costs due to the significant overtime already expended to establish and maintain passable and safe streets. Regardless, the City plans on keeping these services at the level expected and deserved by the citizens.

Cleanup of the City ice storm still continues today. On December 27, 2007, the President of the United States approved portions of

Missouri including Nodaway County as a Major Disaster Area. Consequently, FEMA will provide assistance at 75% of the total cost of response and recovery, SEMA will provide assistance at 10% of the total cost of response and recovery, and the City of Maryville will be responsible for the remaining 15% of the total cost of response and recovery efforts. At this time it is unclear as to how much monetary responsibility there will be upon each entity as the recovery efforts have yet to be completed. The City does plan on going out for a bidding process to award a contract to an organization that will clean up all debris from the right of ways. As the City,

we believe that this contract may be executed and in place within the next 30 days. It is critical that Maryville citizens move their debris to the curb as quickly as possible. After all debris from the curbside is removed by the contractor, it will be the individual property owners' responsibility to dispose of the debris appropriately. We will notify Maryville citizens via the numerous media outlets when this project is going to begin. A number of citizens have taken on the responsibility and financial burden of removing storm debris from property themselves. The City appreciates and recognizes your personal dedication to act quickly during a difficult situation. Thank You!

Recycling Program

One of the more frequent questions asked recently is why the City of Maryville does not have a recycling program. When I became City Manager this was one of the first questions I asked when familiarizing myself with the Landfill/Solid Waste Operations. As recently as 2001 the City did have a recycling program for aluminum, plastic, and paper goods. These operations were part of the Landfill/Solid Waste Department and

during this time the City was losing money on these operations to the tune of about \$110,000 per year. In an effort to control costs and minimize losses, the existing City Council at the time placed a referendum on the ballot to charge a fee not to exceed \$3.00 per water bill per month to offset the loss. When this was placed on a ballot in 2001, it lost significantly by a vote of the citizenry (466-260). Consequently, in an effort to con-

trol operating costs, the City eliminated the recycling program. Today, all solid waste haulers take part in some form of a recycling program. Some take cardboard and paper products over to the University, while others participate in a more comprehensive program of recycling. To find out exactly who offers what recycling services, please contact the solid waste haulers listed in your local phone directory.



City Officials

Mayor

Chad Jackson

City Council Member

Carole Coutts

City Council Member

Pat Cummings

City Council Member

Mike Thompson

City Council Member

Dr. Jerry Wilmes

City Manager

Matt LeCerf

City Attorney

Doug Thomson

City Clerk

Sheila Smail

Finance Director

Denise Town

Human Resources Mngr

Amy Strough

Parks & Recreation Director

Rod Auxier

Public Safety Director

Keith Wood

Public Works Director

Greg Decker

Town Hall Meetings with the City Council to discuss the CIP Tax are scheduled for Monday, February 25 & Monday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m. at City hall.

CIP Tax

During the first January City Council meeting an ordinance was approved to place a referendum on the April 8, 2008 ballot to request a citizens' vote on a Capital Improvement Tax. If approved, this tax would be installed at ½ of 1% on all receipts from the sale at retail of all tangible personal property or taxable services at retail within the City of Maryville. The proposed length of this sales tax would be 10 years if it is approved by the voters. Initial estimates of revenue generated for this tax are set at \$790,000 per year, for a total of \$7,900,000 over the 10 year timeframe. The City Council will be conducting two town hall meetings to receive feedback on the planned CIP Tax. Both town hall meetings are open to the public and will be conducted at City Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Monday February 25, and Monday March 10 respectively. It is important to note that this tax revenue CANNOT go towards general operations including but not limited to: personnel costs, insurance costs, fuel/energy bills, other fringe benefits, and basic commodities. We are currently working to establish a committee which will serve as a checks and balances for the CIP Tax to ensure proper usage of the funds. If you are interested, I encourage you to contact me to discuss how you as a citizen can serve on the committee. The purpose and use of this tax is tentatively determined as listed below:

Street Program: Current funding of the street program is set at \$300,000 through the revenues of the general fund. This level unfortunately does not have a significant impact given the current costs of construction and labor. The City plans on allocating at least \$4 million of the CIP sales tax for street improvements which will enable the City to do more necessary improvements across the city street infrastructure. At the same time, the intent is to continue utilizing available funds from the general fund too.

Storm Siren Warning System: The City needs to increase the number of storm sirens inside city limits.

Currently the system does not adequately service 100% of all Maryville citizens in terms of being within 1 mile of a storm siren. Consequently, we need new sirens to be installed and strategically placed to service all citizens as well as locations in the City where growth is anticipated.

Fire Department Brush and Pumper Trucks: The City's initial response vehicle (brush truck) is primarily used for the purposes of responding to various types of fire, including trash fires, vehicle fires, brush/grass fires, etc. This truck also serves as the initial responder to rescue calls with the Nodaway Co. Ambulance Districts rescue unit. Often, this vehicle can be on-scene and have a minor incident contained without bringing out larger, less maneuverable and more cumbersome equipment (the larger pumpers). With it being 4WD, it can also access places that other, more smooth surface, road oriented pieces of equipment would not be taken. Our existing unit has become rundown and outdated, seemingly costing us more to maintain in operating condition than we would like to expend financially. Also our existing pumper truck is nearly 30 years old and like the brush truck has become a maintenance nightmare. To ensure public safety inside Maryville city limits and beyond our political borders, these upgrades in equipment are critical to long term sustainability for public safety purposes.

Sidewalk/Trail Development: With the establishment of a trails committee the City of Maryville has been able to complete a comprehensive plan for a city-wide and Mozingo area trail system. In total, the planned trail system will have over 50 miles of trails and will navigate around Mozingo Lake and throughout the City landscape passing through a number of city points of interest including but not limited to all city parks and Maryville Schools. This trail system WILL NOT access any property associated with the Wabash Trail. To date, the City has received over \$600,000 in grant monies to build

approximately 2.5 miles of trail system, both at Mozingo and inside city limits. Construction and completion of these trail segments is expected sometime in late September or early October. A small allocation from the CIP, if approved, is planned to continue building additional segments of the trail system coupled with the City's aggressive plan of applying for grants as they become available. This system will have a significant improvement on the quality of life afforded to and deserved by Maryville citizens while also directing attention to a healthier lifestyle using alternative transportation methods.

Infrastructure Improvement: Old and substandard infrastructure for both water and sewer lines exists in the city limits. There is a need to replace and upgrade this infrastructure. It is important to note that these improvements will be made only to the transmission and distribution lines, NOT at the water plant or sewer treatment facilities. The primary objective of replacing water lines would be to improve water pressure for the fire suppression system (goes hand-in-hand with the water towers). Sewer line replacement will help reduce the intrusion and infiltration of storm sewer connections to the sanitary sewer system. This infiltration of storm water is also a direct cause of backups which occurred in homes during the May rains we received in 2007. Also, elimination of intrusion and infiltration can minimize the treatment of clean storm water, one of the many issues driving the wastewater treatment facility plans.

Public Parking Lot Improvements: A number of the city parking lots are becoming old and rundown surfaces. Pavement is breaking away causing potholes and warranting repair to the surfaces to keep them in an operable and user friendly condition instead of a possible liability. The planned resurfacing of public parking lots includes: 4th and Buchanan, 3rd and Vine, Maryville Public Safety, and in back of City Hall.

CIP Tax (Continued)

Snow Plow/Dump Truck: The city public works snow plow/dump truck fleet is old and outdated. As the City grows and takes on more miles of streets combined with the wear and tear of hard weather seasons in the Midwest, the need

to update and add additional equipment is always present. A number of the trucks' chassis are rusted out. One truck in particular leaks windshield wiper fluid into the cab when the wipers are in use. Given the general wear and

tear that these vehicles take when exposed to the elements and salt, we would pursue the purchase of demo model trucks in good condition instead of brand new truck.

Website Improvements

The City of Maryville has made a number of improvements to our city website in order to provide citizens with more information, access to regularly used forms, and contact methods. One of the most notable updates on the web-

site (www.maryville.org), is a feedback section for citizens (and non-citizens) to provide constructive criticism about operations at the City. These emails go directly to me and I do my best to answer them myself. On occasion, I am

unable to offer a response and send the request to the appropriate department head ensuring that the issue is addressed. Please feel free to use this as an additional method to communicate with the City.

Water & Wastewater Issues

Several major projects are currently underway which address either water or wastewater operations. During the 2008 fiscal year which will conclude at the end of September, I believe we will make significant progress on both issues.

Water Towers

This fiscal year, the budget planned for the construction of two new water towers in the city limits. Planned construction will consist of two - 750,000 gallon water towers to accommodate the existing and future needs of the City and areas beyond the political boundary. The need for the water towers includes the following reasons:

1. Our city water tower at 9th and Mulberry is currently offline due to a leak which developed approximately 15' above the base of the tower. This water tower was constructed sometime in the 1940's and has a volume of 150,000 gallons. The cost benefit to repair the leak given the age of the facility and its susceptibility to additional problems did not justify making the repair.
2. With only one water tower in operation inside city limits, we now have only one million gallons of water sitting in the air. The Missouri Department of

Natural Resources recommends that water providers have at least one full day of water supply sitting in the air. Currently, the daily water usage, including customers being supplied water by the Public Water Supply District No. 1, is approximately 2.5 million gallons per day.

3. In February of 2007 the City of Maryville had a significant water main break at 3 a.m. in the morning. This was a 12" water main break in a field off South Avenue and it took city personnel considerable time to locate and fix the leak which was sitting four feet below a high pressure gas main. During this time a number of key businesses were affected including the St. Francis Hospital. By strategically placing these additional water towers, the probability of a similar occurrence to businesses in the future will be minimized greatly.
4. The addition of two water towers will ultimately improve fire suppression and overall water pressure associated with firefighting. Using a hydrologic model we were able to determine positive impacts to the distribution system based on the proposed site locations of the water towers.

Wastewater Treatment

In 2006 the City of Maryville em-

barked on a facility study of our existing wastewater treatment plant. This was due to the fact that new wastewater discharge requirements will be presented and required of us by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. These new requirements will be presented to us in September of this year and we will have 3 years in which to come into compliance on these new discharge levels. Consequently, to stay ahead of the process the City took a proactive approach and contracted with an engineering company to perform a facilities plan. The result of the study determined that the most guaranteed option was the construction and engineering of a new mechanical plant. This construction project has a significant price tag associated with it. Given the large price tag associated with the project, the City Council felt it was in the best interest of the City to hire an outside contractor to perform a verification study to ensure that the City makes the right decision for the future of our constituents and wastewater treatment plant. Currently, we are in this verification process and we expect results of this study within the next 60 days. Following this verification step, the City will determine which direction on a treatment facility will be both cost effective and provide long term stability.

Looking for a job?

Check out current City job openings under the Employment tab of the City's website at www.maryville.org



Did you know that **Automatic Bill Pay** is available for your City Water & Sewer Service? Call **562-8024** to learn more.



Comments or Questions about what you just read?

Contact City Manager, Matt LeCerf at 660-562-8001.

Comments can also be submitted through the Feedback section of the City's website at www.maryville.org

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Downtown Streetscape Project

The Campaign for Community Renewal, Nodaway County, Nodaway County Economic Development, and the City of Maryville are proud to have the base bids and phase I of the downtown revitalization streetscape project completed. This has been a grass roots effort involving private and public partnership to make this project finally occur. New sidewalks, period lighting, benches, pavement work, trees, and other aesthetic improvements are underway. The goal of this project is to facilitate improved and continued economic develop-

ment in downtown. Special thanks should be given to the businesses that have been supportive and patient during the construction.

For the first portion of the project the City was able to acquire a grant in the amount of nearly \$600,000 to contribute to the construction. The second and final portion of the project is being partially funding by an additional grant provided to the City of Maryville by the Missouri Department of Transportation in the amount of \$430,000.

Current fundraising efforts are underway to match these dollars in the form of a 50% tax credit from the Missouri Development Finance Board. Complimenting the streetscape project is the recent recognition of Maryville as a Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative. This program developed by Governor Matt Blunt helps communities gain access to the technical and financial assistance necessary to accomplish their downtown revitalization plans.

Northwest Missouri Regional Airport

Northwest Missouri Regional Airport, owned and operated by the City of Maryville has been awarded several federal and state grants. One such grant (\$450,000) has been used to build a new terminal building, which was structurally completed in March 2007. The terminal building has a pilot's 'ready room' for aviation purposes and also features a large meeting room that will also double as a classroom. Other grant monies

awarded to the City of Maryville are exclusively for airport improvements. This grant money will be used for the runway, taxiways, and other miscellaneous improvements to the facilities for airplane traffic. Most notable in this scope of work will be the extension of the runway by 600 linear feet for landing at the regional airport. These improvements will facilitate economic development through the convenience and accessi-

bility provided to business travelers. Construction is scheduled to begin on the runway and taxiway improvements in March and be completed sometime at the end of August. Under the grant funds provided in this contract, the City is responsible for only 5% (approximately \$90,000) of the total cost of the project bid at approximately \$1.7 million.