

AUGUST 2022

SMITHVILLE NEWS



Photo: Dani Wilson, Reason to Smile Photography

MEETING DATES:

Stormwater Tips - Mowing

The following tips offer advice on how to properly mow your yards to avoid improper disposal penalties and lessen the amount of work for you! Remember that yard waste is a pollutant in our local waterways.

Yard Waste Services:

- Yard waste is collected weekly from mid-March thru the end of October (10 paper/ compostable bags per week or 10 18" x 36" bundles per week) with limited collection from early November thru mid-March.

- Smithville residents are able to utilize the Missouri Organic yard waste drop off site at 11660 N. Main St. in Kansas City which opens mid-March 15 for the season. For more information call 816-513-1313. There may be a fee charged for non-Kansas City residents.

If you discharge your grass clippings remember the following:

- It is illegal to leave grass clippings in the street or sidewalk – it ultimately becomes sediment in our rivers, creeks, and lakes.
- If you have grass clippings in the street or sidewalk when you finish mowing, be sure to blow, sweep or vacuum the clippings out of the street and sidewalk areas.
- Mow the outside of your property with the discharge chute facing towards your house for the first two passes to eliminate throwing clippings upon your neighbor's lawn, the sidewalk, or the street.
- Maximum grass height for properties within Smithville city limits is 7", taller than that height is a nuisance and is subject to tickets and fines.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETINGS

1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7pm

BOARD WORK SESSIONS

Scheduled as needed, generally prior to regular meetings

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

August 23 at 6:30 pm

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd Tuesday at 7pm

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

November 27 at 6 pm

To sign up for public comment please contact the City Clerk at 816.532.3897

Meetings are held at City Hall Council Chambers
107 W. Main Street.

Times are subject to change.
Meetings are subject to be held virtually
with proper notice.

Message from the Mayor, Mayor Damien Boley

The City's staff and Board of Aldermen are currently developing the proposed FY2023 budget. The budget process started at the beginning of the year as finance staff worked to develop the revenue budget. The City's revenues provide the critical foundation necessary for the City to make investments in community amenities and service provision.

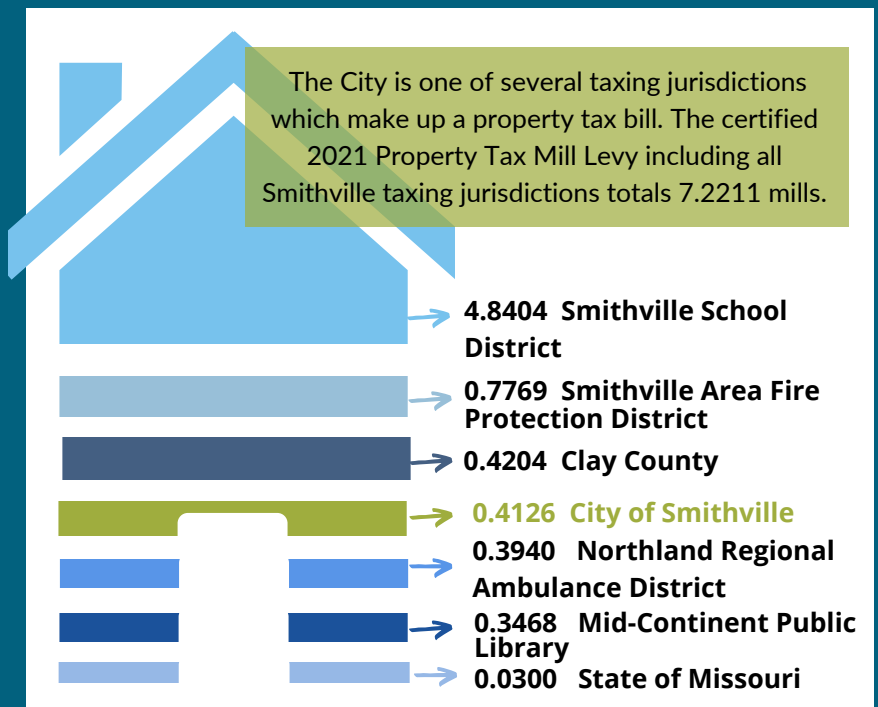
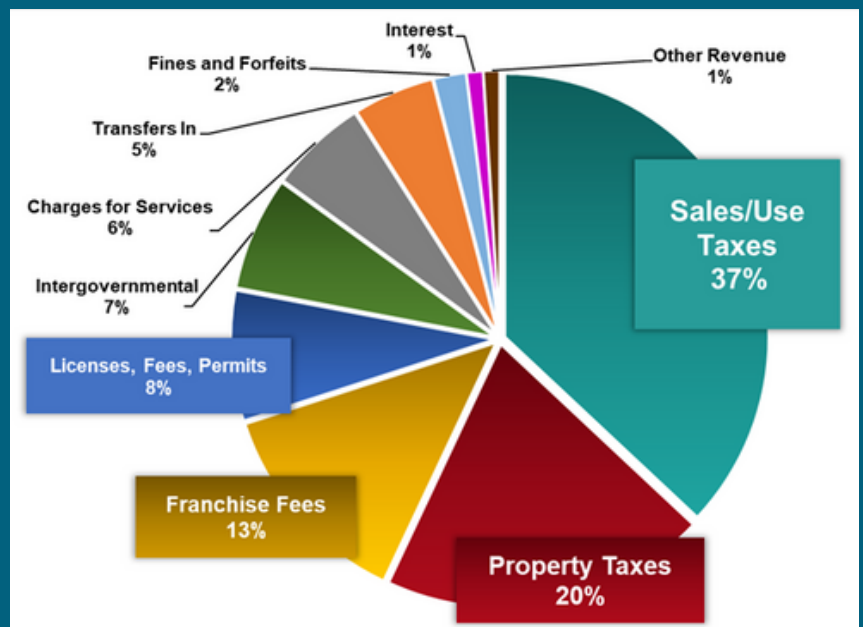
On May 25, the Board held a financial summit in which financial strategy and significant capital improvements were discussed. Later, on June 21, Raftelis Financial Consultants presented a utility rate study to the Board of Aldermen which provided utility rate and impact fee recommendations for FY2023 and beyond. This utility rate study will help the City address aging utility infrastructure, such as the replacement of corroded and degraded waterlines. The study's rate recommendations will also allow the City to provide adequate water and wastewater system capacity as the City grows. Also, on June 21, Public Works staff presented options for a sidewalk improvement program in the City to improve the condition and walkability of sidewalks throughout City neighborhoods.

Looking ahead, the Board will discuss expanding the mill and overlay program to better address the condition of neighborhood streets and roads and review the entire proposed operating and capital budget during August and September work sessions. FY2023 budget adoption is scheduled for October 18, 2022.

The pie chart on the top right depicts revenues received by the City. The City primarily receives revenue from sales taxes, use taxes, and property taxes. Together, this grouping of revenue sources comprises nearly 60% of General Fund revenues. Other significant amounts of revenues come from franchise fees, building permits, motor fuel taxes, business licenses, and recreational user fees.

When developing the budget, the projected amount of revenues determines how much the City may expend. Together, all the revenue categories shown in the graph provide the financial support necessary for funding basic City services and amenities throughout the City. The graph on the bottom right shows where your property taxes go. Smithville residents pay property taxes to a variety of taxing jurisdictions.

The City of Smithville (at 0.4126 mills) is one of those jurisdictions and comprises only 6% of the total property tax rate. This rate produces property tax revenue for the City which is used to provide services such as police protection, road/street maintenance, parks and recreational amenities, and development and administrative services. Other taxing jurisdictions include the Smithville School District (at 4.8404 mills) at 67% of the total property tax rate, followed by the Smithville Area Fire Protection District (at 0.7769 mills) with nearly 11% of the total property tax rate. Taxes are also paid to Clay County, Northland Regional Ambulance District, Mid-Continent Library, the Zoo District, and the State of Missouri.



ACH Auto Utility Billing



IT'S AUTOMATIC

NO MORE LATE FEES

IT'S FREE

NO CONVENIENCE FEES

AVOID DISCONNECTIONS & SAVE MONEY

An Easy, Fast, and Secure Way to Pay Your Utility Bill

SIGN UP IN 2 STEPS

- 1 Fill Out a Form
- 2 Submit a Voided Check

Payments are withdrawn on the 15th of each month. To learn more, call City Hall at 816-532-3897

GFOA Distinguished Budget Award

For 3 years in a row, the City of Smithville has received the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award. This award is given to cities, counties, and districts producing budget documents which excel as a policy and financial planning resource, an operations guide, and a public communications tool. To receive this award, the City must be proficient in multiple criteria which include outlining the City's strategic goals, showcasing the City's revenue and expenditure activity, and providing long-range financial planning analysis in an easy-to-understand format. Over this 3-year period, the Finance team has continued to improve the budget document and has received progressively higher ratings from GFOA for the enhancements.



Going forward, the City's Finance team will continue to strive in providing transparency, clarity, and detail to the Board of Aldermen and citizenry during the budget development process and in the production of the annual operating budget and 5-year capital improvement plan.

Sidewalk Improvement Program

Did you know the City has a sidewalk repair program?

The sidewalk improvement program is a cost-share program between property owners and the City for sidewalk repairs. Property owners pay for the cost of materials to replace the damaged sidewalks, and the City will provide and pay for the labor. In order to apply for the program, you must submit your application to the City. The Streets Division will inspect the sidewalk to determine the need for replacement and provide you with a cost estimate for the materials. After payment, the property will be added to the work list. This is a great opportunity to have your property's sidewalks improved!

If you have any questions about the program, please contact development@smithvillemo.org or 816-532-3897.

CITY DIRECTORY

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE
(816) 858-3521

ANONYMOUS TIP LINE
(816) 474-8477

ADMINISTRATION, CITY CLERK, FINANCE
(816) 532-3897

DEVELOPMENT
(816) 858-3521

PARKS & RECREATION
(816) 532-8130

SMITH'S FORK CAMPGROUND
(816) 532-1028

STREETS
(816) 532-2080

WATER & WASTEWATER
(816) 532-0577

Reserve your spot for Smithville's Haunted Campground!

The Haunted Campground will take place on Saturday, October 22nd from 4-7pm at Smith's Fork Campground. Campsites and vendor spots open August 1 for reservations online at www.smithvilleparksrec.com. All campers are invited to decorate their campsites for Halloween and pass out candy or treats. The Haunted Campground is considered a holiday in the campground so there is a 2-night minimum stay. Businesses and individuals who want to participate, but are not camping with us, are invited to reserve a vendor booth space. Vendors can decorate their booth space and hand out candy or provide a game or activity for the community. Camping is \$40/night and Vendor Booths are \$10. Vendor fees are donated to Larson's Cause.

The event is free to the community and does not require registration to attend.



PARKS AND RECREATION

FACILITY RESERVATIONS

Ball fields, shelter houses, and Smithville Senior Center are all available for online reservations



FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

SOCCER, INTRO TO SOCCER CLINIC, VOLLEYBALL, T-BALL, & ADULT KICKBALL



STAY AT SMITH'S FORK CAMPGROUND

Full hookup sites only \$40 per night



COMMUNITY IN ACTION 5K RUN

Saturday, September 17



CITY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

TO APPLY FOR ANY JOB WITH THE CITY, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SMITHVILLEMO.ORG

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR I
POLICE OFFICER
MAINTENANCE WORKER 1 - PUBLIC WORKS

Stay informed with news as it happens. follow us on our Facebook page @smithvillemissouri and sign up for our e-notifications on the website