

OCTOBER 2022

SMITHVILLE NEWS



Photo: Dani Wilson, Reason to Smile Photography

MEETING DATES:

Stormwater Master Plan

The City is gearing up to begin the Stormwater Master Planning process. GBA consultants will be assisting the City in the development of the Stormwater Plan. The first phase of this project is public input. This plan will take a significant amount of public input to ensure that the City accurately understands the current needs of Smithville, and to plan for future capacity. If you have any stormwater concerns, please report them on the City's Report-A-Concern feature on the website. Stay tuned for future updates and public information meetings.

Fall Yard Care

It's that time of year again - fall is here and leaves are falling! We would like to remind you of the importance of preventing stormwater pollution while you make the most of the fall season.

Stormwater is formed when rainwater makes its way into storm drains or runs off into streams. On its journey to the stream, stormwater can pick up harmful substances that pollute the watershed. There are many sources of stormwater pollution unique to autumn, and we need your help to control them.

The leaves are falling, and their improper disposal poses a threat to the water resources. Leaf litter and any yard waste dumped into a stormwater basin or near a waterway can cause harmful nutrient accumulation. Leaves swept into the street can easily enter storm drains and make their way into the nearest creek. Dispose of leaf litter and yard waste in an appropriate manner, never in the street or stream! Yard waste can clog stormwater inlets and pipes, which can lead to flooding in the area. You can opt-in for Yard Waste services, which are included in your monthly trash/recycling bill.

Please call GFL at 816-380-5595 to opt in for this service. You can help keep the waterways clean!

BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETINGS
1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7pm

BOARD OF ALDERMEN WORK SESSIONS
Scheduled as needed, generally prior to regular meetings

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
November 22 at 6:30 pm

PLANNING COMMISSION
2nd Tuesday at 7pm

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
October 28 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 Mayor Damien Boley

As the end of the year approaches, thinking about others in need and sharing our gifts comes to the top of many lists. As you take a look at what opportunities that you may have to donate or invest in, I ask that you please consider the following notable city-related projects.

Smithville Shop with a Cop

The Smithville Shop with a cop program was founded by Smithville Police officers in 2008 as a not-for-profit program. It is designed to help families in our community who may be struggling to provide presents to their children as well as promoting positive interactions between children and police officers.

Kids are selected through a partnership with the Smithville School District and this year an additional form has been created for all eligible children to apply, so all families are able to be reached in Smithville no matter where the children attend school. Children must be residents of Smithville and in grades kindergarten through 6th grade.

On the day, children come to the police station where they are served breakfast, get onto a school bus, and travel to Target to shop for toys and winter clothing.

The Smithville Shop with a Cop is happy to provide this program to our community. From everyone at Smithville Shop with a Cop - thank you to everyone who has supported us over the years!

Donations are accepted all year long through the Police Department or on the Smithville Shop with a Cop Facebook page. Any checks are to be made out to Smithville Shop with a Cop not the Smithville Police Department.

Legacy Fund

The Legacy Fund committee is a separate group from the City that is charged with fundraising for specific needs within the City. Most recently, the Legacy Fund Committee has committed to fundraise for a large stage to be placed in Heritage Park (conceptual design below).

The community survey results completed through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan indicated community support for the expansion of civic uses in Heritage Park. A large stage placed within Heritage Park will provide increased opportunity for large events, passive recreation, and overall public use of the space. In addition, the proposed trails will increase connectivity to downtown through the expanded adjacent green space. This project also has the potential for a future natural wildlife corridor and a vegetated buffer, improving water quality and river bank protection.

Donations can be made at any time at Smithville City Hall. Anonymous donations may be made by contacting the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation at (816) 842-0944 or through the online donation page. The fund's ID is "smit21".



Halloween Safety Tips For kids

Stay in groups

Costumes should be well fitting and flame resistant

Always test makeup

Remember to look both ways when crossing streets

Examine all treats before eating

Stay on sidewalks when possible

Avoid dark houses

Flashlights + glowsticks for visibility

Enjoy with caution!



Halloween Safety Tips For Drivers

1. Watch for children walking on roadways, medians, and curbs.

2. Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

3. At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

4. Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween.

Information provided by the
American Safety Council



ACH Auto Utility Billing



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

Utility Rate Increase

In 2022, the City of Smithville completed a utility rate study which prescribes water and wastewater rate increases to fund utility system upgrades and improvements. The proposed rate increases (shown below) would be effective November 1, 2021 for residential and commercial accounts pending Board of Aldermen approval. A public hearing will be held at the October 18, 2022 Board of Aldermen Meeting at 7:00pm. Once approved, this increase will be reflected on the December 2022 utility bill.

Proposed Rate Increases	March 1, 2021	November 1, 2021	November 1, 2022
3/4" Water Meter Service Charge	\$11.21	\$11.77	\$12.78
Water Usage Charge for 5,000 Gallons	\$39.45	\$41.65	\$45.20
Residential Water Sales Tax (1.000%)	\$0.51	\$0.53	\$0.58
Missouri DNR Fee for 3/4" Meter	\$0.31	\$0.31	\$0.50
Wastewater Service Charge	\$14.56	\$16.02	\$18.43
Wastewater Usage Charge for 5,000 Gallons	\$29.20	\$33.40	\$38.45
Monthly Trash Charge	\$19.90	\$18.37	\$19.29
Grand Total	\$115.14	\$122.05	\$135.23

Also, starting November 1, 2022, "snowbird" utility customers will also incur a \$50.00 charge to disconnect and reconnect utility service in the City, which is intended to recoup cost related to utilities staff performing shutoff and reconnection services.

Senior Rate Discount Update

During the Board of Aldermen strategic session in May 2022, Board members expressed interest in implementing a senior utility rate to provide billing relief to seniors on fixed incomes. Along with the senior trash charge implemented in 2021, a **senior rate for both the monthly water and wastewater fixed charge** has been proposed, which would be effective and available starting November 1, 2022 pending Board of Aldermen approval.

The proposed monthly fixed rate for water is \$11.77 per month and the proposed monthly fixed rate for wastewater is \$16.02 per month. This is the same amount as the current fixed charges for all utility customers, meaning **seniors would see no increase in their monthly fixed rates.**

In order to receive the discount, the utility bill must be in the name of the resident qualified for the senior rate. Residents must complete an agreement form and provide proof of age (65 years and older) to Utility Billing at City Hall to activate the discount.

Residents who are already signed up for the senior trash discount would automatically receive this fixed charge discount for both water and wastewater.

If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 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) 866-2056

PARKS & RECREATION
(816) 532-8130

SMITH'S FORK CAMPGROUND
(816) 532-1028

STREETS
(816) 532-2080

WATER & WASTEWATER
(816) 532-0577

Smithville's Haunted Campground



October 22nd

3:30-6:30pm Smith's Fork Campground

Costume Contest 🦇 Trick or Treating 🦇 Free Family Fun

Senior Center

The Smithville Senior Center is open to anyone 60 years and older or people with disabilities. Well balanced nutritional meals are provided every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at noon for \$4.00. Once a month during warmer weather there is a cook out and potluck.

The Senior Center offers educational speakers and entertainment. Educational speakers include the K.C. Zoo, Clay County Senior Services, City officials, and St. Luke's Hospital with information concerning senior health, long term care, and estate planning. Entertainment is offered by local musicians and musical groups from local schools. Card playing, board games, bingo, and pool are popular with members.

Chair Yoga classes are offered on Mondays at 8:15 am and Senior Strength & Balance classes are on Fridays at 8:00 am.

The Smithville Senior Center is located at 113 W Main Street. Open 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays.



REGISTRATION OPEN!

**REGISTER FOR WINTER YOUTH
BASKETBALL
LEAGUE**

**\$65 PER PLAYER
3RD-6TH GRADE
PRACTICES IN NOV
8 GAMES DEC-FEB**

816-532-8130

WWW.SMITHVILLEPARKSREG.COM

CITY JOB OPENINGS

To apply for a job with the City, please visit our website at www.smithvillemo.org

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I
- Police Officer
- Maintenance Worker I - 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.