



# Washington Community News

## A Note from the Mayor: "What Lies Beneath"



Did you know that Washington has over 37 miles of underground sanitary sewer infrastructure? Or that we have

over 52 miles of water mains providing our homes with water? Well, it's true and really pretty incredible when you think about it!

Providing water to those mains are three wells, over 1900 feet deep, and they pull from the Jordan Aquifer. The oldest, well #5, was built in 1946, and the newest was built in 1969. Well lining and recent repairs have bought us time, but someday in the future (around 10 years) a new well will need to be planned for and invested in.

On the other side of things, I've mentioned before the difficult but necessary decision to delay Phase II of the downtown streetscape in order to prioritize infrastructure, specifically investiga-

tion and repair of our city sewers. It's not glamorous but it is exciting because this is the most investment this infrastructure (besides the treatment plant itself) has received since the city was founded. The piece of this project that is about to begin is in our Southeast Basin and will include 16,000 lineal feet of lining, 9 point repairs, and the rehabilitation of 21 different manholes. This will bring the entirety of this zone to classifications of "good" or "fair" which is a vast improvement from its current state.

I started thinking more about the extent of what lies beneath the surface while listening to a radio report about a study done by Arizona State University about the staggering number of contact lenses that go down the drain every year. It was the first study of its kind and they found that of the 45 million people that use disposable lenses, 15-20% of people are disposing of them through the toilet or sink,

leading to 1.8-3.36 billion lenses flushed per year or 20-23 tons of wastewater-borne plastics (study available at <http://asunow.asu.edu>).

It was a complex study that had to wait on the advances in technology because of the difficulty in detecting the transparent lenses. When I asked our superintendent, Fred, what the most interesting thing they've found at the end-of-the-line, he mentioned a pair of top dentures that turned up once. I don't believe there is a lost and found for this department, however.

It may be boring for some, but I was intrigued, and it is what made the wheels turn for this newsletter's topic. As always, for comment or question, I can be reached at [jrosien@washingtونيowa.gov](mailto:jrosien@washingtونيowa.gov). Thanks and Happy Fall!

**Mayor**  
Jaron Rosien ..... 653-6584

**City Administrator**  
Brent Hinson ..... 653-6584

**City Council**  
Danielle Pettit-Majewski ..... First Ward  
Steven Gault ..... Second Ward  
Brendan DeLong ..... Third Ward  
Fran Stigers ..... Fourth Ward  
Elaine Moore ..... At Large  
Millie Youngquist ..... At Large

**Council Meetings**  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
6pm at 115 W. Washington St.  
(Except Holidays)

**Library Board of Trustees**  
Michael Kramme-President  
Harold Frakes, Mindy Graham,  
Rick Hofer, Margi Jarrard  
Rachel Nicola, Carol Ray

**Park & Recreation Board**  
Gabriela Canchola, Genie Davis  
Shawn Loy, Donald Pfeiffer  
Trent Stout

**Airport Commission**  
Kevin Erpelding-Chair  
Jim Almelien, Joe Harvey  
Joe Nichols, Mike Roe

**Zoning Commission**  
Deran DeLong-Chair,  
Merle Hagie, Susan Fisher  
Tom Gaughan, Connie Larsen  
Rhonda Shelman, Darrell Steele  
Rhonda Steele

**Board of Adjustment**  
Charla Howard-Chair  
Kevin Caldwell, John Greener  
Mardi Knerr, BJ Wetherell  
Jim Ziegrowsky

**Forestry Commission**  
Andy Dahl, Don Pfeiffer  
Charles Halverson

**Historic Preservation**  
Jamie Engeman-Evans  
Sandra Johnson, Bryan Kendall  
Mary Patterson

**Hotel/Motel Tax Committee**  
Jamie Engeman-Evans  
William Fredrick  
Diane Gallagher  
Steve Gault, Charla Howard  
Millie Youngquist

**Cable Television**  
Seeking Volunteers



### Meet Our New Councilor Danielle Pettit-Majewski

I moved to Washington from Waverly in March of 2013 when I accepted my job as Administrator of Washington County Public Health. I remember feeling amazed at how quickly and warmly we were welcomed into our neighborhood and the community. I live with my husband John, our dog Jesse, and our two cats Leo and Maggie. We bleed black and gold in our house, as I attended The University of Iowa for my Bachelor's in Biology and my Master's in Public Health. In my free time, I really enjoy fitness, riding bikes with my friends, traveling, visiting green houses with my husband, listening to Podcasts, and making lists of all the books I want to read if I had more time.

My main goal as a council member is to make a larger positive impact in the community. For me, that starts with learning the details and listening to what is truly important to the people in the community. I think it's an honor to be of service, and I'm excited for the opportunity.



### Meet Our New Librarian Bryna Walker

"I want to thank the community for such a warm welcome to the City of Washington! It has been a pleasure getting to know library patrons and community members through different venues. I look forward to migrate more outwardly into the community as the year progresses in "Leadership Washington." After working in public education as a teacher for the past 15 years, the transition to public librarian is an exciting and new adventure for me. I feel very fortunate to be hired into a progressive, thriving community with a library staff that is truly amazing. Beyond my core goal of learning my position well and thoroughly in collaboration with education from the State of Iowa Library, I will continue partnerships already in existence with the library. As a teacher, I'm passionate about continuing collaboration with the schools as a strong literacy partner. This summer I've settled into living in the community, and I am honored to be director of one of the finest public libraries in Iowa!!"

## City Projects

The City is working on several notable projects at the current time. These include construction of a new Fire Station, grading & utility work for the Wellness Park project, and completion of the Water Plant improvements.

The initial stages of construction for the Fire Station began in June 2018. There are currently two separately let projects in motion: a utilities & grading project on and adjacent to the new building site, and an electrical & water service project within and adjacent to the existing building that includes placement of a new electrical transformer and generator for the combined facility. Bids were received on the larger building construction project on August 9, and we have been

able to stay right on the overall projected budget. Building construction is expected to proceed in mid-September. The new 14,815 square foot facility should serve our community well for decades. Upon completion of the new facility, the Fire Department will move out of their existing space and renovation work will begin to prepare the entire existing building for Police and City Hall use.

Grading & utility work is underway on the first phase of the Wellness Park. The site is located directly north of the new water tower and planned YMCA site along West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, with access to the park to be provided by extending West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The current project will prepare an approximate 45-acre site for the future con-

struction of a 4-ballfield complex plus two additional multi-purpose fields. The fields project is expected to take place in 2019. The build out of the entire 70+ acre site is expected to occur over at least 3 additional phases as funding permits.

The Water Plant project is in full swing. The new reverse osmosis (RO) plant became operational in June and began providing drinking water to the community on June 20. The site has also changed quite a bit recently with the demolition of the 1924 plant building. Additional work to be completed between now and the February 28, 2019 substantial completion date includes renovations to the 1992 plant building, site work & paving, and site fencing.



## Central Site-Washington Fall Cleanup Held at Yard Waste Center, Waste Water Treatment Plant 1065 West Buchanan Hours: Friday October 12: 3-6pm and Saturday October 13: 9am-12noon



Dispose of the following:

- General junk (small loose materials need to be put into cardboard boxes, no bags)
- Construction materials-100lb maximum (please separate construction materials). Wood and metal no longer than 4ft in length
- Bulky furniture items such as couches, mattresses, box springs, recliners (\$6 bulky tag available year round)
- Appliances (\$5 fee)
- Electronics (free **except** for old box tube TV's & CRT computer monitors-they are \$15), (*Computers & accessories can be taken to Goodwill for free*)
- Concrete, Brick and Rock

We will **not** accept the following items:

- Household garbage not allowed
- Household hazardous waste (contact Washington Co, Recycling Center 653-6373)
- Hazardous materials such as but not limited to explosives, drugs, materials soaked in volatile chemicals
- Tires & Waste Oil
- Shingles
- Latex Paint - (Not hazardous material. If paint is dried, it can be disposed of in regular garbage).
- Items from outside the Washington City limits

**\*\*\*Purchase a sticker at City Hall for appliances, bulky items and old TV's, or pay in cash at the cleanup\*\*\*  
(no checks or credit cards are taken at site)**

The City will assist with special pickups for appliances for those unable to bring them to the site for an additional \$5 appliance fee, Please contact City Hall at 653-6584 by Thursday, October 11 to schedule a pickup.

## Leaf Vac News Brief and Yard Waste Center Hours

Fall is near and the City of Washington Maintenance and Construction Dept will begin leaf pick up October 15 beginning in the N/W quadrant of the City, moving in a counter clockwise direction. The leaf vac program will continue until Nov 21, 2018. Residents may place leaves in the terrace area between the sidewalk and the street. Please do not place leaves in the street as this creates drainage and traffic hazards. Questions or comments can be directed to the M/C Dept at 319-653-2947.

The leaves and tree trimmings can be hauled to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Yard Waste Center (YWC) located at 1065 W Buchanan St. It is open from 7am to 4pm Mon.-Fri. The YWC will extend its hours to be open on Saturday mornings from 7am-10am on the following dates: Oct 13,20 & 27, Nov 3,10 & 17. If you bring yard waste in plastic bags, please dump out the contents and take the bags with you. **The YWC does not accept lumber or building materials of any type. Please remember, "if you didn't grow it, don't throw it"**.

Please remember to use the S. Hwy 1 entrance to get to the YWC. The South E Ave entrance remains closed.

## Sidewalk Inspection Notice

Anyone living in the North West quadrant of town that received a sidewalk inspection notice and has not contacted the Development Services Department at city hall please do so at your earliest convenience. This can be done by returning your reply letter in your packet or by phone at 653-6584.

If the city does not receive a reply from a homeowner by November 1, 2018 the property will be included in a city bid project that will take place spring of 2019. Reminder that inspections for the North East quadrant of town will begin fall of 2018.



**Pay your water bill  
online at  
[www.washingtoniowa.net](http://www.washingtoniowa.net)**

## At the Washington Public Library by LeAnn Kunz

What's the most important school supply that doesn't cost a penny? A library card! What is an invaluable, free resource for every citizen in Washington, Iowa? A library card! September is Library card sign-up month and the Washington Public Library wants you to take advantage of owning a card. If you do not have one, stop by and sign up with a current ID for a regular library card or one of our new, fine-free cards.

What can a library card get me? Well, obviously library patrons have access to countless materials such as books, audiobooks, dvds, magazines, and art prints. You also can use our variety of digital resources including genealogy, language and learning databases, e-books, as well as the wonderful new Southeast Iowa Digital Archive (an open digital newspaper archive for all of Washington County and surrounding areas). Check out all of these under the Digital Collection tab at

[www.washington.lib.ia.us](http://www.washington.lib.ia.us). What are the no-cost, enriching activities kids can join? The WPL has many fun programs planned for this fall. The littlest ones in your household can join our Wee Read story times and our Pre-school story times which will be kicking off in September. Stop in to register. The elementary kids should take advantage of our children's movies on all early-out days at 1:30 p.m. There will also be early-out programs for teens at 4 p.m. including *Save That Book* on September 12 where participants will design ways to hide and protect their favorite banned books and a *Crafternoon* on September 19 which will provide them the opportunity to decorate a tote bag. Finally, on September 26, the *Literary Alliance Book Club* will meet to discuss teens' favorite banned books. How can adults capitalize on the free pro-

grams? We will be starting a new season of *Sticks & Strings* on Friday, September 7 at 7 p.m. Anyone who enjoys knitting, crochet, and other needlework should join us with their projects. On September 11 at 10 a.m. we will have Linda McCann here to speak about her book *Civilian Conservation Corps in Southeast Iowa*. Our regular *Brown Bags & Books* will also meet on September 11 at noon. Bring your lunch and enjoy a read-aloud geared to adults. New book clubs for adults will commence in September. Keep an eye out for our fiction and nonfiction reading lineup! The long wait for the new season of the *Washington Writers' Workshop* will be over on September 22 at 10 a.m. Iowa author Carol Bodensteiner will be giving a presentation on the craft of writing during the first hour. We will workshop writing submissions from members during the second hour. How can you and your family pass up all this opportunity? We hope you will utilize all that your library card has to offer you this fall and all year long.



### NOTICE



**Please help us recycle.** As more and more online shopping occurs, it creates more cardboard. You must flatten cardboard before placing it at the curb. We can no longer take boxes that are not flattened.



**Questions:** Call Lukes Waste Management at 319-461-9011

**For Large quantities:**  
Take to recycle center at  
2170 Lexington Blvd.  
Mon thru Fri: 7:30 to 4pm  
Saturday: 7am to noon

### Snow & Ice Removal

Winter is coming. Having vehicles off the street during snow storms makes it easier to plow and help drainage when melting occurs. When the City removes snow in the downtown area, the permanent signs read (No parking from 10pm-6am for snow removal). The personnel place four signs on each corner of Central Park on the days the City will be cleaning.



The City of Washington would like to remind residents that they are responsible for keeping their sidewalks free from snow and ice. The property owner and/or occupant of any building shall clear the public sidewalk of all snow and ice accumulations within 24 hours after the snow has ceased or ice formed. If the property owner and/or occupant fail to remove the ice and snow, the City may do so and the cost of the removal will be levied against the property per Ordinance 53.01.

### Tree Trimming

Per ordinance 151.03, home owners are responsible for the maintenance of the trees on their property and all trees shall be trimmed to a minimum height of fifteen feet, six inches (15'6") above the traveled roadway and to a minimum height of eight feet (8') above the sidewalk. Additional height restrictions may be imposed by the City where necessary to ensure adequate visibility.

The City will begin trimming trees that block sign visibility in early October.

### Snow Emergency Ordinance

#### 69.13 Snow Emergency.

No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or City-owned or leased off-street parking area during any snow emergency proclaimed by the Mayor unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from the proclamation throughout the duration of the snow or ice storm at the forty-eight (48) hour period after cessation of such storm except as above provided streets, which have been fully opened. Such a ban shall be of uniform application and the Police

Chief is directed to publicize the requirements widely, using all available news media, in early November each year. Where predictions or occurrences indicate the need, the Mayor shall proclaim a snow emergency and the Police Chief shall inform the news media to publicize the proclamation and the parking rules there under. Such emergency may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant.

#### Parking During Winter Weather Conditions

The Marion Avenue Baptist Church has agreed to allow use of their gravel parking lot (on the corner of South Ave B and West Washington St) for parking during winter weather conditions.

**Washington Community News**  
 City of Washington  
 PO Box 516  
 Washington, IA 52353

PRSR STD  
 ECRWSS  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 EDDM RETAIL

Local Postal Customer

**City Departments**

Animal Control, Parker Turner .....	653-2638
Building & Zoning, Steve Donnolly.....	653-6584
Cemetery Sexton, Nick Duvall.....	653-3927
City Administrator, Brent Hinson.....	653-6584
City Attorney, Kevin Olson.....	653-6584
City Clerk, Illa Earnest .....	653-6584
Code Enforcement, Jason Peterson.....	653-6584
Engineering, Keith Henkel.....	653-6584
Finance Director, Kelsey Brown.....	653-6584
Fire Chief, Tom Wide.....	653-2239
Emergency Calls.....	911
Non-Emergency.....	653-2239
Library Director, Bryna Walker.....	653-2726
Maintenance & Constr. Supt., JJ Bell.....	653-2947
Parks Supt., Nicholas Pacha.....	653-5220
Police Chief, Greg Goodman.....	653-2256
Emergency Calls.....	911
Non-Emergency.....	653-2256
Waste Water Supt., Fred Doggett.....	653-2638
Water Plant Supt., Chad McCleary.....	653-2764

**City Buildings**

Cemetery Office .....	1001 S Ave E
Fire Station.....	215 E Washington St
Maintenance Bldg.....	515 E 6th St
Municipal Bldg.....	215 E Washington St
Parks Office.....	915 W Main St
Police Department.....	215 E Washington St
Public Library.....	115 W Washington St
Waste Water Treatment Plant .....	1065 W Buchanan St
Water Plant.....	522 N 4th Ave

**City of Washington**

City of Washington  
 PO Box 516  
 215 E Washington St  
 Washington, IA 52353

Phone: 319-653-6584  
 Fax: 319-653-5273  
[www.washingtoniowa.net](http://www.washingtoniowa.net)



**City Hall Hours Mon-Fri 8am-5pm**

**Dog Pound Rules & Fees**

Here are the reclaim fees and rules with the animal protection and control ordinance:

- First offense-\$25
- Second offense-\$50
- Third offense and any offense to follow-\$100

In order to reclaim a dog, the owner must prove the animal is up to date on its rabies shot. If they are not, we will take them to the Vet and it will cost the owner \$18.50 on top of the reclaim fee.

After the third offense in a calendar year, the dog will be spayed or neutered and that charge will also be the owner's responsibility.

There is a complete copy of the animal protection and control ordinance on the City's website at [www.washingtoniowa.net](http://www.washingtoniowa.net).

If you have any questions, please call 653-2638. Like us on our Facebook page "[City of Washington Dog Pound](#)".

**Support the Paws & More Animal Shelter**

Would you like to help the animals at Paws & More Animal Shelter? It's as easy as adding a monthly contribution of \$1, \$2, or \$5 to your water bill. Forms are available at City Hall and Paws & More.

