

# Washington Community News

City of Washington



## From the Desk of Mayor Jaron Rosien



First off, Happy New Year! I hope this newsletter finds you well!

Personally, my exciting news is the birth of the first baby in my immediate family; my first nephew! His name is Lincoln James and despite so many dark-haired genetics on both sides, he has light-reddish hair much like his namesake, his Grandpa Jim! Thanks for letting me share this news with you. I likewise enjoy learning of the many blessings of marriage and birth

and more from all of you.

Second, I must confess (for the sake of accuracy) "From the Desk of" isn't quite true... because THERE ISN'T A DESK! Currently the Mayor does not have an office in City Hall! (It's okay, though, there just literally isn't space!) In fact, Mayor Johnson moved several times before her office space became non-existent to make room for others.

I mention this not for a pity party, I'm fine without having an office or a desk! But I also want to do this job well and be accessible. So, I want you to know how I can be reached if necessary: I can be reached via e-mail at

[jerosien@washingtونيowa.gov](mailto:jerosien@washingtونيowa.gov)

or you can leave messages for me at City Hall at (319) 653-6584 and I will return your call! I am planning on being available to meet Tuesday - Thursday between 1:30 and 3:30, or by appointment for individuals that aren't available during those times. Please don't hesitate to make your positions known to either your city councilor or to myself. Even if it doesn't always seem like it, I cannot overstate how important and effective public opinion is.

Thank you everyone, and here's to a great 2018!

January 2018

### Mayor

Jaron Rosien ..... 653-6584

### City Administrator

Brent Hinson ..... 653-6584

### City Council

Kerry Janecek ..... 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 Conchola, Genie Davis  
Shawn Loy, Donald Pfeiffer  
Trent Stout

### Airport Commission

Kevin Erpelding-Chair  
Jim Almelen, 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

Karen Bates Chabal,  
Jamie Engeman-Evans  
Kerry Janecek, Bryan Kendall  
Mike Kramme, Mary Patterson

### Hotel/Motel Tax Committee

Jamie Engeman-Evans  
William Fredrick, Diane Gallagher  
Steve Gault, Charla Howard  
Debbie Stanton, Millie Youngquist

Cable Television  
Seeking Volunteers

## Fire Station Project Progress

The City has struggled with a lack of space for Police, Fire and City Hall operations for a number of years, especially since the relocation of the Police Department to its current location in the same building with City Hall and Fire in 2005.

The City undertook a detailed facility study to look at building improvement options and space needs in 2013, and completed this study in 2014. Following that, a lively debate over the period of the next several years regarding the selected plan for improvements ultimately resulted in the sale of the former public library at 120 East Main in early 2017 and the established the direction for improvements as the "campus plan". This plan calls for construction of a new Fire Station directly south of the existing facility at 215 East

Washington and the subsequent renovation within the following two years of the existing building for City Hall and Police.

While public facility improvements are often a difficult and even controversial undertaking, no square footage has been added to these City facilities since their original construction in 1974, and the lack of space for meetings, equipment, offices and permanent files is felt every single day in our operations. There is no Council Chambers or Mayor's office, and much equipment is either stored outside or at off-site locations; permanent files are often stored either in stacks of boxes in working offices or in non-climate controlled environments. We invite any member of the public to schedule a time to walk through the facility with our

staff to discuss and review these issues up close.

Since 2013, the City has been implementing a financial planning process for these much-needed improvements. We are in the process of saving the vast majority of the funds up for the improvements, and no tax increase is anticipated for the improvements, since we have built this project into our long-term debt planning model over the past several years. We believe we have developed a plan that is carefully measured in scope and cost, but is responsible to long-term needs. With any luck, this project will stand the test of time for decades and decades in the same way as the original improvements made in 1974.

Additional information is continued on page 3.

## Meet Our New City Council Members



**Steven Gault, Second Ward** I'm Steven Gault. I was elected to the office of ward 2 council member, in September 2016. I have served a year as ward 2 councilman. I was elected to a 4 year term in 2017.

I have lived in Washington for the greater part of my life. I am married to JoAnn Gault and we are parents to 2 children. Chris Gault of Washington Iowa and Jennifer Greene of Bradenton Florida. We have 4 grand boys.

I worked 28 years at the McCleary-Cummings. I am presently employed at the University of Iowa.

My goal as city councilman is to leave Washington a better place for our future generations. It will take a lot of hard work but as a city council working together this is obtainable. Washington is a great small town with lots of gems hidden within its city limits.



**Fran Stigers, Fourth Ward** I'm a single parent of five adult children and five grandchildren. I'm a U.S. ARMY Veteran, a past member of the Planning and Zoning Committee, as well as a past member of the City of

Washington Park Board. I'm a current member of the Sons of the American Legion and Legion Riders, Post 29. I have enjoyed twenty-nine years of officiating high school sports for the State of Iowa.

I want to help make Washington a better place to live for everyone. I have experience working with large budgets, collaborations, and I enjoy serving people. I will be the voice of those in my ward and of the citizens of Washington.

**Trash can stickers for 2018 are now available at City Hall at \$90 each.**



**Elaine Moore, At Large**

I was born and raised in Iowa City graduating from West High and moved to Washington in 1978. I am married to Mike Moore and we are the parents of four kids. Mike's two boys

Nick (Sally) live in Eugene, Oregon and Chris (Stacy) live in Urbandale, Ia. We have two daughters Keely (Scott) live here in Washington and Tia (Austin) live in North Liberty. We have five grandchildren. I have been in banking for the last 28 years. I am currently employed fulltime at Hills Bank & Trust Company here in Washington. I have a lot to learn about our city government as I start my term. My goal the first year is to educate myself so I can fully understand how the council comes to the decisions they are making. My goal would be to help the community understand why we are making these decisions.

### 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 and the forty-eight (48) hour period after cessation of such storm except as above provided upon 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.

### Snow Removal Ordinance

**53.01 OWNER AND/OR OCCUPANT** The owner and/or occupant of any building, or any part thereof, fronting upon, abutting, lying or adjacent to any public sidewalk or the owner or agent of any unoccupied building, lot, lots, tract, or parcel of ground fronting upon, abutting, lying or adjacent to any public sidewalk shall clear such sidewalk of all snow and/or ice accumulation within 24 hours after the snow has ceased, or ice has formed. This chapter shall not relieve the owner and/or occupant from any liability for injuries or damages occurring as a result of the snow and/or ice accumulation on the sidewalk, nor shall this chapter render the City to a person, persons, firm or corporation for damages as a result of the injuries occurring upon the sidewalk.

**53.02 CONDITIONAL REMOVAL** When it is not practical for the owner and/or occupant to remove the accumulated snow and/or ice from the sidewalk because it is frozen to the sidewalk, the owner and/or occupant shall spread suitable material upon the sidewalk to

prevent the sidewalk from being slippery.

### 53.03 REMOVAL BY PERSONS OTHER THAN THE CITY

**1.** It shall be unlawful to remove snow or ice from private property and deposit the same upon any public street, alley or sidewalk. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the depositing of the same upon the parking area abutting the private property from which the snow and ice accumulations have been removed.

**2.** It shall be unlawful to remove snow or ice from private, commercial, or public property and deposit the same upon any abutting private, commercial, or public property. **3.** It shall be unlawful to remove snow from public right of way in a manner that interferes with or unduly restricts vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic. **4.** This subsection shall not apply to or limit the City's snowplowing operations.

**53.04 NOTICE TO ABATE** Whenever a snow and ice nuisance exists upon any property, a City official may serve notice upon the owner,



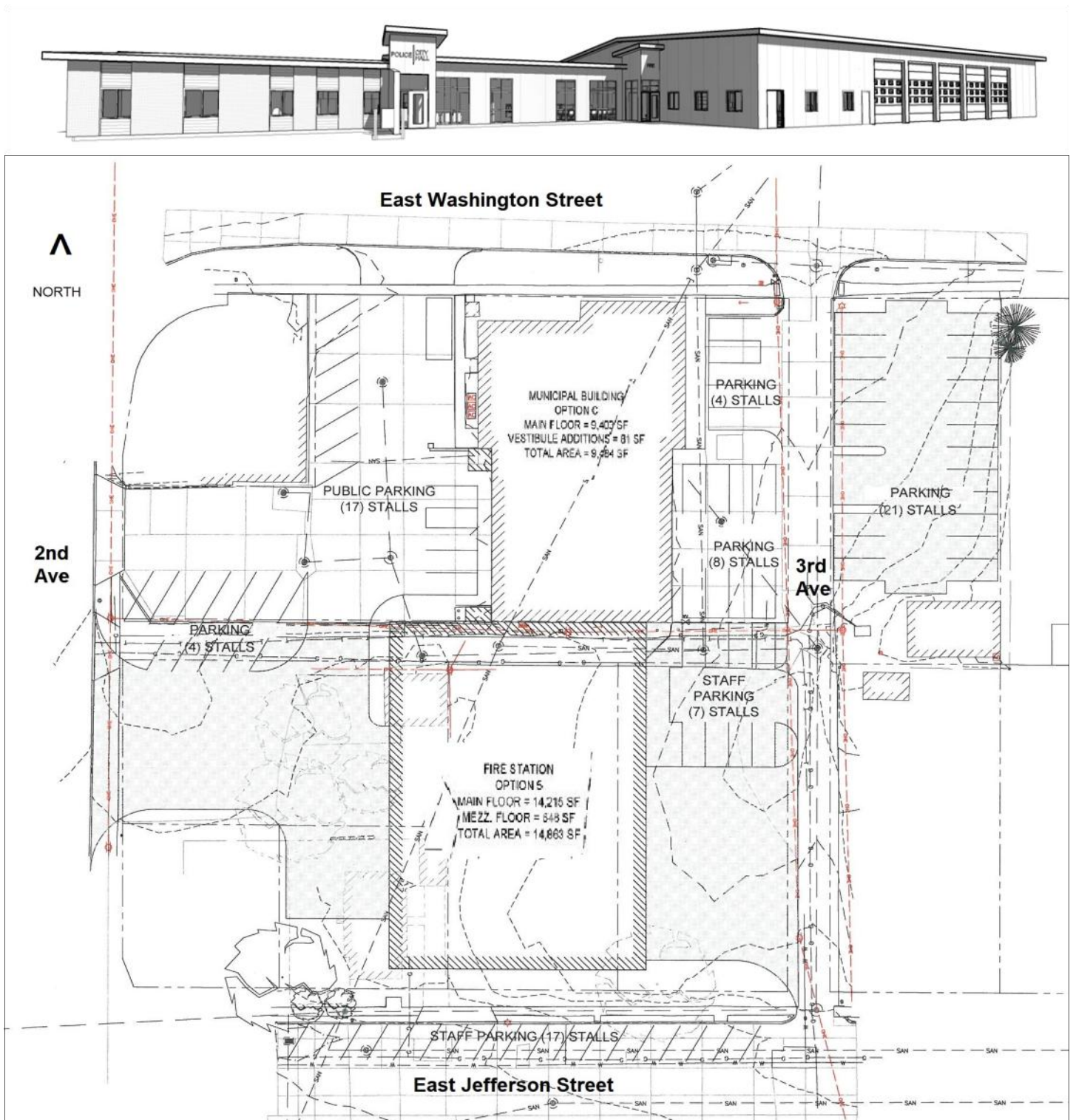
owner's agent, or occupant of the property to abate the nuisance with 48 hours or within a stated longer period if the City official determines it necessary to avoid undue hardship, under the nuisance abatement procedures outlined in Chapter 50 of this Code of Ordinances.

### 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.

The City will put up a 4ft x 4ft sign on the square that reads SNOW REMOVAL TONIGHT in the morning when they are to clean downtown.

## Conceptual Design for New City Hall, Police & Fire Departments



We are planning public presentations on January 4, January 15, and February 5, all located at the existing Fire Station and held at 6:30 PM. Public tours of the facility will take place following the presentations. We also plan to have display boards and additional information available at the Fire Department's Pancake Day on January 10.



Local Postal Customer

## 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

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



### ANNUAL PANCAKE DAY

The Washington Fire Department is holding their Annual Pancake Day at the Fire Station  
Wednesday, January 10  
11 AM to 1 PM and  
5 PM to 7 PM  
Advanced tickets -Adults \$7, Kids \$5  
At the Door -Adults \$8, Kids \$6  
Get your advanced tickets from any Fireman, the Fire Station, Glandons Southside Service, and Washington State Bank.

### 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
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, Deborah Stanton .....	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

### Xmas Tree Drop Off and Pickup



The City has set up a Xmas tree drop off area on the South-east corner of Central Park Tuesday, January 2 thru Wednesday, January 10th. Residents can also put their trees on the Street corners opposite of fire hydrants, or they can haul them out to the Waste Water Treatment Plant brush pile site. The tree pickups will also take place January 2 thru January 10.

### Library News

#### Dewey Or Don't We?

If you've visited the library's Children's department lately, you may have noticed that our juvenile non-fiction section has gotten much more colorful. Aside from making the section stand out a bit more, the colorful labels have a deeper meaning -- they are there to help our youngest patrons learn to independently explore library resources, making it easier to discover subjects of interest to them.

So, what do the colors mean? Our non-fiction sections are organized by the Dewey Decimal system. Each subject area has a number associated with it, and each 100's section represents a large subject. It should be easier to find what you're looking for now because each 100's section has its own color!

Finally, because we know children and adults tend to browse by subject, we've put the subject name right there on the spine label. Come visit the collection and we're sure you'll find something to take home!



### Notice of Spring Cleanup for Elm Grove & Woodlawn Cemeteries

We will begin spring cleanup of all decorations, flowers, wreaths, grave blankets, etc. on **March 1, 2018** weather permitting. Any decorations left after **March 1, 2018** will be picked up and disposed of during spring cemeteries cleanup. Decorations acceptable to leave include: Shepherds' hooks, military markers, monument toppers, planted and potted flowers, and vase flowers. **Please NO GLASS containers.** All decorations must be off of the ground and placed on monument stones or foundations. Any decorations left on ground, if the decorations are not on monuments or monument foundations, will be removed and disposed of. Live flowers whether potted or planted /wreaths/grave blankets/flags/etc. will be disposed of when they become unsightly. Any questions, please call Elm Grove Cemetery office at **319-653-3927**. Thank You.