



WASHINGTON COMMUNITY NEWS

CITY OF WASHINGTON

A Note from the Mayor

APRIL 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 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

Kerry Janecek, Sandra Johnson

Bryan Kendall, Mike Kramme

Mary Patterson

Hotel/Motel Tax Committee

Jamie Engeman-Evans

William Fredrick, Diane Gallagher

Steve Gault, Charla Howard

Deborah Stanton, Millie Youngquist

Cable Television

Seeking Volunteers



The first three months of this "new gig" have been enjoyable and the right amount of challenging! As I stay up-to-date

with all the national and state level news, it constantly reminds me how thankful I am that this municipal level job is non-partisan and can primarily be about the issues and problems we face here in Washington... Despite obstacles any city faces, there are plenty of things to be proud of and several exciting things that are "just around the bend". For this edition of the newsletter, I'd like to share my thoughts about some of those things with you.

Madison Park: If you aren't immediately familiar, this park sits on the corner of 2nd Avenue and Madison (hence the name) and often has "good luck" signs for our students competing at various events. North of the park is an older home, previously occupied by a kind lady named Violet Jones. When I was much younger I remember helping Violet with her first computer, and as I recall, she gave me a few dollars for my trouble. This generosity continues in the form of a dona-

tion from Mrs. Jones' children, gifting this land to the City of Washington. The end project won't be completed tomorrow, but, please picture this: *An attractive frontage park that connects along the west side of that block, along one of the most visible routes through our City. A perfect spot to pause for a rest, and an affordable and responsible way to improve our community!* I think this fits nicely as something good "just around the bend".

The Fire Station: North of this park I just described, after you cross Jefferson Street, will be our new fire station. The fire station will sit behind what is currently City Hall/Fire/Police all packed-in together. If you haven't seen the crammed chaos that sits inside, it is open to the public and I would encourage you to check it out! The future is bright, however, with "site preparation" set to take place this Spring, and construction on the station to begin as soon as possible after that.

The Water Plant: If you haven't been on the north side of town recently, along 4th Avenue, take a turn that direction and see history in the making with the progress of this 1400 GPM (gallons per minute) reverse osmosis system. It should be about three months (mid-June) before we notice the drastic change in our water quality, but in the grand scheme of things

that isn't far away! We can all be pretty excited for what will certainly be an immense improvement in this important building block of life!

Two Birds, One Stone: It pleases me greatly to share an example of our city departments working well together. Recently, "flow testing" was done by the M/C (Maintenance and Construction) Department in conjunction with the Fire Department. The flow testing was performed to investigate providing necessary water pressure for sprinklers in the fire station, and knowing where best to do so. (Side note: You never, ever, want your Fire Station to catch on fire.) Happily work is set to overlap with making another connection to the water line on Jefferson, and these two separate projects can dovetail together nicely and provide a solution to two problems!

This "note" is definitely longer than I intended. If you made it this far, thanks for reading and I hope these bits of information provides some encouragement for what is "just around the bend" :). For comment or question, I can be reached at jrosien@washingtioniowa.gov
Thanks, Jaron.

City Wraps Up Budget Process

The City has finalized its Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019). The tax rate will remain the same, at \$15.82079 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation, for the 7th straight year. There are no personnel additions included in the budget. While we have continued to perform many major projects in the drinking water utility and in the sewer collection system, we anticipate the smallest increases to utility bills in the past seven years, with the

impact to the average household being about a \$1/month increase. The budget includes \$7.8 million in capital projects, many of which are described above by Mayor Rosien, but these also include the paving of South Avenue E from Sittler Drive to Lincoln Street, construction of Phase I of the Washington Wellness Park, a sidewalk extension on East Washington Street from the current termination at Archer Appliance to the Walmart area, and a major sewer project in the south-

east area of town.

The City recently achieved an "A+" bond rating from Standard & Poor's, which is a great indicator of our commitment to financial soundness, and significantly reduces our borrowing costs. The City Council has continued to support a program of maintaining strong and stable finances, while continuing to make the necessary capital investments to move our community forward.



City of Washington Spring Cleanup

Cleanup will be conducted the week of April 16-19
on your regular garbage day route.

**Any items placed out one week or more prior to the
scheduled event will be subject to a fine!**

Requirements:

- Any loose items must be in a cardboard box. (**DO NOT** use garbage bags).
- All materials must be sorted in distinct piles.
- Construction and demolition materials **up to 100 pounds** per household.
- Carpet 100 pound limit.
- Wood boards must be tied in bundles or stacked neatly no more than 4' in length. No more than 100 lbs. total.
- No metal over 4' in length.
- Any recyclable material must be in separate pile-paper, glass, plastic, metal, cardboard.
- Any loose items not contained in a cardboard box, will not be picked up.

\$20 Sticker required, purchase at City Hall

Washer, dryer, refrigerator, freezer, air conditioners, furnaces, microwaves, water heaters, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, stoves, trash compactors, personal computers, monitors, televisions (any kind).

- Computers and accessories, can be taken to Goodwill for free.

\$6 Bulky tag required, purchase at City Hall

Couches, desks, mattresses, box springs, dressers (chest of drawers), recliners, toilets. (Bulky item tags are available year round).

Any items not meeting requirements will be left behind.

THE FOLLOWING WILL **NOT** BE PICKED UP:

- All plastic bags must have a city garbage sticker, and be no larger than 35 gallon.
- Any box with garbage or household trash and no sticker will be left behind.
- Waste oil: You may take your oil to the recycling center located on Lexington Blvd.
- Concrete, bricks, and rocks.
- Hazardous materials such as, but not limited to; paint, explosives or materials soaked in volatile compounds, drugs, poisons or household chemicals with hazardous warning labels.
- Batteries
- Tires

NOTE: Any cardboard left behind at the end of the day will be picked up.

If you have any questions, please call 319-461-9011

Luke Waste Management

Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste will be collected west of 2nd Ave on Tuesdays and east of 2nd Ave on Thursdays. The routes began March 20 and come to a close on the Wed. before Thanksgiving.

Bags– Any organic mixed yard waste such as grass, leaves, twigs and garden waste will be collected in City approved designated bags, and will not be collected in any other container or bag. Bags must not exceed 75lbs. City approved bags are available at City Hall, Fareway, Hyvee, Ace-n-more, and Moore's BP.

Bundles– Tree trimmings, brush and twigs will be collected if properly bundled. Tied bundles of trimmings shall be collected if bundles do not exceed 75lbs, 18 inches in diameter and 5ft in length. The bunds should be tied with biodegradable twine or string. Branch size should not exceed 5 inches in diameter. A maximum of 3 bundles will be collected per collection day. Larger quantities of branches are considered commercial and are the responsibility of the owner.

Burning– Residents are currently allowed to carefully burn dry leaves and twigs on their private property only! (Not in the right-of-way!) City ordinance prohibits the burning of any trash, garbage, and green or damp yard waste.

Yard Waste Center– Residents are welcome to haul and dispose of their yard waste and brush at the Yard Waste Center located next to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at 1065 W Buchanan St. The YWC is open Mon-Fri from 7am-4pm.

There are two piles of yard waste. One pile is for tree branches and the other is for yard and garden waste. Please place yard waste in the appropriate pile if you are hauling it yourself. If you bring yard waste in plastic bags, please remember to dump out the contents and take the bags with you. **The YWC does not accept any type of building materials or other debris. "So remember, if you didn't grow it, don't throw it!"**

Piles of ground up yard waste are available to Washington residents to use on their garden, flowerbeds or just filling in low spots in the yard. If interested, bring your truck or containers and a shovel. Sorry, because of liability reasons the YWC staff cannot help load mulch.



Annual Tree Giveaway – 130 Containerized Trees

On May 5, 2018 at 8:00 am the Washington Tree Committee will be having its annual, free, Tree Giveaway. This event is sponsored in part by the Washington Iowa Betterment Foundation, though donations are much appreciated. This very fast-moving event will take place on the east side of the square.

There will be 130 trees given away this year, a larger number than in previous years, due to the removal of trees as a result of the emerald ash borer. A change in 2018 is that all the trees will be containerized and will range in size from 4'tall to 7'tall.

The goal is to offer homeowners a variety of trees and to increase the diversity of tree species in Washington. The varieties being offered in 2018 are: blackjack oak, post oak, swamp chestnut oak, white oak, sweetbay magnolia, black gum, white pine, baldcypress, blackhaw viburnum, pawpaw, persimmon and sassafras. As in the past, information sheets about all the varieties will be available April 15 at City Hall, the Public Library, the Washington Evening Journal office, and the Chamber of Commerce/WEDG/Main Street office.

At Washington Free Public Library this summer...

Libraries Rock!

Rock out with your librarians at Summer Reading Club, where you can earn cool prizes for reading!

Registration begins May 1 and all ages are invited to participate!

Each age group has both a take-home part of the program and in-house programs to attend, so add these dates to your calendar for library fun!



Regular Summer Reading Club meetings in June:

- Wee Read - Toddler storytime on Thursdays @ 10:00
- Preschool - Storytime on Mondays @ 9:30
- K-2nd grade - Let's rock on Mondays from 9:30-10:30
- 3-5th grade - Rock out on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:00
- Teens - Lunch Bunch on Mondays @ 12:00 (Reading the 2018 All Iowa Young Adults Read book "Girl in the Blue Coat" by Monica Hesse)
- Adults - Noontime concerts on Thursdays @ 12:15 (June & July), All Iowa Reads, and other events!

Family Events:

- Tuesday, June 5 @ 10:00, Blank Park Zoo
- Tuesday, June 12 @ 10:00, Absolute Science
- Tuesday, June 19 @ 10:00, Magician David Casas
- Tuesday, June 26 @ 10:00, Musician Duke Otherwise
- Wednesday, July 11 @ 9:30 & 10:30 (2 showings), Dan Wardell
- Thursday concerts are free and open to all ages-
- Movie Madness every Monday in July @ 1:00

Notice of Summer Cleanup for Elm Grove & Woodlawn Cemeteries



Any decorations left after **June 15, 2018** will be picked up and disposed of during summer cemeteries cleanup. We will begin summer cleanup of all decorations, flowers, wreaths, etc. on **June 15, 2018 at 7:00 am**. 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 for your cooperation.

City Departments

Animal Control, Parker Turner	653-2638
Building & Zoning, Steve Donnelly.....	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, 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

Yard Waste Center Hours

The Yard Waste Center normal hours are 7:00am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday. The YWC will be open Saturday mornings from 7:00am to 10:00am on the following Dates: April 21 & 28

May 5, 12, 19, & 26

The YWC entrance is now off of Highway 1 South of HyVee and Orscheln's, then go east on Buchanan St., then watch for the sign that says, "Waste Water Treatment Plant & Dog Pound".



Grass and Weeds Ordinance 52.01 Weeds and Grass Control

The maximum height of grass and/or weeds (such as jimson, burdock, ragweed, thistle, cocklebur or other plants of like kind) shall be eight inches in developed residential, commercial and industrial zoned districts, twelve inches in unplatted districts other than agricultural districts. The provisions of this chapter apply to all noxious weeds (as defined by The State of Iowa Department of Agriculture) and all grass, weeds, non-ornamental brush, vines, and other dense and rank growth upon public or private property. The property owner and occupant are jointly and severally responsible for mowing the abutting space between the lot line and the curb line or edge of the traveled portion of the street right-of-way and one-half of any alley abutting the property.



For your safety and the safety of our City Maintenance, Transportation, Utility and Construction Workers; please slow down when driving through a Work Zone Area!

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

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City of Washington
 PO Box 516
 215 E Washington St

Phone: 319-653-6584
 Fax: 319-653-5273
 www.washingtoniowa.net

CITY HALL HOURS MON-FRI 8AM-5PM



**Washington Farmers Market
 Starts May 17, 2018
 5pm in Central Park.**

The Farmers Market will take place every Thursday at 5pm in Central Park until the first frost. This year celebrates the Market's 30th Anniversary. Vendors can contact Bob Shepherd at 319-458-9396 for more information. Check it out on Facebook!

Affirmative Fair Housing Policy

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



EQUAL HOUSING
 OPPORTUNITY

**We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair
 Housing Law**

(The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988)

**It is Illegal to Discriminate Against Any Person
 Because of Race, Color, Religion, Sex,
 Handicap, Familial Status, or National Origin**

In the sale or rental of housing or
 residential lots

In the provision of real estate
 brokerage services

In advertising the sale or rental
 of housing

In the appraisal of housing

In the financing of housing

Blockbusting is also illegal

Anyone who feels he or she has been
 discriminated against may file a complaint of
 housing discrimination:
 1-800-669-9777 (Toll Free)
 1-800-927-9275 (TTY)
 www.hud.gov/fairhousing

U.S. Department of Housing and
 Urban Development
 Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and
 Equal Opportunity
 Washington, D.C. 20410

Previous editions are obsolete

Form HUD-928.1 (8/2011)

AFFIRMATIVE FAIR HOUSING POLICY

This notice is posted pursuant to the requirements of Executive Order 11063 on equal opportunity in housing and discrimination in the sale or rental of housing built in Federal assistance, and with Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which prohibits discrimination in the provision of housing because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, age political affiliation, familial status or citizenship.

The City of Washington, Iowa, advises the public that it will administer its assisted programs and activities related to housing and community development in a manner to affirmatively further fair housing and it shall also take action to affirmatively further fair housing in the sale or rental of housing, the financing of housing and the provision of brokerage services.

The City of Washington shall assist individuals who believe they have been subject to discrimination in housing through the resources of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The City of Washington has designated the following office as the contact to coordinate efforts to comply with this policy. Inquiries should be directed to:

Name: Mayor
 Office: City Hall
 Address: 215 E Washington St
 Washington IA 52353
 Phone Number: 319-653-6584
 Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm (Monday-Friday)

