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Kirksville Connection

News & Information from the City of Kirksville

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CITY COUNCIL FILING OPENS DECEMBER 15

If you have ever thought about serving on the City Council, filing begins Tuesday, December 15, 2015, and continues through January 19, 2016. You may file in the City Clerk's office at City Hall, 201 South Franklin Street, during the regular business hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

To qualify, you must be 21 years of age prior to taking office; a United States citizen; a resident of Kirksville for one year preceding the election; a registered voter; and not been found, or pled, guilty to a felony under state and federal laws.

Prior to filing, each person must complete an "Affidavit" with the Missouri Department of Revenue affirming that all state income taxes, personal property, real property taxes on the place of residence have been paid. This Affidavit can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office. For more information, contact City Clerk Vickie Brumbaugh at 660-627-1225.

This year there are two available seats on the Council. Each Council Member serves a term of three years. The Municipal Election will be held Tuesday, April 5, 2016!

UTILITY RATE CHANGES

This year, a company, Getting Great Rates, was hired by the Council to review and evaluate the water and sewer plants, including the rate structure. The findings of their review and recommendations were presented during a public hearing held October 19. Based on their recommendations, the service availability fee for water users will now be based on the installed meter size instead of a flat fee, which amounts to an increase of approximately \$0.74 per month for most residential users. The company also proposed a rate increase, noting that the City had done a good job of evaluating the rates in house.

The monthly bill for a household using the minimum volume of water, which includes services for water, sewer, and trash, will increase from \$47.94 to \$50.94. The utility rates for both water and sewer will increase an average of 6-9% for both residential and commercial users.

These changes will be reflected on the bills received the beginning of February. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Utility Billing at 660-627-1251.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Around this time of year, many people decorate their homes and prepare food for holiday gatherings. So as a result, there is a greater risk for fire.

Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season:

Holiday decorating

- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn, and always blow out a candle before leaving a room.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

CITY OFFICE CLOSURES IN DECEMBER

The Finance Department, which includes Utility Billing, will be closed all day Friday, December 4, 2015, for training and employee meetings. No utility payments will be accepted at the front counter of City Hall during this time. City utility payments may be made online, or may be placed in the drop box located by the front door of City Hall, and will be processed when the business windows open on Monday, December 7 at 8:00 am. All City offices will be closed from approximately 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Friday, December 4, 2015, for a City-wide employee meeting.

All City offices, including the Aquatic Center, will be closed on December 24, 25 & 26 in observance of Christmas. Offices will also be closed January 1 and 2 in observance of New Year's Day. We apologize for any inconvenience these closures may cause.

ARE YOU WINTER WEATHER READY?

Winter weather is upon us, and it's time to go through the checklist to make sure your home is ready and safe for the cold months ahead. The Fire Department would like to remind you to:

- Have your furnace inspected and serviced by a qualified professional at least once a year.
- Chimneys & vents should be cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional. The chimney should be checked for creosote build-up. Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires from built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.
- Ensure the wood for your fireplace or wood stove is dry, seasoned wood.
- Your fireplace screen should be metal or heat-tempered glass, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- Have a covered metal container ready to use to dispose of cooled ashes. (The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)
- Make sure your children know to stay at least 3 feet away from the fireplace, wood/pellet stove, oil stove, or other space heaters.
- Ensure that portable space heaters have an automatic shut-off.
- Portable space heaters need to be plugged directly into an outlet and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls, and even people. Do not use an extension cord. (Place notes throughout your home to remind you to turn off portable heaters when you leave a room or go to bed.)
- Test your smoke alarms and make sure they are working. For best protection, consider placing a smoke alarm inside each sleeping room, and outside each separate sleeping area. Also, for multiple smoke alarms, make sure that they are interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Carbon monoxide detectors are an important protection for those homes with an attached garage or fuel burning appliances. Test your carbon monoxide detectors and make sure they are working.

PUBLIC CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF

Are you wondering what to do with your old Christmas tree after the holidays are over? The City is offering a free Christmas Tree drop-off from December 26, 2015, through January 8, 2016! Christmas trees may be dropped off within the orange fenced-in area in the southwest corner of the Missouri Street and Main Street public parking lot. All decorations, including ornaments, lights, tinsel, etc., must be removed prior to drop-off. We appreciate your cooperation!



Important Dates :

- 12/01—LPRC Meeting
- 12/04—Finance/Utility Billing Offices Closed
- 12/04—City Offices Closed 1pm –4pm,
- 12/07—Council Meeting
- 12/08—ATC Meeting
- 12/09—Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 12/21—Council Meeting
- 12/24 to 12/26—CITY OFFICES CLOSED: Thanksgiving Holiday
- 12/25—Monthly Warning Siren Test at 10 a.m.

Contact Us:

Airport	665-5020
Aquatic Center	627-7665
Business Licenses	627-1251
City Manager	627-1225
Codes/Inspections	627-1272
Econ Development	627-1224
Engineering	627-1272
Fire Department	665-3734
Human Resources	627-1458
Municipal Court	627-1237
Parks & Recreation	627-1485
Police Department	785-6945
Public Works	627-1291
Water/Sewer Bills	627-1251
Advanced Disposal	
Trash Service:	800-778-7652

Facebook Pages:

- Parks & Recreation
- Police Department

This document is published by:
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