

NEWSLETTER:

1-19



City of Lytle

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MAYOR

Mark Bowen

ALDERMEN

Dist. 1-Ruben Gonzalez
 Dist. 2-Sam Cortez
 Dist. 3-Jamie Dahler
 Dist. 4-Jerry Stone
 Dist. 5-Ruble P. Farmer, Jr

CITY SECRETARY

Josie Campa

January 1, 2019

CITY NEWSLETTER

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. We hope each of you had a great Christmas and wish the best for everyone in 2019.

CITY HOLIDAYS FOR 2019

The City of Lytle holidays for 2019 are listed below. Please remember that the City office will be closed on these holidays, but **garbage** will be picked up unless you are notified otherwise. You may clip and save this holiday schedule for future reference. Please note that Council added a new holiday for city employees for 2019. Columbus Day will now be observed by the City and its employees.

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New Year's Day
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 Presidents' Day
 Good Friday
 Memorial Day
 Independence Day
 Labor Day
 Columbus Day
 Veterans' Day
 Thanksgiving

 Christmas Eve
 Christmas

Tuesday, January 1st
 Monday, January 21st
 Monday, February 18th
 Friday, April 19th
 Monday, May 27th
 Thursday, July 4th
 Monday, September 2nd
 Monday, October 14th
 Monday, November 11th
 Thursday, November 28th
 Friday, November 29th
 Tuesday, December 24th
 Wednesday, December 25th

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FIREWORKS BANNED IN CITY

Fireworks in the City of Lytle are **prohibited** as per the City's Fire Code. We urge everyone to follow the city's rules and **not** use fireworks within the Lytle City limits during the holidays. In the past, fireworks were allowed if the city was not in a drought and conditions were favorable. But now, the **city's fire code bans** the use of fireworks **at all** times within the City limits. If we all do our part, we can make Lytle safe for everyone during the holidays.

CITY TAXES

We'd like to remind taxpayers that City taxes will be due on January 31, 2019. If taxes are not paid by this date, penalty and interest will accrue. Also, if delinquent taxes are due, we urge you to take care of them, as we will have our attorney filing more lawsuits.

WATER CONSERVATION

At the time of this newsletter, the Edwards Aquifer level is at 686 feet. The aquifer hasn't seen this level since June of 2016. If we continue to see rain, we should keep from reaching Stage 1 restrictions for a long time. We'll keep our fingers crossed that we won't be having to cut back for a long, long time. Last January, we started the year off just a few feet from the Stage 1 trigger level, right now we are twenty-six (26) feet above this level.

UPCOMING CITY ELECTION

This year's City Council election is set for Saturday, May 4, 2019. This election is for the purpose of electing Aldermen for Districts 1, 2 & 3. The filing period for anyone interested in running for one of these positions is January 16, 2019 through February 15, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Once we know whether we will have to hold an election in May, we will let you know the days and hours for early voting, which doesn't start until after the April 1st newsletter.

REMINDER:

FIRST DAY FOR FILING APPLICATION FOR PLACE ON CITY BALLOT IS JANUARY 16, 2019 AND THE LAST DAY FOR FILING THIS APPLICATION FOR YOUR NAME TO APPEAR ON MAY 4TH BALLOT IS FEBRUARY 15, 2019 BY 5:00 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The next city event will be Lytle's Annual Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on Saturday, April 20th, from 1-3 pm at John Lott Municipal Park.

The Lytle Veterinary Clinic will be holding its annual rabies drive on, Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

UPDATE ON NEW WATER WELL

Last year at this time, Council had awarded the bid for the drilling of the new water well. In November, Council received the bids for the transmission line and booster pump station to complete this project. These bids may be awarded in January, if all goes well.

BRUSH PICK-UP

Brush pick-up during 2019 will be on every third Monday of each month, just like in 2018. We ask everyone to put their brush out by no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday morning. Customers do not have to call in for this service, as the truck will go down each street one time. If you see the brush pick-up truck coming down your street it is too late to request pick-up, since the truck will not go down a street twice.

PLEASE NOTE: Changes were made by Council last October. These changes include: **Time period** for placing brush, rubbish and bulky waste is **NOW NO EARLIER THAN TEN (10) DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED COLLECTION.** **Location for placing brush, rubbish and bulky waste** is the curbside of the customer's* real property. ***Denotes: Your curbside not your next door neighbor's or neighbor's across the street. If you place your items in front of someone else's property, this is considered littering.**

Please keep in mind that these are the changes as part of the newly amended ordinance, and violating these terms will be a violation that is **punishable by a fine**. Our Code Compliance officer will be working at educating the public on these changes for the first few months of the new year, but once a resident has been warned, and continues to violate this ordinance, he/she will be ticketed. Please keep in mind that the new terms are more lenient when it comes to time period for brush, rubbish & bulky waste to be set out.

For your convenience the new ordinance reads as follows concerning time period and location: **Location of rubbish for collection:** Customers shall place rubbish for collection at the curbside of the customer's real property. Curbside refers to that portion of the right-of-way adjacent to paved or traveled City roadways. Rubbish shall be placed as close to the roadway as practicable without interfering with or endangering the movement of vehicles or pedestrians. Rubbish shall not be placed at the curbside earlier than 10 days before the scheduled collection.

Location of bulky waste for collection: Customers shall place bulky waste for collection at the curbside of the customer's real property. Curbside refers to that portion of the right-of-way adjacent to paved or traveled City roadways. Bulky waste shall be placed as close to the roadway as practicable without interfering with or endangering the movement of vehicles or pedestrians. Bulky waste shall not be placed at the curbside earlier than 10 days before the scheduled collection.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST RESULTS

Christmas decorations in Lytle were judged a few days after the hayride. This year the city held three (3) decoration contests. The winners of these contests are listed below:

BUSINESSES:

- 1st Place- St. Andrew's Catholic Church
- 2nd Place-Patriot Gas, AKA Lytle Propane
- 3rd Place- Tots To Teens Pediatric Dentistry

NON-PROFIT GROUPS:

- 1st Place-Veterans' Memorial Park-VFW Post #12041
- 2nd Place-Lytle Animal Control Facility-Lytle Animal Allies

RESIDENTIAL:

- 1st Place-Leonard & Cheryl Vaughan-corner of FM 2790 N. & CR 681
- 2nd Place-Blanca Duron-Oak Street
- 3rd Place-Diana Lindsay-FM 2790 North

HONORABLE MENTIONS-Michael Rodriguez on Main Street; Mary Carrillo on Wisdom Rd.; Valdemar Martinez on Juarez and Diaz Street in Coal Mine; Daniel Gallegos on Blume Drive; and Domingo Reyes on Lytle-Somerset Road.

PRIZES ARE: 1st place-\$500.00; 2nd place-\$250.00 and 3rd place-\$100.00 for each category and will be awarded at the January City Council meeting on the second Monday of the month.

ANNUAL SANTA’S HAYRIDE A HUGE SUCCESS

This year's hayride was the largest the city has had since it started back in 1999. Tickets and estimates show that approximately 1,400-1,500 people rode on this year's hayride. A lot of work by a lot of people goes into this event. The city would like to take this opportunity to thank several organizations and people for their help with the hayride. Thank you to our great Santa Claus, the Lytle High School National Honor Society, the Lytle VFW, the Lytle VFW Auxiliary, the Lytle Public Works crew, the Lytle Police Department, Lytle Police Auxiliary & Reserves, Lytle Fire Department, Atascosa County Pct. 3 Constable Ricky Luna and four of his deputies, Wayne & Judy Newman, Albert & Virginia Medina, Paula Campa, Donna Burell, Mykenna Burell, all the people furnishing trailers and vehicles for the hayride, and all the people that decorated their homes and properties in time for the hayride. All of your work really paid off this year, as we received so many compliments and promises of making this event an annual tradition and bringing more family members to next year's hayride. This year's hayride saw the best collections ever, as people were so generous with both canned goods and monetary donations. Approximately thirty-one cases of canned goods were collected along with \$576.80. The proceeds of this event go to the Lytle N.H.S., the Lytle VFW Auxiliary and the Lytle Food Pantry. This year's canned goods were exceptional, as people took the holidays into account by donating goods that can be used for Christmas dinner. Also, canned goods that children will love were donated. This food can't come at a better time of the year, and will help make the holidays much better for many, many families. It is wonderful to see a community come together at this time of the year when "goodwill to men" means so much. Thanks again and may everyone have a great Christmas and holiday season.

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR CITY SERVICES

We thought this calendar of monthly important dates for city services might be convenient for everyone:

GARBAGE PICK-UP DATES: RESIDENTS-WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS

UTILITY BILL DUE DATE: 10TH OF EACH MONTH

25TH FOR CUSTOMERS 60 OR OLDER, IF REGISTERED WITH CITY

BRUSH PICK-UP DAY: 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

BULKY WASTE PICK-UP DAY: 4TH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH UNLESS FALLS ON A HOLIDAY (NO MEETING HELD IN DECEMBER)

HOLIDAYS: LISTED IN 1ST PARAGRAPH OF THIS NEWSLETTER

UTILITY CUT-OFF DATE: USUALLY A WEEK (SEVEN (7) DAYS) AFTER THE 11TH WHEN LETTERS ARE MAILED OUT TO DELINQUENT BILL ING UTILITY CUSTOMERS. THIS DAY MAY VARY IF THE 10TH FALLS ON A WEEKEND.

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THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SERVE AS REMINDERS FOR OUR NEW CUSTOMERS:

BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION

This year, City Council amended the building permit ordinance. The new ordinance requires homeowners or their agents to get building permits for any improvements made to the property. Also, included in this ordinance is the requirement of a building permit when a structure is going to be demolished. Below are three paragraphs of this ordinance that are important for everyone to remember.

Section 8-48 of the City of Lytle's Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows

- A) No building or accessory building shall hereafter be moved, erected, or constructed within the corporate limits of the City, and no existing building or accessory building within said corporate limits shall hereafter be structurally altered or an addition added thereto, unless a building permit has first been issued.
- B) A building permit is required to enlarge, alter, demolish, or change the appearance of a structure. The requirement of a building permit includes, but is not limited to, the addition of an accessory structure (including, but not limited to, garages, sheds, and other pre-built structures), the building of fences, decks, carports, gazebos, hot tubs and in-ground and above-ground swimming pools. Children's swimming pools of less than 24 inches deep do not require building permits.
- C) A moving permit from the City Secretary is required before a pre-built structure subject to this Section is moved into the corporate limits of the City.

BRUSH PICK-UP

Your brush will continue to be picked up once a month this next year. **AGAIN, BRUSH PICK-UP IS SCHEDULED FOR THE 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.** Please read prior item concerning location and time period.

BULKY WASTE PICK-UP

Bulky waste is scheduled for the fourth Monday of each month. **REMEMBER THAT BRUSH IS NOT CONSIDERED** bulky waste. Also please remember, do **not** mix in brush with your bulky waste, or it will not be picked up.

CAR LICENSE PLATE STICKERS NO LONGER AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL

Car license plate stickers are **no** longer being sold at the Lytle City Hall. The Atascosa County Tax office is sending their representative to the new Atascosa County Precinct No. 2 Justice of the Peace office instead. Property taxes for Atascosa County can also be paid at that office. We realize this will be a bit of an inconvenience, however, the tax office will be open **every** Wednesday.

The new office is located at 1567 FM 3175, (on the left side of road) just past the Benton City Water office. The phone number for the new office is 830-772-5854. The office hours are: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., with a lunch hour from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. This new office will be a **"full-service"** tax office.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Lytle City Council meets on the second Monday of each month* at 6:30 p.m. at the Lytle City Hall.

*Note-December meeting is **usually** not held due to the holiday season.

CITY OFFICE HOURS

The City Office is open during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The City Hall closes for the lunch hour from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. in order for the office to run as efficiently as possible.

CODE COMPLIANCE

We have a Code Compliance Officer that will continue to drive around the city and see that people comply with the city's ordinances. We ask everyone to keep their lots free of debris and junk vehicles to avoid a visit from the city's code enforcement officer.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

The City Hall accepts credit and debit card payments (Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover.) You may pay your utility bills, taxes, fines, and other fees charged by the city with these four cards in the lobby and the drive-thru window of the City Hall.

DRIVE-THRU WINDOW

We'd like to remind everyone that the drive-thru window at the back of the City Hall building is open for their convenience during the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday and is closed for lunch between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm. We do accept credit card payments at the drive-thru window.

GAS EMERGENCIES

CPS Energy operates and maintains the city's gas system. If you have a gas emergency, please call, (210) 353-HELP (4375) or toll free at 1-800-870-1006.

NIGHT DEPOSIT

A night deposit box is available for the convenience of customers paying utility bills and taxes. This drop box is located next to the drive-thru window at the back of the City Hall building.

ON-LINE UTILITY PAYMENTS

The City of Lytle now has the capability for accepting "on-line" payments for utility bills.

OVERGROWN LOTS & YARDS

We'd like to remind everyone with property in the Lytle City limits that we do have an ordinance prohibiting lots and yards to become overgrown with weeds and debris (that includes old tires). If you are found to be in violation of the city's ordinance you will be notified to correct the situation within seven (7) days of the notice. If you do not clean the property within the allotted time, the city will be forced to send a police officer to issue a citation to you and then file a complaint against you in Municipal Court. This could lead to you being fined for every day your property is not cleaned up. We ask everyone to keep their yards free of weeds, trash and debris to keep our city looking neat and clean.

PHONE SYSTEM AT CITY HALL

The City Hall’s new phone system has been completed, and can make things more efficient for our customers. Also, if the employee you are trying to reach is out of the office or busy, the new voicemail feature, will let you leave a message for that employee.

The options for the new phone system are listed below:

- Option 1 – Utilities (Laura Rodriguez)
- Option 2 – Taxes & Building Permits (Angela Perdue)
- Option 3 – Municipal Court (Diana Salazar)
- Option 4 – Dumpster Service (Virginia Medina)
- Option 5 – Assistant City Secretary (Virginia Medina)
- Option 6 – Payroll (Josie Campa)
- Option 7 – City Secretary (Josie Campa)
- Option 8 – Finances/Accounts Payable (Josie Campa)
- Option 9 – All Other Matters

WEBSITE

Don't forget to visit our website at www.lytle.tx.org. We do update this website as often as possible with important news.

WORK ORDERS

All citizens are urged to call the City Office to turn in work orders for City-related matters. In the past, citizens have told laborers or Council members about things that needed to be done and since they were not in the office, a work order was not written and the work to be done was forgotten.

PLEASE REMEMBER, call the City Office if you have a matter that needs to be tended to.

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IMPORTANT CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Lytle City Hall | (830) 709-3692 |
| Lytle Public Works After Hours | (210) 251-8578 |
| Lytle Police Dept. | (830) 709-0277 |
| Lytle Animal Control | (830) 709-3832 |
| Lytle EMS and Police | (830) 769-3434 or 9-1-1 |
| Lytle Fire Department | (830) 709-2326 or 9-1-1 |
| C.P.S. Energy | (210) 353-HELP (4357) |
| | 1-800-870-1006 – Toll Free |

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MAYOR'S REPORT

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and looking forward to the New Year.

It is truly amazing all the new businesses we have had come to town over the course of the past year. Several have opened and more will be opening in 2019. I think the coming year we will also have some new eating places coming to town which are always welcome. We are continuing to reach out to more of the sit down type restaurants and asking them to give Lytle an opportunity to bring their business to town. We know they would be surprised at how much business they would have.

We will continue working on plans for our downtown area and the Gidley house which will become our museum in the future. This is a project that will benefit our town and visitors who want to learn about the history of Lytle for years to come.

I want to thank our great volunteers for all you did for our community in 2018. Without your help and dedication we could not get many things accomplished. If you would like to help on a project in the coming year please let us know. I want to wish each of you a prosperous New Year.

Thank You
Mayor
Mark L. Bowen