

NEWSLETTER:

2-19



City of Lytle

14916 Main Street
P.O. Box 743
Lytle, Texas 78052
(830) 709-3692 • FAX (830) 772-3212
www.lytletx.org

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

April 1, 2019

CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Please be advised that the Council has a newsletter sent on a quarterly basis to inform and remind the public about important events.

UPCOMING CITY ELECTION

The City will be holding an election on Saturday, May 4th this year. This election is for the purpose of electing an Alderman for District 3. A District 3 map is enclosed for your convenience. Please remember that early voting for this election will be held from April 22nd thru April 30th at the Lytle City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Tuesday, April 23rd and Tuesday, April 30th early voting hours are extended to 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. On Election Day, the polls will also be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Lytle City Hall. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the City Secretary at 830-709-3692 option 7.

ALDERMEN ELECTED

The City Council had also called an election to elect Aldermen for Districts 1 and 2. However, those district races did not receive more than one candidate. Therefore, the Districts 1 and 2 unopposed candidates were declared elected at the March meeting, as per Section 2.053 of the Texas Election Code. Ordinance No. 414 adopted on March 11th. The following were declared elected.

District 1 – Ruben Gonzalez

District 2 – Sam Cortez

UPCOMING SCHEDULED CITY HOLIDAYS

City employees will have a holiday on Friday, April 19th in observance of Good Friday. The Memorial Day holiday falls on Monday, May 27th for the city staff. In observance of Independence Day (4th of July), city employees will be off on Thursday, July 4th.

DELINQUENT CITY TAXES

The 2018 City Taxes became delinquent on February 1st. As of that date, penalty and interest started accruing. We encourage everyone to pay their taxes, if they haven't already done so. Effective July 1st, an additional 20% attorney's fee will be added to all delinquent taxes, so we urge you to pay taxes before that date to avoid the extra fee. Also, our delinquent tax attorney is working at filing more lawsuits, so taxes must be paid to avoid this action. We'd also like to remind all taxpayers, that the city prints its delinquent tax roll in the newspaper. So, all taxes must be paid to avoid having your name appear in the paper.

WATER CONSERVATION

We are happy to report that the level of the Edwards Aquifer is at about twenty-five feet above the conservation trigger point. We are hoping to get some rain soon, so that the Aquifer level stays above the trigger level and we won't have to ask our customers to cut back on water usage.

UPDATE ON NEW WATER WELL

The bid for the transmission line and pump station improvements were let in January, and the city is waiting on the contracts to be executed before starting construction. We hope to have these projects completed within the next six months.

UPDATE ON CITY'S GRANT PROJECT

The work on the water lines for the grant project were completed in January, and the city is now in the process of closing out this grant.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 EASTER EGGS-TRAVAGANZA

This year's Easter Eggs-travaganza is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This egg hunt will be held at John Lott Municipal Park, and is for children from ages 1 to 8. We are excited about this year's event since a few things have been changed to try to make this event better for the kids. We were able to purchase more prizes for this year's event due to shopping sales after Easter last year. We will have over 20,000 eggs on the fields, more than ever before.

As in the years before, the Easter Bunny will make a special appearance at Lytle's Egg Hunt. The H.E.Buddy and Little Caesar have also agreed to visit this year's hunt.

The following is information for this Easter Egg-Travaganza:

Date: Saturday, April 20th
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Place: John Lott Municipal Park
For: Children ages 1 to 8
Registration Fee: 1 canned good or \$1.00 per child

Easter Bunny will arrive at 1:00 p.m. and will hand out candy to kids. Early Bird Prize drawings will start soon after 1:00 p.m. Hunts scheduled to start at 2:00 p.m.

Also there will be a food and drink booth available for those attending.

We encourage everyone to bring their kids, grandkids, nephews, nieces, etc. as this is a fun event for the little ones. Don't forget your cameras!

Also, in July the City will once again sponsor the July 4th Fireworks Display. We haven't started planning this event yet so info on the rest of this event will be made available in the next newsletter, or in the Leader News.

BRUSH PICK-UP

We felt the need to include this in our newsletter once again. 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.** Once a resident has been warned, and continues to violate this ordinance, he/she will be ticketed by the Code Compliance Officer. Please keep in mind that the new terms are more lenient when it comes to time period for brush, rubbish and 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.

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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 IT FALLS ON A HOLIDAY (NO MEETING IN DECEMBER)

HOLIDAYS: USUALLY LISTED IN ONE OF THE FIRST FEW PARAGRAPHS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

UTILITY CUT-OFF DATE: USUALLY A WEEK (SEVEN (7) DAYS) AFTER THE 11TH WHEN LETTERS ARE MAILED OUT TO DELINQUENT BILLING 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

Last 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 will be 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 am - 4:00 pm, with a lunch hour from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. 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 pm 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 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The City Hall closes for the lunch hour between 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 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and is closed for lunch between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. 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 PAYMENTS

The City of Lytle 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.

MAYOR'S REPORT

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and looking forward to spring weather. I know many of you have started or will be starting on that spring garden. Hopefully, along with the nice weather more rain will come and the wild flowers should be great this year.

I encourage each of you to attend our Texas Trash-Off in April. The date and time will be posted in our local newspaper. This event helps us to clean up our town and get it ready for spring. Refreshments will be provided and we will start at the Lytle City Hall. Please support this event.

Looking around town, new businesses are continuing to come and be a part of our community. With several new projects to break ground soon, Lytle continues to be blessed. Hopefully, before long we can land another sit down type restaurant which many citizens ask me about.

I want to thank all our great volunteers that help in our city. Especially the VFW Commander Larry Sanders and his staff of officers, who do an outstanding job and always are there along with their ladies auxiliary to help the city, school or wherever the need is. Thank you!!

Mayor
Mark L. Bowen

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IMPORTANT CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Lytle City	(830) 709-3692
Lytle Public Works	(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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