

NEWSLETTER:

1-20



City of Lytle

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

MAYOR

Mark Bowen

ALDERMEN

Dist. 1-Ruben Gonzalez
 Dist. 2-Sam Cortez
 Dist. 3-Laura Reyna
 Dist. 4-Jerry Stone
 Dist. 5-Ruble Farmer, Jr.

CITY SECRETARY

Josie Campa

January 1, 2020

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 2020. **WE HAVE ENCLOSED A SMALL TOKEN FOR YOU WITH THIS NEWSLETTER TO HELP WITH THE NEW YEAR.**

CITY HOLIDAYS FOR 2020

The City of Lytle holidays for 2020 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 2020.

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New Year's Day	Wednesday, January 1st
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 20th
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 17th
Good Friday	Friday, April 10th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25th
Independence Day	Friday, July 3rd
Labor Day	Monday, September 7th
Columbus Day	Monday, October 12th
Veterans' Day	Wednesday, November 11th
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 26th
Christmas Eve	Friday, November 27th
Christmas	Thursday, December 24th
	Friday, December 25th

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FIREWORKS NOT ALLOWED 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, 2020. 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 that this newsletter was written, the Edwards Aquifer level was at 671.9 feet. We were lucky to not have to declare drought restrictions this year, which was due to the rains we had last fall. We hope we will get more rain to avoid restrictions this next year, but right now we are about fourteen (14) feet below last year's level at the same time.

UPCOMING CITY ELECTION

The 2020 City election will be held on Saturday, May 2nd. This year's election will be for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Aldermen for Districts 4 & 5. Also, Council will be voting in January to hold a local option election at the same time as called for in the recent petition. This election is for the purpose of determining whether restaurants will be allowed to sell mixed drinks.

FILING PERIOD DATES FOR LYTLE'S GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 2, 2020

All interested parties have been notified that the filing period for the City's General Election being held on Saturday, May 2, 2020 starts January 15, 2020 and ends February 14, 2020. Please check the city's website for more info on this matter.

UPDATE ON NEW WATER WELL

At the time this newsletter is being written, the new transmission line for the new water well has been completed. The next step is acidizing the well in hopes of increasing the number of gallons per minute the well will produce. We hope to have this completed some time in January, and have the well ready for next summer.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST RESULTS

Christmas decorations in Lytle were judged the night of the hayride. The winners of these contests were as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| BUSINESSES: | 1 st Place- St. Andrew's Catholic Church |
| | 2 nd Place-Tots To Teens Pediatric Dentistry |
| | 3 rd Place- Saddle Bum Trucking |
| NON-PROFIT GROUPS: | 1 st Place- VFW Post #12041 for decorating Veterans' Memorial Park |
| | 2 nd Place-Lytle Chamber of Commerce for decorating at the HEB corner |
| RESIDENTIAL: | 1 st Place- Leonard & Cheryl Vaughan-CR 681 @ FM 2790 N. |
| | 2 nd Place-William Northern-Blume Drive |
| | 3 rd Place- Blanca Duron- Oak Street |

HONORABLE MENTIONS were as follows: Diana Lindsay on FM 2790 N.; Daniel Gallegos-Blume Drive; Michael Simpson-Blume Drive; Kevin & Michelle Keith-Blume Drive; Mary Carrillo-Wisdom Road; Robert Hunt-S. Somerset Street; Christina Vega-S. Somerset Street; Domingo Reyes-Lytle-Somerset Road; Joe Cuellar-N. Prairie Street; and Patty Pressley-N. Prairie Street. Prizes will be awarded at the January Council meeting.

ANNUAL SANTA'S HAYRIDE A HUGE SUCCESS

This year's hayride was the largest the city has had since this event was started back in 1999. Approximately 1,800 participated in this year's ride. As you know there is a lot of work that goes in to an event like this and it takes a lot of people to pull this off. At this time, the City wishes to thank all of the people helping with this year's hayride. We'd like to thank the following: Public Works' Dept. & Public Works' Director James McGrath; Police Department personnel; Lytle VFW Post #12041; Lytle VFW Post #12041 Auxiliary; Lytle ISD National Honor Society & sponsor Hannahlore Mueller; Lytle Fire Department; Mayhew Farms; Wayne & Judy Newman; Santa Claus; Paula Campa; Donna Burell; MyKenna Burell; and Albert & Virginia Medina.

Special thanks to the people donating their trucks and trailers for this event. We simply could not carry off this event without their help. This hayride proved to be the most successful not only in number of people attending, but also in amount of food collected (44 cases) & money collected (\$642.84). The food was donated to area food pantries at a time when people can really use it (the holidays). It is always heart warming to be able to help others and to see the community come together especially at this time of the year. Our thanks again to everyone that worked to make this event successful.

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

Lytle Annual Easter Eggs-Travaganza is the next city event being held. This year's egg hunt will be held on Saturday, April 11th at the John Lott Municipal Park.

RABIES VACCINATION DRIVE

This year's Rabies Vaccination Drive being held by the Lytle Veterinary Clinic is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 4, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at their business located on Main Street (aka Hwy 132).

NEW BUSINESSES FOR LYTLE

Burger King opened its doors on November 15th and is planning its grand opening in a few months. We will let you know when the exact date is as soon as we know.

Since the last newsletter, Guy's and Gal's Hair Salon opened at 14610 Main Street (next to Culebra Meat Market).

Also, Tejas Portable Buildings of Lytle had its grand opening on November 16th. This business is located at 15033 Main Street, Suite 104.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SERVE AS REMINDERS FOR OUR NEW CUSTOMERS:

BRUSH PICK-UP

We felt the need to include this in our newsletter once again. Brush pick-up will be on every third Monday of each month, just like in 2019. 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.

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.

BULKY WASTE PICK-UP

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

CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Page 5

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.

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 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.

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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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LARGE ANIMALS & FOWL PROHIBITED IN THE CITY WITHOUT PERMIT

In Chapter 6 of the City's Code of Ordinance, large animals and fowl are addressed and unless a property owner has gotten a permit from City Hall they are **PROHIBITED**.

So, if any resident of Lytle is housi9ng large animals such as cows, donkeys, goats, horses, sheep, pigs and other four-footed mammals and/or fowl such as chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys and other birds you are in violation of our city ordinance. You are required to get a permit in order to be able to keep these animals in the city. Also, it is another violation to allow your animals to run at large within the city limits. This violation is a misdemeanor, so you could receive a ticket and have to appear in Municipal Court.

Also, be aware that some permits will not be issue to house such animals if we are already receiving complaints from your neighbors.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO BE CONSIDERATE OF THEIR NEIGHBORS ESPECIALLY SINCE WE ALL LIVE IN CLOSE PROXIMATEY OF EACH OTHER.

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.

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 2020. I think this 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 2019. 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 healthy and prosperous New Year.

Thank You
Mayor
Mark L. Bowen

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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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