

The Windmill

News From City Hall



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CITY COUNCIL
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PAUL CLARK
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STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

As previously reported, the City of Clearwater in conjunction with Wichita State University initiated a process to create a Strategic Plan for the City of Clearwater. The ongoing process has reached its halfway mark.

On November 29th a Community Wide Open House was held with citizens providing input on broad themes developed by the Strategic Planning Committee. Having received that input the hard work will start in January of drilling down information garnered from the Open House and other Stakeholder meetings that have been held.

Look for a second Open House and Survey to be introduced to the public in the coming months. This will be the communities opportunity to rank and score those goals and objectives created by the feedback from the first open house.

The Strategic Plan will serve as a roadmap for our future. Helping the Governing Body prioritize where tax dollars are spent and citizen involvement and input is a key part to the plans success.



DOWNTOWN STEETLIGHT PROJECT

In January, the City Council authorized staff to proceed with developing plans for a Downtown Streetlight Project. The request for the project came from a grass-roots effort of citizens, who have requested that lights be placed in the downtown area similar to those lights that were placed in city park.

Staff will be working with engineers, designers and those interested citizens to create a plan with the intentions of having the project completed by the Fall Festival in September. Look for more updates as the plan progresses.

New Officers Hired

Clearwater PD has hired two new police officers in January. Each officer will begin field training in Clearwater and attend the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center this year.

Al Daniels is a Clearwater resident, who has previous experience as an MP in the Army and National Guard.

Victor Heiar has spent the last six years working with the Sedgwick County Jail, earning exemplary reviews and commendations.



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City Administrator

Justin Givens

City Clerk

Courtney Meyer

Deputy City Clerk

Carol Reitberger

Utility Billing

Sharon Lampe

UTILITY BILLING ONLINE

In late 2016, the Governing Body approved the option of paying city utility bills online. Since that approval, staff has been working with our IT company and Utility Billing vendor to create an online payment system. Beginning in March 2017, that system will be available for customers to use.

The utility billing online service will allow the City of Clearwater customers to view current statements, account history, past water usage, pay utility bills online, and more. Customers may continue to make payments through the mail, over the phone, the drop box, or in person at City Hall.

The city is also working with our Utility Billing vendor to create a paperless bill. That feature would allow customers to choose an electronic bill versus the traditional mailed bill which would save costs in both printing and mailing for the city. That service should be available in mid 2017.



Flowers for Friends

The Clearwater Senior Center is will be offering carnations for \$1.50 per flower for Valentines Day.

The flowers should be pre-ordered thru the Senior Center and will be available for pick-up or delivery (delivery charge extra)

The project will help support programs at the Senior Center.

For more information contact the Senior Center at 584.2332.

Special thanks to Iris Blossoms in Clearwater for providing the flowers.

CITY WEBSITE UPDATE

In January, staff presented to the City Council, options for new website hosting and design firms for the City’s website. The Council approved Civic Plus as the new website design and host company for our website. Staff is excited to work with Civic Plus to re-design the website, giving it a more modern look and having the option to provide more interactive information and details.

One of the key elements of the Civic Plus website is a notification system. Residents will be able to select either SMS or e-mail notifications for routine update from the city as well as emergency notifications, such as weather or storm warnings, road closures or water main breaks.

The re-design is expected to take approximately 4 to 6 months before the new website is live but promises to have a much cleaner, user friendly look and increased accessibility.