

# CITY HALL NEWS

## Administrative News

Please welcome Audra Spencer as the Municipal Court Clerk. Also please welcome Sabrina Bozeman as Deputy City Clerk. Veronica Scoffield has done a great job as Municipal Court Clerk. She will continue assisting in that area, but will now transition into being cross-trained on other duties, such as the City Clerk, and Finance Office duties. She will also assist in the Deputy City Clerk position.

## Financial Education Workshop

There will be a workshop held at the City of Vinita Park in the Court Chambers on Thursday, April 23rd 2015 from 11:30am-12:00pm titled "Financial Fitness: Cash Flow, Estate, Tax, Saving and Investment Planning". Andrew Hall from the Foundation for Financial Education will be presenting the workshop which will touch briefly on several points, including cash flow management, basics of tax planning, creating a financial road map, an introduction to estate planning, overcoming obstacles to creating wealth, maximum savings, and an investment plan.

The Foundation for Financial Education is a 501C3 non-profit organization dedicated to spreading financial literacy by providing free educational resources directly to the public.

## Payments to City Hall

The forms of payments to the City of Vinita Park must be cash, money orders, or a business check.

No personal checks will be accepted for payment.

We apologize for any inconvenience

## Code Adoption

Ordinance No. 1247 Adoption of the National Electrical Code/2008, NFPA 70 and Ordinance No. 1248 Adoption of the International Code Council (ICC) Codes were passed at the March 16, 2015 Board Meeting. The following code books will be on file at the City Hall for public to view: 1 2009 ICC code Book and 2 2008 National Electrical Code (NEC)

## BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Once you have gathered the supplies for a basic emergency kit, you may want to consider adding the following items:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a water proof, portable container. You can use the Emergency Financial First Aid Kit - EFFAK (PDF - 977Kb) developed by Operation Hope, FEMA and Citizen Corps to help you organize your information.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or free information from this web site. (See Publications)
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted, nine parts water to

one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.

- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 1 – Municipal Court, Wednesday, 10:00 am
- April 1 – Street Sweeping, Wednesday
- April 2 – Street Sweeping, Thursday
- April 3 – Yard Waste Pickup
- April 5 – Easter Sunday
- April 7 – Municipal Elections, Tuesday
- April 7 – Trash & Recycle Pickup
- April 8 – Street Sweeping
- April 9 – Street Sweeping
- April 10 – Yard Waste Pickup
- April 14 – Trash & Recycle Pickup
- April 15 – Street Sweeping
- April 15 – Municipal Court, Wednesday, 10:00 am
- April 16 – Street Sweeping
- April 17 – Yard Waste Pickup
- April 20 – Board of Alderman Meeting, Monday, 6:30 pm
- April 21 – Trash & Recycle Pickup
- April 22 – Street Sweeping
- April 23 – Street Sweeping
- April 24 – Yard Waste Pickup
- April 28 – Trash & Recycle Pickup
- April 29 – Street Sweeping
- April 30 – Street Sweeping



## VINITA PARK CITY HALL

8374 MIDLAND  
(314)428-7373  
FAX: (314)428-7379  
MONDAY – FRIDAY  
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

## MAYOR

James W. McGee  
426-5529

## COLLECTOR

Jeanette Carridine  
428-7373

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN

### WARD 1

Brian Gremaud  
922-0885

Richard Redel  
368-2329

### WARD 2

Wanda Fairley  
395-7028

Ora Stokes  
429-6863

### WARD 3

Celeste McGee  
426-5529

Dennis Hayden  
276-6188



Leading The Way In St. Louis County

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2015 VOLUME 2015:02 NEWS WORTH KNOWING

## WORDS FROM THE MAYOR

I would like to thank Ms. Stokes along with Ms. Fairley and Mr. Redel for our senior citizen luncheon. That was a huge success. In addition, I would like to thank our seniors for coming out and filling the Easter Eggs: they filled over a thousand eggs. I would also like to thank Alderwoman Wanda Fairley and her committee for a job well done in organizing the Easter Egg Hunt for our children, which was a big success.

As Mayor of City of Vinita Park, I've traveled to Jefferson City seven weeks in a row. We have launched a united voice of local elected officials in the State Capitol. The Missouri Local Leader partnership has an omit membership of nearly nine thousand local elected officials. Together the Missouri Local Leader partnership is a powerful united voice of local elected leaders closest to the communities where we live, work, raise families, and contribute to our State's progress and quality of life. We support common priorities and principals that together provide a constructive vision for a community served by thousands of elected members statewide. These principles include:

- 1 Supporting strong local decision making, authority, and accountability.
- 2 Promote a sound economic policy at all levels of Missouri Government.
- 3 Preserving and strengthening the quality of life in our community
- 4 Protecting the safety of our neighbors and all Missourians

The Missouri Local Leadership Partnership supports a comprehensive review of our state tax policies. The first legislative

issue that our partnership supports is Senate Bill 15 which will create a study commission on State tax policy.

I want to say thank you to all of the residents who traveled to Jefferson City and stood up for our children. The letters written to Congressman Clay and the legislators in Jefferson City were also very much appreciated. All of that has made a huge impact in Jefferson City for our local government.

Our Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) Program has started to remove all dead trees in the area.

We ask that you continue to work together to make Vinita Park a strong community by engaging our families and successful children.

**James W. McGee**  
Mayor/City Administrator

# YOUR ALDERMEN'S CORNER



## Happy Easter Vinita Park

Wishing all of you a very blessed Easter. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. I hope the spirit of Easter brings you Peace, Love, and Happy Living.

The Chamber of Commerce Job Fair for the Military

**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015

**Where:** Machinists Building in Bridgeton, MO

**Time:** 9:30am.

This job fair is for our Military who are seeking jobs. Come join us for a Job Fair at the Machinists Building on St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton. President John F. Kennedy once said "I look forward to a great future for America, a future in which our country will match its military strength with our moral restraint, its wealth with our wisdom, its power with our purpose". Our Military and Veterans do so much for our country. They protect and service us all so that we can be free. Let's remember them and support them.

Constantly working hard for progress and stable leadership in our community.

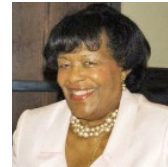
**Celeste McGee**  
3rd Ward Alderman

## Hello Ward 2

I hope you've had a wonderful Easter. Please don't forget to vote on April 7, 2015. We have a lot of things going on in our community (Vinita Park). If you need help paying your utility bills, you can call the Community Action Agency at 314-863-0015 from 8:00am-5:00pm Monday-Friday. Beyond Housing is accepting home repair applications, please call 314-918-9918. Come up on April 20th at 6:30pm Monday to voice your opinion

at your City Hall meeting. I would like to thank the Police Department, Public Works, and the City Clerk for doing a wonderful job.

**Wanda Fairley**  
Alderwoman, Ward II



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**Wanda Fairley**  
Alderwoman, Ward II



## Hello Ward 1

Spring Season Safety  
As we start to go into spring, remember these seasonal safety tips...

With daylight savings upon us, the mornings are dark; please be aware of pedestrians at cross walks, intersections, and parking lots.

During hours of dawn, dusk, and dark, do not forget to turn your headlights on. Also check to make sure they are functioning daily.

During rain, keep headlights and wipers on at all times.

Slow down and maintain a safe distance between vehicles in rainy/wet conditions.

Wipe feet off on mats and shake water off umbrellas prior to entering buildings when raining.

At home, with the changes of the clocks, test your smoke detectors and change the batteries.

**Alderman Redel**  
Ward One

# PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

## TRIM Program

We have 16 trees that will be cut down by April 15, 2015. A portion of the funding for this project was made available through the Missouri Department of Conservation's Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) Program.

## Rate Increase Notice Effective February 1, 2015 Residential/Commercial Inspection & Occupancy Permits

- **One Hundred Dollars (\$100)** for the initial residential inspection
- **One Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$125)** for the initial commercial inspection
- **No Charge** for the first residential or commercial re-inspection
- **Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75)** for the 2nd re-inspection of the same residential or commercial property, including fire marshal's re-inspection
- **Fifty Dollars (\$50)** for fire inspection for each new commercial occupancy inspection
- **Fifty Dollars (\$50)** for the occupancy permit sale property
- **Forty Dollars (\$40)** for the occupancy permit for residential rental property
- **Fifty Dollars (\$50)** for commercial occupancy permit
- **Fifteen Dollars (\$15)** for a copy of any type of occupancy permit
- **Fifty Dollars (\$50)** for an amended copy of any type of occupancy permit

# PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

## Park Reservations

• **Thirty Dollars (\$30)** reservation fee for residents of Vinita Park plus one hundred dollars (\$100) refundable deposit

• **Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75)** reservation fee for non-residents of Vinita Park plus one hundred dollars (\$100) refundable deposit

## Pet Tags

• **Ten Dollars (\$10)**

## Occupancy Inspection and Permit Required

It shall be unlawful for any person or family to occupy or for any owner or agent to permit the occupant of any building or dwelling of a unit, until the

inspection is complete and an occupancy permit has been issued. The occupancy permit shall not be issued until all violations on the property have been brought into compliance.

## Street Sweeper

The street sweeper will operate from April 1st through December 1st.

## Trees & Limbs

Please call Ameren UE (1-800-552-7583) if any limbs on your property are on electrical lines.

## Trash Containers

Please remember to remove your trash/recycle/yard waste containers from the curb the same day service is rendered to avoid receiving a citation. In addition, you may contact

Republic Services (636-947-5959) to receive a trash container.

## Leaves/Yard Waste

Yard waste pickup will be every Friday. Please use the yard waste container or brown yard waste bags. Please do not rake leaves into the streets.

**Gerald B. French**  
Public Works Director

# POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Greetings

We had a great time at the Easter Egg Hunt get together. Thanks to all the officers who took time away from their families at home to spend time with their Vinita Park family. We are blessed to be able to share these events with our wonderful citizens.

Officer Susie Lorthridge, Officer Robert Wiley, Officer Malik Moonchild, and Officer Colten Brown were all presented awards by the Mayor and Board of Alderman for their outstanding work in February and March. Often times these officers come in on their off time to help out with different events. Thanks to them for being such outstanding employees. They are a great asset to Vinita Park.

We have experienced a few identity thefts in the recent weeks. Please remember to never give out your personal information if you do not

know the person/entity with whom you're speaking. If you get an email, phone call, letter, or other type of contact and you are asked for your social security number or other personal information please be careful. If you don't trust them or if you simply don't understand why they need the information, don't give it out. In these cases, it is truly better to be safe than sorry!!! If you believe someone has contacted you with ill intent, please contact the police department and report the issue.

Movie Nights are coming!!! Stay tuned for dates and times!!!

Our safety belt warning initiative has proved very successful. We have issued over 150 warnings for drivers and front seat passengers not wearing a safety belt. I have received numerous calls from people who received the warnings stating they were very happy to be getting a warning simply reminding them to wear their safety belt. Our officers did a great job working with

the citizens in making this a great program.

Officer Susie Lorthridge has been named Officer of the Month for March 2015. Officer Lorthridge was a Sargent at a nearby agency when we hired her. She has only been with us for a short time, but her knowledge, experience, and the way she works with the citizens has not gone unnoticed. Her commitment to patrolling the neighborhoods has really helped avert crime. She deals with children very well and loves to talk with the residents. Officer Lorthridge will continue to be a great asset to Vinita Park and we are lucky to have her.

**Sincerely,**  
**Chief Tim Swope**