

NEWSLETTER:

1-18



## City of Lytle

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 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

January 1, 2018

### 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 2018.

### CITY HOLIDAYS FOR 2018

The City of Lytle holidays for 2018 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.

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New Year's Day	Monday, January 1st
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 15th
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 19th
Good Friday	Friday, March 30th
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28th
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4th
Labor Day	Monday, September 3rd
Veterans' Day	Monday, November 12th
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 22nd
	Friday, November 23rd
Christmas Eve	Monday, December 24th
Christmas	Tuesday, December 25th

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### **FIREWORKS BANNED IN CITY**

Fireworks in the City of Lytle are **banned** 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, 2018. 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.

### **BRUSH PICK-UP**

Brush pick-up during 2018 will be on every third Monday of each month, just like in 2017. We ask everyone to put their brush out by no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday morning. We urge everyone to not put out brush earlier than the weekend before pick-up is scheduled. 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. Again, we remind everyone to keep brush in their back yards until the weekend before brush pick-up starts.

### **WATER CONSERVATION**

At the time of this newsletter, it looks like we will avoid going back into Stage 1 water restrictions for the rest of 2017. We were lucky that we were in the Stage 1 Critical Period only sixty-one (61) days of this past year. However, we may not be so lucky next year, as it looks like we will start 2018 just a few feet above the trigger level for Stage 1 restrictions. We ask everyone to help the city by not wasting water.

### **UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL ELECTION**

This year's City Council election will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2018. The 2018 City election will be for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Aldermen for Districts 4 & 5. Early voting for this election will be held from April 23<sup>rd</sup> thru May 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Lytle City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 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. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the City Secretary at 830-709-3692 option 7. The filing period for the City of Lytle's General Election being held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 is the following:

JANUARY 17, 2018-FIRST DAY FOR FILING APPLICATION FOR PLACE ON BALLOT  
THROUGH  
FEBRUARY 16, 2018 (5:00 PM)-LAST DAY FOR FILING APPLICATION FOR PLACE ON BALLOT

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The next city event will be Lytle's Annual Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 1-3 pm at John Lott Municipal Park.

The Lytle Veterinary Clinic will be holding its annual rabies drive on Saturday, March 24, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST RESULTS**

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

**BUSINESSES:**                   1<sup>st</sup> Place- St. Andrew's Catholic Church  
  2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Tots To Teens Pediatric Dentistry  
  3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Lytle Propane

**NON-PROFIT GROUPS:**   1<sup>st</sup> Place-Lytle Animal Control Facility-Lytle Animal Allies  
  2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Lytle Veterans' Park-Lytle VFW Post #12041 & Auxiliary  
  3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Lytle State Bank-Lytle High School National Honor Society

**RESIDENTIAL:**                   1<sup>st</sup> Place-Blanca Duron-Oak St.  
  2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Leonard & Cheryl Vaughan on CR 681 @FM 2790 N.  
  3<sup>rd</sup> Place-William Northern family on Blume Dr.

**HONORABLE MENTIONS-**Valdemar Martinez family on Diaz & Juarez Streets in Coal Mine; Daniel Gallegos family on Blume Dr.; Debbie & Robert Hunt on Somerset St.; Betty Cortez on Main St. @ McDonald; Michael Rodriguez family on Main St.; Sherry Morrow on Lytle Somerset St.; and Domingo & Guadalupe Reyes on Lytle Somerset St.

**PRIZES ARE:** 1<sup>st</sup> place-\$500.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> place-\$250.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 in the past ten (10) years. Tickets and estimates show that approximately 1,200 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, 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. A special thank you to Mayor Mark Bowen and the Lytle City Council for allowing the city staff to work on bringing this event to Lytle, its kids and visitors from the surrounding areas. This year's hayride saw the best collections ever, as people were so generous with both canned goods and monetary donations. Approximately twenty-eight cases of canned goods were collected along with \$559.00. The proceeds of this event go to the Lytle N.H.S., the Lytle VFW Auxiliary for the food pantry they work with 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 "good will to men" means so much. Thanks again and may everyone have a great Christmas and holiday season.

**NEW WATER WELL**

The City awarded the bid for the new water well at the November City Council meeting. Construction should start after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, and take about one hundred twenty (120) days. After the well has been completed, the city will get started on the long transmission line.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SERVE AS REMINDERS FOR OUR NEW CUSTOMERS:**

**BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED**

The City of Lytle requires its residents and business owners to get building permits prior to starting building projects, whether it's a new dwelling, addition to dwelling or business, swimming pool, gazebo, deck, storage shed, etc. If you do not get a building permit prior to starting construction, the cost of the permit will be doubled. We urge everyone to comply with the city's building ordinance.

**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.

Bulky waste includes old furniture, mattresses and other household items. Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, tires, large box screen tvs and paint are not picked up due to environmental issues. Also, construction debris is **not** included as part of bulky waste pick-up.

**AGAIN, WE URGE EVERYONE TO PLACE BULKY WASTE AT CURBSIDE THE WEEKEND PRIOR TO THE START DATE, SO WE DO NOT HAVE THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAYS LOOKING DIRTY AND UGLY FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME. ALSO, REMEMBER TO PLACE YOUR BULKY WASTE WHERE IT DOES NOT CAUSE A PROBLEM FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS, OR FOR PEOPLE DRIVING DOWN YOUR STREET.**

**CAR LICENSE PLATE STICKERS NO LONGER AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL**

Car license plate stickers are no longer being sold at the Lytle City Hall, effective, September 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 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.

**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

**UTILITY ON-LINE PAYMENTS**

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

**WEBSITE**

Don't forget to visit our website at [www.lytle.tx.org](http://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. The new apartments located over by McDonald's will be opening in the spring time. They are much needed in our community. It is obvious Lytle has been truly blessed and the coming year is looking very good.

Our downtown revitalization group will be working on plans in 2018 for our downtown area and the Gidley house which will become our Museum. 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 2017, especially our local VFW group and commander Larry Sanders who did an excellent job. 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 Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Thank You  
Mayor  
Mark L. Bowen