

NEWSLETTER:

2-18



## 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, 2018

### 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 CANCELLED

The City was scheduled to hold an election on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of electing two Aldermen for Districts 4 and 5, and a Mayor. However, since only the incumbents filed for office and there was no opposition, this election has been cancelled, as per Section 2.053 of the Texas Election Code. Ordinance Number 403 adopted at the March 12, 2018 Council meeting declares the following elected:

Jerry T. Stone – District 4 Alderman  
Ruble P Farmer, Jr. – District 5 Alderman  
Mark L. Bowen – Mayor

### NEXT SCHEDULED CITY HOLIDAY

Since Easter was early this year, the City will not have a holiday for employees in April. The next scheduled holiday is Memorial Day, which will be on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that the City Hall and other city buildings will be closed on that day. Garbage dumpsters will be picked up on this holiday.

### DELINQUENT CITY TAXES

The 2017 City Taxes became delinquent on February 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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**

At the time this newsletter is being written, the EAA has **not** declared a critical period stage for the Edwards Aquifer. However, at the time this newsletter was being written the aquifer level was at five feet above the trigger level for Stage 1. Hopefully, we will get some spring showers to keep us from having to impose Stage 1 restrictions. We ask everyone to listen to the local news or television, as they address the aquifer situation everyday on their weather forecasts. We'll keep our fingers crossed and/or say a prayer that we won't have to start conserving any time soon.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT – THE “ZIKA” VIRUS**

As most of you are aware of, the Zika virus is still a health threat in Texas. Therefore, the Texas Department of State Health Services has reached out to communities to ask their assistance in trying to educate the public about this deadly infection. The State has also asked for the City to take measures to help protect the community from the Zika virus.

The City will be monitoring mosquito activity more closely and has already ordered fogging for mosquitos to start to try and accelerate mosquito abatement. The City has also purchased larvicide to place around town where water tends to stand for a long period of time. The City is also asking people to assist in letting us know about areas of concern. The City has already reached out to the school district to assist with this endeavor.

Below are steps individuals can take in and around their own homes to help protect themselves and help the community to reduce potential mosquito breeding habitats:

1. At least weekly empty or get rid of cans, buckets, old tires, pots, plant saucers and other containers that hold water.
2. Keep gutters clear of debris and standing water.
3. Remove standing water around structures and from flat roofs.
4. Change water in pet dishes daily.
5. Rinse and scrub vases and other indoor water containers weekly.
6. Change water in wading pools and bird baths several times a week.
7. Maintain backyard pools or hot tubs.
8. Cover trash containers.
9. Water lawns and gardens carefully so water does not stand for several days.
10. Screen rain barrels and openings to water tanks or cisterns.
11. Treat front and back door areas of homes with residual insecticides if mosquitos are abundant nearby.
12. If mosquito problems persist, consider pesticide applications for vegetation around the home.

Here is a list of measures individuals can take to protect themselves from mosquito bites. They are as follows:

1. Wear insect repellent.
2. Cover up with long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
3. Keep mosquitos out with air conditioning or intact window screens.
4. Limit outdoor activities during peak mosquito times.

We encourage everyone to help our city to address the threat of the Zika virus in Texas. Together, we can reduce the impact of Zika and other mosquito borne diseases. We will take this opportunity to thank everyone in advance for your assistance in this very important public health matter.

**UPDATE ON NEW WATER WELL**

By the time this newsletter reaches you, drilling of the new water well will have started. We will keep our fingers crossed and say some prayers, in hopes that this project will proceed without too many problems.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY REHABILITATION**

The Lytle Wastewater Treatment Facility recently underwent some renovations. The lift station at the plant was rehabilitated and a pump was replaced. We hope this help's the city's sewer plant work more efficiently. **PLEASE SEE GREEN INSERT FOR NOTICE CONCERNING DISPOSABLE WIPES AND THE CITY'S SEWER FACILITY.**

**UPDATE ON CITY'S GRANT PROJECT**

Construction has started on some of the city's older water lines. This project should be completed within the next 3 to 4 months. Hopefully, the contractor will not disturb existing lines and cause water outages for us. This project will improve water pressure for several areas of the city and will help our Public Works' department from having to repair water leaks.

**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.**

## CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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### **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 CARDS 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.

### **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.

**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 will come more rain 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 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 the new apartment project near McDonald's is very near completion. With several new projects to break ground soon. These new construction projects will help in changing Lytle in a positive way. Lytle continues to be blessed.

Thank you again for all your support.

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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