

NEWSLETTER:

3-19



## 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-Laura Reyna  
Dist. 4-Jerry Stone  
Dist. 5-Ruble Farmer, Jr.

CITY SECRETARY  
Josie Campa

July 1, 2019

### 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 matters.

### UPCOMING CITY HOLIDAYS

As mentioned in the last newsletter, city employees will have a holiday on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day. Please mark these holidays on your calendar.

The next holiday that city employees are also scheduled to have is Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> off in observance of Labor Day.

### FIREWORKS BANNED IN CITY LIMITS

A reminder to our residents and customers that the use of fireworks is illegal in the city limits of Lytle. The Police Department will be patrolling for fireworks in the city after all the complaints they received for New Year's Day celebrations. If you are caught **USING** fireworks you could be given a ticket for violating our city ordinance.

We urge everyone to obey the law by **NOT** lighting fireworks during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. We haven't had enough rain recently to help lessen the chance for fires, so please don't be increasing these chances by setting off fireworks.

**AGAIN, IT IS ILLEGAL TO SET OFF FIREWORKS INSIDE THE CITY.**

### NOTICE TO DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS

At the June 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, Council voted unanimously to have the City's delinquent tax roll printed in the City's official newspaper, The Leader News. The City's delinquent tax roll reflects all taxes due after June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have not paid your taxes for 2018, as of this date, your name will appear in the Leader News. Soon after July 1<sup>st</sup>, the City will start work on preparing their delinquent tax roll for publication. **TO AVOID HAVING YOUR NAME APPEAR ON THE CITY'S DELINQUENT TAX ROLL AND IN THE PAPER, WE URGE YOU TO PAY YOUR TAXES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

### **NEW COUNCIL PERSON ELECTED**

In our last newsletter, we told everyone that an election would be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> to elect an Alderperson for District 3. At this election, Laura Reyna defeated the incumbent Jamie Dahler by a vote of 21 to 18. Therefore, for the next two (2) years, Mrs. Reyna will be serving for the District 3 area. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jamie Dahler for her years of service on the City Council. We also take this opportunity to welcome Laura Reyna to the Council. It is really nice to see ladies that want to serve their city.

### **WATER CONSERVATION**

We are happy to report that at this time, the aquifer level is more than twenty (20) feet above the Stage 1 trigger level. Therefore, we are not asking our customers to cut back on their water usage at this time.

### **UPDATE ON NEW WELL**

At the present time, we are waiting for work to start on the transmission line for the new well. Again, we are hoping to get this project and the pump station improvements completed in the next few months.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY**-The City will once again hold its annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. This year's celebration will be held on Thursday, the 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 7 P.M. The City will have hotdogs, drinks, chips and snacks. We will once again have inflatables for the kids to enjoy and we will also have a face painter and balloon twister on hand to add to the fun. These items will be "first come, first served", so if you want to enjoy these we encourage you to get to the park before 8 P.M. The fireworks are scheduled to be set off at approximately 9:30 P.M. We ask everyone to bring their own lawn chairs and blankets for this event. A separate insert about this event is enclosed with your newsletter for your convenience and as a reminder.

### **ZIKA VIRUS UPDATE**

We are happy to report that at the time this newsletter was being written, **NO** reports of Zika virus disease have been confirmed in the State of Texas for 2019.

However, it is mosquito season, so we will take this opportunity to warn people to be careful. Also, remember the **TOP THREE** ways to prevent Zika are:

1. Apply EPA-approved insect repellent;
2. Remove standing water in cans, bottles, buckets, tires, wheel barrows or any container that holds water; and
3. Wear clothing that covers hands, arms, legs and exposed skin. This can include hats with mosquito netting and socks to cover your ankles.

**UPDATE ON NEW BUSINESSES**  
**COMING TO LYTLE**

We have been receiving a lot of calls about the building going up next to the Sonic, so we would like everyone to know that a **BURGER KING** is in the works. We are being told that this should be ready by the end of the summer.

Also, we have heard that our dentist of many years, Dr. Cynthia Carter, DDS has decided to retire and has sold her business. We wish her the best for her future. We would like to welcome James Houston, DDS who has purchased Dr. Carter's business. It will be great keeping a dentist in Lytle.

**LARGE ANIMALS & FOWL PROHIBITED IN THE CITY**

Over the past month, we have had complaints from people about their neighbors having large animals and/or fowl that are creating a nuisance.

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 housing 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 issued 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.**

**BRUSH PICK-UP**

We felt the need to include this in our newsletter once again. Brush pick-up during 2019 will be on every third Monday of each month, just like in 2018. 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.

**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 and bulky waste to be set out.

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.

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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:** 10<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH, 25<sup>TH</sup> FOR CUSTOMERS 60 OR OLDER, IF REGISTERED WITH CITY

**BRUSH PICK-UP DAY:** 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

**BULKY WASTE PICK-UP DAY:** 4<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE:** 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH UNLESS IT FALLS ON A HOLIDAY (NO MEETING IN DECEMBER)

**HOLIDAYS:** USUALLY LISTED IN ONE OF THE FIRST FEW PARAGRAPHS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

**UTILITY CUT-OFF DATE:** USUALLY A WEEK (SEVEN (7) DAYS) AFTER THE 11<sup>TH</sup> WHEN LETTERS ARE MAILED OUT TO DELINQUENT BILLING UTILITY CUSTOMERS. THIS DAY MAY VARY IF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> FALLS ON A WEEKEND.

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

**BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION**

Last 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.

**BRUSH PICK-UP**

Your brush will continue to be picked up once a month this next year. **AGAIN, BRUSH PICK-UP IS SCHEDULED FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.** Please read prior item concerning location and time period.

**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.

**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 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.

### **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 PAYMENTS**

The City of Lytle 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.lytletx.org](http://www.lytletx.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 summer. We have been blessed with rains this year and most yards and gardens look great.

Currently the new Burger King is being built across from HEB. We will update on the grand opening so you can be sure to attend a fun event.

We will be having our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July firework show at the Lytle City Park this year on July 4<sup>th</sup> so we can bring in our 243<sup>rd</sup> year of independence. Please plan on attending; it should be the best firework show yet along with free hotdogs, chips and drinks to the first 1200 there. Lytle's VFW will be cooking the hotdogs along with the ladies auxiliary serving them. The VFW continues to do an outstanding job in our community.

Please remember our annual paws of summer event. This is a great event to help our animals along with getting to bid on some great items for your home. The event this year will be on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Lytle Community Center with doors opening at 5 P.M.

I want to thank our great volunteers for all you do for our community. Without your help and dedication we could not get many things accomplished. If you would like to help on future projects please let us know.

Thank You.

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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