

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

June 26, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 26th – KBAD and KPD movie night at the City Park 6:30pm
- June 26th-27th – Scars and Stars Off Road at Rabbit Creek ATV Park
- June 27th – Classic Carhop Cruise – Downtown Kilgore 5pm
- **July 3rd – City Offices closed for observance of July 4th**
- **July 4th - Fourth of July Extravaganza at City Park 5pm**
- July 4th - Grand Opening of Euphoria Botanicals 222 E Main St 3pm
- **July 14th – City Council Workshop 5:30pm**

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Trails Phase II under Dudley Rd bridge work will have the 100 contract days begin Monday, June 29th. The pre-construction meeting was Monday June 22nd.
- Pavement rehabilitation FY20 mill and overlay work will have the 70 contract days begin Monday, June 29th. The pre-construction meeting was Tuesday, June 23rd. Roads to be overlaid are Crescent, Spruce, and Aspen. Crack sealing of multiple streets around the City was completed last week.
- The final proof of the Way-Finding Sign mock-up was approved Friday, June 19th. National Sign Plaza is anticipating to have most, if not all, signs installed by the end of July.
- The storm sewer system for the Wells St extension has been installed.
- The Surface Water Treatment Plant has increased flow to 1.3 million gallons a day to keep up with demand. Well no. 3 is offline while it is being cleaned.
- Maintenance converted lighting in City Hall restrooms to LED.
- The generator at Fire Station #2 is now operational along with several other projects including rebuilding a water closet, repairing a leak inside the wall, and repairing a backed up drain.
- Maintenance completed repairs and assisted in getting the pool and splash pad ready for opening.
- Fountain by “KILGORE” bushes was cleaned and sealed in coordination with Parks Crew.
- Ballfield maintenance: aeration of all 6 fields, applied 15-5-10 fertilizer, tal-star, and gypsum.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- The Fire Department participated in training with the Gregg County Airport. This was very informative and valuable training considering they fall into our mutual response zone for emergency aide.
- With a recent resignation of one of our firefighters, we will be hosting a new hire test on July 29th. We wish Chris Hamman nothing but the best in his new journey with the Tyler Fire Department.
- KPD has created two videos that are being featured on our Facebook page. One video highlights the [school-based K-9 Program](#) and the second highlights [“Project Hot Car”](#) which educates the public on how quickly the temperature can rise in a parked car.
- Dispatcher Amber Clifford was recognized for a successful crisis negotiation in which she spoke by phone to a mental health consumer who was in crisis and exhibited suicidal behavior. Amber spoke with this person at length and was able to talk this person out of the house and away from the weapon.
- Our Narcotics Investigators conducted a large drug bust just outside of the City limits where a sizeable amount of marijuana and THC infused candies were found along with powder cocaine, crack cocaine, codeine, and pain pills. Approximately \$35K and a sports car were seized at the scene. Patrol stopped a car associated with this organization and arrested the driver for possession of marijuana and THC vapor cartridges.

- Officer Pedro Adame and Officer Patricia Davis performed CPR on a woman at a local motel who was in cardiac arrest. They were able to revive her and she has since been released from the hospital. Champion EMS credited these Officers with saving her life.
- Our annual “Operation Snocone” program has kicked off! We provide a snocone card from Charlie’s to our youth who found to be exhibiting good behavior.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- The Kilgore Main Street Department has received notice from Main Street America that Kilgore Main Street has received National Accreditation for the year 2020. This award is based on reporting from the 2019 year. Many thanks to the Kilgore Main Street Board and Sonya Waters on this great accomplishment.
- Bill Woodall has accepted the position as the Community Relations Manager. Bill will be working on a part-time basis to help with Media relations and other duties on top of his current duties as Municipal Archivist. We are so happy to have Bill at the City of Kilgore.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- The Planning and Zoning Board currently has three vacancies to fill. There will be a social media post in the future calling on residents who may be interested in volunteering to fill out an application. All appointments to the Board will be approved by Council.
- Rachel Rowe is working on archiving all of the Planning and Zoning Board meeting minutes and posting them on-line. They will be available to the public just like the City Council Meeting minutes.
- Pool opened! We are averaging 120-150 kids per day.
- CO’s issued for Arbor Grace Nursing Home- 30 bed expansion and for Wagner Tuning- 53,000 sq ft manufacturing warehouse.
- Tired of Tires campaign has launched and is ready for July 18th reclamation.
- Health permits issued for Honey’s Frozen Delights, mobile ice cream and Honeysuckle Catering, mobile ice cream, El Senor, 613 E Hwy 31, El Pollo, 208 W Hwy 31, and Taste of Chicago, 2701 S. Henderson Blvd.
- New [Code Corner Video](#) uploaded.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- June 16th the Kilgore Library had their second Summer Reading Program event. The Fairy House Hunt was held at the City Park. The kids loved it and we have moved our Fairy Houses to the flower beds around the Library so the fun can continue.
- June 23rd we will have another virtual event with Kilgore’s own Story Lady! Click [here](#) for details.

Highlight of the Week- Dedication of the AMBUCS Pavilions at the Lazy Splash Ranch

Saturday, June 20th at 10am, The City of Kilgore hosted a small ceremony to dedicate the Pavilion’s at the Splash Pad. These pavilions were donated by Ambucs as shade structures along with picnic tables to complement our amazing Splash Pad. Josh Selleck, Mayor Spradlin, and Sonya Rigano of Ambucs gave speeches thanking everyone for the support. Sonya mentioned also how much she loved our new ASL signs in the park!

