

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

July 17, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 18th – Josey Wales Antiques and More - Grand Opening 116 N Rusk St. 11am – 4pm
- July 21 – Main Street Advisory Board Meeting 5:30 pm Council Chambers
- July 25 - Kilgore Community Blood Drive at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 713 Florey St. 8:00am – 12:30pm
- July 25th - Kilgore Cruise Night hosted by Kilgore Mercantile and Music 5pm-9pm
- July 28th – Regular City Council Meeting 5:30pm
- August 11th – City Council Workshop 5:30pm

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- The E4 Friendship Playground at Harris Street Park has been moving along with prep work before the July 27th equipment installation. Photo shows the retaining wall being built.
- The Aspen St, Spruce, St, and Crescent Dr. mill and overlay started this week. Milling and base repairs will be completed by Friday and asphalt paving will be completed next week.
- Maintenance upgraded lighting at the old baseball field restroom to LED and repaired a leaky faucet.
- “Welcome to Kilgore” sign on Hwy 42 South now has power.
- Completed city fire extinguisher annual inspections with G3 safety.
- Replaced several old toilet at Meadowbrook Golf Course with new water efficient models.
- Assisted in making sure all 4th of July event needs were met.
- Marked water bill dropbox at City Hall to help customers identify the proper slot to place their bill.
- Completed Meadowbrook Classic Golf Tournament.
- Met with families to accommodate their needs for burial plots at Danville Cemetery and transferred ownership of lots in City Cemetery.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Officer Angela Burch was recognized by Council for 25 years of dedicated service to Kilgore.
- Our Drug Enforcement Task Force Officer and his group conducted a search and arrest warrant in Kilgore on a known methamphetamine dealer.
- Our SRO's put on a well-attended movie night in the park to support KBAD (Kilgore Bulldogs Against Drugs).
- With the recent purchase of a surveillance trailer, we repurposed the old trailer into a Crime Scene trailer to be used at Crime Scenes and fatality vehicle scenes. Officer Daniel Morgan was in charge of the project, cleaning it up having it renovated, and having the City Shop give it a fresh coat of paint. The vehicles generator and fuel system were updated which will allow staff to have power in remote areas and deploy on scene lighting.
- Kilgore Fire Department will be assisting with COVID-19 anti-body testing at the Kilgore ER every Tuesday from 9am- 1pm and Thursdays 3pm to 7pm.
- Fire Station #3 remodel is on schedule to start at the end of July. This will focus on the sleeping quarters and bathrooms to bring them to ADA compliance.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Freese and Nichols will be meeting with the Main Street Advisory Board on Tuesday, July 21 to give a presentation on the draft of the Downtown Master Plan.
- Kilgore Mercantile and Music along with the Lonestar Lug Nuts will be hosting the Kilgore Cruise Night in Historic Downtown Kilgore on Saturday, July 25th from 5pm-9pm.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Instead of a town hall meeting to present the draft Master Plan and receive feedback, staff is working with Freese and Nichols on 3 separate videos with a survey component to push out to the public to receive feedback on the draft plan.
- The Planning and Zoning Board held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 15 and recommended approval on the city initiated zoning request for the property located on Myrtle and Thompson Street. The property is currently zoned Apartment District (A) and is requested to be zoned to Single-Family Residential District (R2). The request will be brought to the City Council at the July 28 City Council Meeting.
- Staff is still looking for volunteers to serve on both the Planning and Zoning Board and the ZBA/ICC Board. If interested please contact Carol Windham at carol.windham@cityofkilgore.com or by phone at 903-988-4113.
- Demolitions are nearly complete at Kings Trailer Park and the surrounding buildings have been removed.
- Asbestos surveys complete for the storm damaged building at the corner of Commerce and Woodlawn. Demo is being scheduled.
- Dye test was performed at the pool prior to draining to determine water flow for chlorine. See photos.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- Since early May the Library has had over 2000 personal visits to the library and approximately 1,400 checkouts of OverDrive eBooks and digital audiobooks.
- Over 50 patrons have participated in our Dragon Egg Scavenger hunt around the library that we have had going since July 9th.
- We have our last virtual Summer Reading Program event July 21 at 10am –Story Book Theater.
- Summer Reading Program ends July 24th.

Highlight of the Week- Mobile Command Unit and COVID-19 testing

The City of Kilgore has purchased a mobile COVID-19 testing unit using CARES Act funding, and in cooperation with Christus Good Shepherd we are offering bi-weekly testing in Kilgore at the parking lot in front of the Emergency Room at 1612 S. Henderson Blvd. This testing will be offered on Tuesdays from 9am – 1pm and Thursdays from 3pm -7pm. The screening procedure for the test requires the patient either has two of the symptoms listed by the CDC or one of the symptoms and direct exposure to a confirmed positive case within the preceding 10 days. The test that will be administered is an antibody test and requires a blood draw, with results as soon as 30 minutes after the test.



KPD Crime Scene Trailer



Pool Dye Test

