

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

August 14, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 19th – First day of school for KISD
- August 25th – Regular City Council Meeting 5:30pm
- August 27th – Texas Tea sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce 6pm at the National Guard Armory
- August 29th – Downtown Car Cruise In hosted by Kilgore Mercantile and Music
- Tuesdays and Thursdays – 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. – COVID testing at Kilgore ER Parking area

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Lantrip St. had its final pour this past Tuesday. Joint sealing, cleaning, striping, and site restoration remain.
- The City's Collection and Distribution crew started the Bagwell St. waterline replacement (Martin to South)
- The Dudley Rd. under-bridge crossing for the trail had its new culvert poured by the contractor. The contractor will continue realigning the creek under the middle of the bridge.
- Well 3's rehabilitation is substantially complete and is projected to be back online in the next 2 weeks.
- Right of Way mowing has been ongoing all over town.
- Received bids on the Veterans Memorial repairs.
- The Cart Paths at Meadowbrook have been completed in partnership with multiple golf organizations!
- The dog park fence is to be installed beginning August 13th and the installation of the parking lot will begin soon.
- Meetings have been taking place with family members to utilize spaces at all three of our City cemeteries.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Construction on Fire Station 3 improvements are set to begin the 3rd week in August. This will be to upgrade the bedrooms and bathrooms to be within ADA compliance.
- The Fire Dept. has been assisting the Public Works in completion of the Friendship Playground this week.
- Three applicants for the School Resource Officer Sgt's position took an entrance exam. Two of them met the qualifications and will sit before an assessment team in late September. This position will replace Sgt. Richard Stanley who was elected as Rusk County Constable and will retire later this year.
- KPD is hiring a former dispatcher, Kim Gordon, as a full-time dispatcher. She will fill an upcoming vacancy.
- Last spring our SRO Unit received a State Tobacco Grant which was set up to curtail the sale of tobacco products to minors. Dozens of operations have taken place this summer. We saw some illegal sales in the beginning, but it appears with enforcement and education these businesses are really starting to pay attention to who they are selling to. This program was started after we received complaints about businesses selling to underage kids.
- Probationary Officer Charles Taylor completes his Field Training this week and will be assigned to a patrol shift. Charles and his wife are from the Austin area and were looking for a smaller town.
- Criminal Investigations has been very successful lately in solving crimes, but one crime that received a lot of attention of our Facebook page was recently solved. A working man's truck and trailer were stolen from the parking lot of Clayton's West. Detective Josh Sims was able to recover the stolen trailer, truck, and special fuel tank in Longview. This victim now has his means of income back.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Kilgore Cruise Night will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2020 from 5pm – 8pm in Historic Downtown Kilgore. Stores and restaurants will be open.
- The Kilgore Main Street Advisory Board will be meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 5:30pm

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- The Kilgore Community Development Corporation will be mailing out close to 600 brochures to area realtors, developers, and city representatives advertising the Remington North Subdivision owned by the Community Development Corporation. This mail out is an effort to gain interest in the development of the area. The brochure details the amenities, lot layout, and available lots in the subdivision. The brochure will be mailed out on Friday, August 14.
- Planning Staff will be presenting three ordinance amendments pertaining to the development code at the August 25th Council Meeting. The ordinance amendments are for the Corridor Overlay, Banners, and the Single Family Manufactured Home zoning district.
- The 90th day after the closure of King's Trailer park is August 14th. The final stage of demolition is scheduled to begin Monday, August 17.
- We were able to provide financial assistance to 27 residents of King's Trailer Park with our relocation program.

Highlight of the Week- Crescent Dr. from Houston St. to Dudley Rd. had all sorts of improvements made to it over the past few months. A waterline under pavement was replaced by the Collection and Distribution Crew. The pavement base and a temporary surface layer was repaired by the Streets and Drainage Crew. A contractor converted a few hundred feet of curb and gutter on the south end from asphalt to concrete, and lastly another contractor completed a mill and overlay of the road. The final product turned out spectacular!

