

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

February 26, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 27 – Kilgore Cruise Night Downtown 3pm-6pm
- March 6 – Downtown Sip & Shop 6pm-8pm
- **March 9th – Regular City Council Meeting 5:30pm**
- **March 9th – Joint City Council Workshop with Planning and Zoning Board 6:30pm**

ADMINISTRATION

- Three longtime employees have submitted for retirement March 31, 2021: Edgar Rachal, Chief of the Kilgore Rescue Unit; Danny Downing, Parks Director and former Kilgore Fire Department Battalion Chief; Josie Atchley, Permits Office and former Dispatcher and Animal Control Officer. We are sad to see them go, losing a total of over 100 years' experience.

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Streets & Drainage has been assisting Collection & Distribution with multiple water breaks throughout the City (currently we are at 13)
- With the recent winter storm and freeze, potholes will develop throughout the entire city. Residents can assist us with finding and repairing these potholes by reporting them through the MyKilgore app or on the City's website via "Report A Problem."
- The Parks Department and Maintenance helped the City in cleaning the streets from the Snowpocalypse/freezemageddon.
- The Parks Crew and Maintenance located broken water lines and assisted with turning water off to fix the leaks in the days following.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Public Safety had an extremely busy week during the winter storm. Kilgore Fire Department worked in coordination with Public Works in shutting off water meters and searching for large water leaks. They also took part in distributing bottled drinking water to those in need with the Police Department and Volunteers. All while handling the frigid weather and running a higher than normal emergency call volume. I would like to commend everyone in the City for coming together for the Citizens of Kilgore.
- KPD is excited to welcome new dispatcher, Amber Willeford. She has previous experience as an EMS dispatcher in the Beaumont area.
- Officers, non-sworn staff, PD volunteers, and even former KPD Officers assisted with two rounds of water donations at Brookshires during the water outages.
- Officers also assisted with home deliveries of water for those who were snowbound and assisted with communitywide produce donations at Helping Hands, assisted with getting a kidney dialysis patient to the ER for necessary dialysis, and assisted in-need essential healthcare workers with transportation to work during the ice storms when possible.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Downtown Merchants coupled with Kilgore Main Street will be hosting a "Sip & Shop" Downtown beginning at 6pm.
- On February 25, 2021 the Main Street Advisory Board met and Officers were elected: Vickie Raymond- President, Fred Gebhardt – Vice President, and Jacque Henley – Secretary.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- A Joint Workshop and Public Hearing with the Planning and Zoning Board and City Council will be held on Tuesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. at Kilgore City Hall. The public hearing will be for anyone who would like to come and speak about the Kilgore Comprehensive Plan, Downtown Master Plan, and the Thoroughfare Master Plan. These documents can be found on the [city website](#).
- The Planning Department has been working with GIS on updating parcels in the system. Once a plat is approved it is edited in the GIS system to reflect the parcel changes. This is a much faster process. Typically, we wait a year to get the parcel information update from the appraisal district.
- Special services delivered guidance to restaurants regarding boil water notice.
- Health permit renewal reminders (3/31) have been delivered to 110 permitted establishments.

LIBRARY

- After the snow storm, the Library checked in over 400 books in just a couple of days!
- We have begun planning in earnest for Summer Reading and hope to release details soon!