

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

December 17, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 23rd and 24th – City Offices Closed – Christmas Holiday
- December 31st – City Offices Closed – New Year Holiday
- **January 11th – Regular City Council Meeting – 5:30 p.m.**

ADMINISTRATION

- December 15th was the annual city employee Christmas luncheon. A big thanks goes to Brookshires for providing delicious and cost effective food, and to Larry Kincaid for cooking such a wonderful meal. City staff were extremely grateful for this festive Holiday meal!

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Crews have removed the first 160 feet of Ross Avenue and have begun reconstruction. The water services were replaced and the subgrade is being compacted and stabilized with portland cement.
- Old waterlines under the traffic circle have been abandoned as the new waterline comes on line.
- City Council approved acceptance of a \$50,000 donation for a small expansion of the skate park and addition of shade structures.
- Parks crew has reinstalled 5 of the Disc Golf baskets with anchors.
- A total of 6 dead trees at Whataburger Sports Complex have been cut down and removed.
- Christmas Parties are being scheduled at the Meadowbrook Event Center.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Cadet Mateo Delacruz graduated from the Tyler Police Academy and completed his pre-service training at KPD. He has been assigned to the 16 week Field Training Program following his graduation and badge pinning.
- Wendy Burris (part-time) and Zach Torres (full-time) joined our Dispatch Team this week and are in training.
- As we coordinate the beginning stages of our joint SWAT Team, team members from Henderson and Kilgore attended a weekend training and team building retreat in order to get familiar with each other.
- Our DEA-Task Force Officer conducted an investigation locally after we received complaints about a drug dealer operating on MLK. After a month long investigation, our Officers conducted an early morning search warrant at the residence of the dealer in northern Rusk County. A sizeable amount of drugs were located and the suspect and his wife were arrested.
- Detectives have been rather busy as the court system is beginning to move forward following the COVID shut down. A previous murder case that occurred many years ago has been officially solved and some indictments served on several of the suspects. We are waiting on additional suspects to be indicted before we hold a press conference.
- We are seeing a slight uptick in property crimes which usually occurs this time of year. We always take steps to curtail this holiday thievery with extra patrols in retail areas and crime prevention education.
- Kilgore Rescue Unit responded to 45 calls in November and is still seeking volunteers.
- Chief Henderson is attending the Fire Chief's conference in San Antonio this week learning new and exciting ways to better our Fire Department.

