

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

June 17, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 18th – Juneteenth Celebration – Parade at 10 a.m. and Event starts at 11 a.m. at City Park
- June 18th – Cars & Bratwurst at Wagner Tuning 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- June 28th – Library Pool Party at the City Pool – 10 a.m.
- **June 28th – Regular City Council Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Kilgore City Hall**
- July 4th – Kilgore's 150th Fourth of July Extravaganza @ City Park 5:30 p.m.
- **July 12th – Regular City Council Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Kilgore City Hall**
- July 30th – Free Dive in Movie (Spider Man – No Way Home) 8 p.m. City Pool

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- The Parks and Public Works Departments re-worked Field 1 to make it useable by multiple age groups and installed the final scoreboard at the Whataburger Sports Complex.
- Parks Department continues to work on the site for batting cages at the Whataburger Sports Complex.
- Demolition of Laird Memorial Hospital has been moving along steadily.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant has a contractor who has begun cleaning our two sludge digesters.
- Streets and Drainage did an excellent job handling traffic control during the recent hotel fire.
- A valve on a large water main behind the hospital was discovered to be closed. The Collection and Distribution crew opened the valve back up with will help with better circulating water throughout the City.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Emergency Management Coordinator, Ryan Riley, attended the TDEM Emergency Management Conference in San Antonio, May 31st-June 3rd.
- The Fire Department participated in two Library events: Fun Day in the Park and Creature Teacher at the Texan.
- The Kilgore Fire Department had 3 days of hands-on training coined "Evolution Training." This is a timed exercise that begins with pulling up to the hydrant in full bunker gear, connecting to the hydrant, driving 150', deploying the attack line and spraying water from the nozzle. This competition is a great team building exercise and vital experience for our new Firefighters.
- Kilgore Fire and Rescue along with Sabine Fire and Rescue, Longview Fire Department, Overton Fire Department, Smith County ESD 2, and Elderville Volunteer Fire Department fought a large fire at the Best Western Inn in Kilgore Monday night. We extend our thanks to the departments for helping cover our city and relieving our firefighters in what ended up being a very long and hot night. We also thank the Gregg County Fire Marshal and Christus EMS for their services as well.
- KPD sent three Officers and one Dispatcher to take part in the Coyote Overwatch following the school shooting in Uvalde.
- As of June 16th, KPD has all patrol positions filled. We still have one dispatcher position open.
- KPD hosted our Quarterly Clergy and Police Alliance meeting in our training center with 26 in attendance. The topic was on school violence and the proactive preparation that KPD has taken over the last 12 years in regard to an Active Shooter response.
- KPD Staff took part in several community events including the following:
 - Memorial Day – Keynote speaker was Sgt. Tim Dukes and Angela Burch played the taps
 - Arbor Grace – Officer Aaron Sosa volunteered for the dunking booth
 - Lions Club – Chief Hunter spoke about the PD and future building program.
 - Fun Day in the Park coordinated by the City Library

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- A total of 57 permits were issued for the month of May. Seven new Residential Building Permits for single-family homes were issued with four being in the Remington Addition.
- Swimming Lessons have kicked off with the first session full with 75 students. Spots are still available for the last two sessions in July. Please see the [website](#) for details on how to register.
- The Planning and Zoning Board Meeting for June has been cancelled.
- The website has been updated to include archived meeting minutes for the Planning and Zoning Board dating back to 1966.

QUALITY OF LIFE/TOURISM

- The swimming pool hosted the first Dive In Movie with great success on June 11th, with over 500 people in attendance. Mark your calendars for July 30th at 8 p.m. for Spiderman: No Way Home.
- The City is busy planning the July 4th Extravaganza. Sponsorships are still available. Contact Taylor Owings for more information
- Summer is here and so are the season's hottest events. The Texas Shakespeare Festival kicks off the 2022 Summer Season on June 30 at Kilgore College. There are 5 shows with multiple performances from June 30 through July 31. For more information, including tickets, visit texasshakespeare.com.
- For a detailed list of upcoming events, visit Visit Kilgore's [webpage](#).
- Visit Kilgore is looking forward to welcoming hundreds of visitors from around the state participating in the upcoming Dixie Youth Baseball Tournaments taking place in Kilgore from June 25 through June 30.
- Kilgore, specifically downtown, and the East Texas Oil Museum were recently featured on The Great Texas Road Story and the Texas Forest Trail Instagram accounts with a combined audience of 46K.

LIBRARY

- The Library hosted Creature Teacher at the Texan on Tuesday. We estimated between 400-500 attended.
- Next week's Summer Reading event is James Wand Spy Magician at the Texan Tuesday, June 21st at 10 a.m.
- The Library also had a great turn out for Fun Day at the City Park last week.

PHOTOS

CREATURE TEACHER



FUN DAY AT CITY PARK



HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION

