

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

November 11, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 10th-13th – Reel East Texas Film Festival
- November 12th – Derrick Lighting
- **November 24th & 25th – City Offices closed for Thanksgiving**
- November 29th – Christmas Parade
- December 2nd – Library Open House
- December 4th – Rangerette Christmas Show
- December 10th – “Tis the Season Downtown Event
- **December 13th – Regular City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at Kilgore City Hall**

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Staff have been performing normal maintenance duties with street repairs, small water leak repairs, and sewer line cleaning.
- Check out the contractor’s progress on Main Street Curb and Gutter to get a glimpse of what the street will ultimately look like.
- Higginbotham and Broadway drainage repairs are complete.
- Iron Farms subdivision infrastructure is under construction and had its first inspections this week.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- KFD participated in the Kilgore College Homecoming Concert this past weekend and will be participating in the upcoming Veteran’s Day and Derrick Lighting events.
- KFD recently had a written and physical agility test for two new potential part time Firefighters. With them both passing, they will proceed into the next phase of our hiring process.
- KPD participated in the nationwide DEA Take Back program in which citizens can dispose of their unwanted pharmaceuticals in a safe manner. KPD collected approximately 50 lbs. at our Walmart booth. Over the year, we’ve collected approximately 327 lbs. with the aid of our drop box located in the PD lobby.
- KPD and KFD both participated in the downtown Trick-or-Treat event. Our staff dressed up and got to interact with our younger citizens.
- All staff received Naloxone (Narcan) training and now Patrol staff have access to this life-saving drug that blocks the effects of opiates. We’ve seen an increase in overdoses in the last few months.
- The North East Texas Regional SWAT Team held a mini-retreat in Dallas. The focus was on team building. This team is made up of members of the Henderson and Kilgore Police Departments.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Three positions are open on the Planning and Zoning Board. If anyone is interested in serving on this important board please contact Carol Windham with any questions and fill out an application by clicking [HERE](#).
- The Kilgore Community Development Corporation met last week and approved the sale of four lots in the Remington North Subdivision.
- A total of 53 permits were issued in the month of October including a 10,000 square-foot building expansion at CPI Satcom and Antenna Technologies located at 2600 N Longview St.
- Demolition has begun at the Best Western located at 1411 US Hwy 259.

- The City of Kilgore will be offering a low-cost dog training program. The cost will be \$75 for a 6-week program starting Wednesday, November 16th at 6pm. Classes will be held at Meadowbrook Ballroom. To reserve your spot or for more information, please contact Tom Sawyer, Animal Control Officer at 903.988.4120.

QUALITY OF LIFE/TOURISM

- The Shop Small Win Big Campaign has begun in Downtown Kilgore. Buy something at one of the participating stores and receive a golden ticket to win a great prizes at the end of the campaign. Drawing will be held on November 26th at Mingle and Jingle.
- The Derrick Lighting event is this weekend, November 12th from 3p.m.-8p.m.
- Visit Kilgore welcomed two large groups to town this month with over 200 welcome bags. The events included the Texas Radio Hall of Fame, at the Texas Broadcast Museum and the East Texas Pipe Organ Festival, at the First Presbyterian Church. Kilgore received fantastic reviews including a shout-out on the top syndicated Houston morning radio show "The Ryan and Roula Show." The Pipe Organ Festival brought visitors as far as London, England.

LIBRARY

- At the end of October, Kay visited the monthly seniors group meeting at the Kilgore Lions Club to share information about library resources and programs for adults. Over 30 seniors attended.
- The library staff would like to extend its sincere thanks to the Fire Department for moving all of the Christmas décor upstairs from the basement. They moved dozens of boxes upstairs for us and brought around 30 metal Christmas trees down from the attic and also hung 6 banners. We could not have such a beautiful Christmas Open House without their help.
- We would also like to thank Malecio and David from the Parks Department for helping us clear out space for decorating by taking our empty boxes back to the basement and moving some heavy furniture downstairs.
- Around 20 adults attended Master Gardener David Gary's presentation: A Chance to Grow, on Thursday 11/3.

PHOTOS

