

# CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

May 1, 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April Weekends - Avalon Faire
- Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon - Downtown Farmers Market
- April 29<sup>th</sup> – Kilgore Cruise Night Downtown
- May 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>– Geekend Downtown
- **May 9<sup>th</sup> - Regular City Council Meeting; 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers**
- May 13<sup>th</sup> – Tractor's, Trucks, and Fun
- May 18<sup>th</sup> – 6 p.m. Groundbreaking at Hwy. 135 Youth Sports Complex
- **May 23<sup>rd</sup>- Regular City Council Meeting; 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers**
- May 26<sup>th</sup> – KISD Graduation
- June 17<sup>th</sup> – Kilgore Legacy Foundation Juneteenth Celebration
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Freedom Fest – 6 p.m. at Kilgore City Park

## PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS AND PROJECTS

- Kilgore Youth Sports Complex will have a ground breaking just prior to the final games on May 18th at 6. p.m. at near the Softball fields.
- The clearing at the Green Waste site is almost complete. Brush pick up will resume next week.
- The Collection and Distribution crew replaced the water line connection at Main Street and Henderson Blvd. to complete the abandonment of the water line that was under Main Street. Rain days over the last two weeks have delayed pouring concrete on Main Street and the road will remain closed at that intersection for at least another two weeks.
- The Streets and Drainage Crew temporarily repaired the damaged pavement in the northbound lane of the 1500 block of South Commerce. Due to the increase in traffic in the area and the closure of Mexia and Smackover by TXDOT, a more permanent repair was impossible to perform at this time. Drivers are still encouraged to decrease their speed on this road. Staff met with design engineers to finalize the plans for this street's reconstruction. Reconstruction will be scheduled once Industrial Blvd is complete next year. The crew also responded to 28 service requests for pavement issues and filled over 180 potholes.
- North Street elevated storage tank has been taken off line due to poor water quality in the surrounding neighborhood. An emergency cleaning is scheduled for Friday, April 28. Crews have responded to 5 water quality complaints. Plans are in place to install additional flushing for areas around Dogwood Trail, Littleton, and Highland.
- A water leak on the 12-inch line in the 1100 block of Dudley was repaired.
- Wastewater staff have begun the process of administering our pretreatment program in an effort to reduce consultant costs.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

- KFD has 3 candidates who have made it past peer review and are in the background check portion of our new hire process. These positions are part-time but also have the potential for full time positions in the future.
- With the increase in bad weather in recent weeks, we have seen a large uptick in motor vehicle accidents and other weather related incidents. Everyone please slow down during rainy conditions and be safe!
- Rescue Member, Mallory Cook, completed ICS-400 training. This is an advanced training class for Command and General Staff during complex emergency incidents. She now has completed the training that would allow her to work in the Emergency Operations Center during a large-scale incident.

- Fire Marshal Riley assisted local business CHEP with their annual fire extinguisher training. We are proud to assist our local businesses with training on their fire safety needs.
- A Corporal and Sergeant promotional process, which includes a written test and assessment center, was held this week at KPD for open positions. Promotions will be announced soon.
- Sgt. Pedro Adame recently completed a 2 week leadership training at the Curruth Institute in Dallas.
- Origin Bank delivered appreciation gift baskets for police, fire and rescue departments.
- KPD participated in the DEA National Drug Takeback Day on April 22. Officer Burch was on-site at Walmart in Kilgore to collect unwanted or old medications. Between the DEA Drug Takeback Day and our drug drop box in the front lobby, we have taken in over 264 lbs of unwanted or expired medications in the past few months.
- We've added two new part-time jailers to our team, Chelsey Carr and Mackenzie Ragan.

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Tire take back day was a success with a total of 665 tires being dropped off. Special thanks to Kilgore Tire who provided three employees and their truck to transport the collected tires. We are also thankful to the 4 volunteers and 2 city employees for their time for the event.
- A commercial new construction permit has been issued for 913 E Main St for a multi-tenant retail building and a commercial new construction permit has been approved for a self-storage unit located at 1000 W State Hwy 31.
- We have had an increase in roofing permits due to the recent storms in our area.
- Code enforcement oversaw the demolition of 509 MLK (the old barbershop) and work is set to begin on 1812 Miles in the next day or so.
- The health department performed the second health inspection for the school year in all KISD school cafeterias.
- Demolition permit for 100 Smackover has been issued and the structure has been removed.
- The City Council approved the final plat of Springtree Phase III at their last meeting.
- The Site Development Ordinance Committee will meet one last time on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> to review the final draft before it is presented to the City Council on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

- The Kilgore Main Street has received word that they have received the Main Street America Accreditation for 2023. Staff worked really hard this year to make that happen!

## LIBRARY

- Summer reading sponsorships are available [here](#).
- Want to help with the 2023 Summer Reading Program? Purchase something from our [Amazon Wish list](#) today!
- Bookmark contest details are below:



Create a bookmark that displays Unity and/or Kindness for the 2023 Summer Reading Program "All Together Now."

- Bookmarks can be hand drawn or created on the computer.
- Entry must fit in the parameters of the bookmark shown.
- Must be original artwork and not contain copyrighted materials.
- One entry per person. Entries are due May 15 by 6PM.
- There will be four winner categories: PreK-2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, and Adults 18+
- Winners will get their bookmarks printed and win a prize!

**Green Waste Site Grinding**



**Gift Boxes from Origin Bank**



**CHEP Fire Extinguisher Training with Fire Marshal Riley**

