

Summer is almost here!

Well, at least the unofficial beginning of summer with the Memorial Day Weekend upon us! I hope everyone enjoys their long weekend and also takes some time to remember those who have paid the ultimate price while defending our country. Now let's get you caught up on the month.

First off, the city put out an request for bids for solid waste services in April. After hearing from companies on the inability to bid due to a shortage of waste containers (supply chain issues) council decided to pull the RFP and enter into discussions with the current provider, Waste Management, on an extension of the contract. After reviewing options, council approved a five-year extension on the current services which would include holding prices the first year and then a one-time price increase in year two that would hold through the remainder of the contract. For those who are interested in larger recycling capacity they can reach out to City Hall about increasing the size of their container or purchasing a second recycling container. Council will also be discussing leaf pick-up services and yard waste options at a future council meeting.

Next, starting June 1st, City Hall will once again be open to the public. Council approved changing normal operating hours to 7am-3pm, M-F. The first Monday of every month City Hall will be open from 7am-7pm. Residents can make appointments to meet with staff up until 5pm, if needed. Staff believes this change will allow for better service for the community by allowing those who commute to work the opportunity to stop in early and also having one night with extended evening hours for others who cannot make it in the morning. Staff recommended the continuation of masks to be worn by visitors to City Hall for the time being.

Lastly, a discussion was held on the American Rescue Plan Funding. Staff updated council that the city will be receiving approximately \$300,000 in funding spread out over two years. The use of these funds falls into very specific categories. Staff's recommendation was to utilize the funds for updating/replacing fire hydrants and to also use some of the funding as seed money for a new water treatment facility. Further discussion will take place at a future council meeting.

Thanks for taking the time to get caught up and always feel free to reach out to a council member, myself or staff if you have any questions.

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