

# Charlack Newsletter

## Message from your Mayor:

October 2004

Things are beginning to settle down at City Hall once again. We have seen many changes. We have seen some employees leave, some retire and some asked to leave. I am aware that some of the changes are not well liked by all residents. I understand that we have lost some folks who have been here a long time. I will not tell you that I am happy about all of the movement. Some are good, some are not. What I will tell you is that we will continue to move on and adapt to things as they arise. With the recent turnover of our Police Department, we feel that we have a good opportunity to restructure the way we do things. We are in the mode of bringing our police department up to full staff. We are considering hiring part time employees over full time employees. This will be determined soon. We have withdrawn from several different programs that our Police Department was in, such as the Mobile Reserves and the Special Response Team (SRT). We have also returned the leased motorcycle. I have discussed these things in length with the Board of Aldermen. Our Police Department will spend more time focusing on our community and resident relations and less time with these programs. There are also rumors that we will be subcontracting our Police Department. This is absolutely not true. Our Police Department will continue to provide the same level of safety and security you are used to. Our Department, although somewhat short staffed, is as good as any department out there. As long as I am your Mayor, I will assure you that I will continue to support a Police Department run by the City of Charlack.

Officer Vince Delia has been promoted to acting Corporal. Corporal Delia will assist Acting Chief Palme with day to day operations. It is still my intention to have a permanent staff in place by the end of the year.

I hope you all have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

**Recycling Survey:** The City has sent a recycling survey out to all residents. This is the second survey that we have sent out in order to comply with the Recycling Grant that we obtained in order to purchase our playground equipment. Please complete the survey and mail it back to us in the self addressed stamped envelope provided. The postage cost for this is reimbursed by the grant, so there is no cost to you! Just fill it out and send it in!

**Senior Rebate:** Charlack will once again be offering the Senior Rebate to all Charlack seniors! If you are 62 years young or older, you are eligible for the Senior Citizen Utility Rebate of \$20.00 from the City of Charlack. If you have previously signed up for this rebate, all you need to do is call City Hall at 427-4715 and give Zella, Stephanie or Detra your name and address. If you have never signed up for this rebate, you will need to come to City Hall and bring proof of your age (photo ID, drivers license, etc) and a utility bill that has your name and address on it. If you are eligible and are unable to come to City Hall please call to make arrangements with the City Administrator, Zella Hornal, and she will come to your home to obtain the information. We will be accepting the information beginning immediately through November 19, 2004. We will mail the checks to your home near the end of this month, November. Don't miss this great opportunity for our seniors. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

**Paper Product Recycling:** Ritenour Middle School (2500 Marshall Road) has a recycling bin for all paper products that is available for our use. You may deposit only paper products such as newspapers, telephone books, etc.

**Cell Phone:** Last month, I was up at our beautiful City Park and I left my cell phone on the table. When I came back for it an hour later, it was gone. I thought for sure that some kids found it and it would never be seen again. As it turns out, it was found by some kids. They took it home and told their dad that they found it at the park. He took the phone to City Hall for lost and found. My phone was returned to me a short time later. Why am I putting this in my newsletter? One, to thank Nick Haley, his friends and his family for returning my phone. Second, to remind folks that all too often we have predetermined notions about today's kids. All too often we think that a group of kids can only mean trouble. It is not always like that and this is proof. Our society is definitely changing, but let's not forget that there is good in people. All we have to do is look for it! Thanks Nick!

**Halloween Party:** Wow! A GREAT turnout for our Halloween Party!! There were over 50 kids!! Fantastic! It seems as though everyone had a great time. Thanks to all of the volunteers who stepped up once again to make this a success! Although this is not a new event for Charlack, it is new for the folks running it. We did a lot of neat things this year and we want your feedback! What can we do to make these events better? What would you like to see? Let us know so that each event that we have will be better than the last one!

**Warner's Warm Up:** *EXTENDED TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AT NOON!!!* Kurt Warner's "First Things First" foundation is sponsoring a winter coat drive once again this year and we have agreed to participate. Starting November 1, we will have a collection box at City Hall to collect new or gently used coats that will be delivered to homeless shelters, outreach centers and schools throughout the metropolitan area. If you have any such items, please bring them to the drop off box at City Hall. The box will be there from November 1 through November 8<sup>th</sup>. If you want to drop off coats over the weekend, flag down an officer, or wait until Monday to bring your coats to City Hall. They come to get the boxes of coats at 12:00, so please try to get there before that!

**2005 Elections:** In April of 2005, you will have the opportunity to vote for a few positions on the Board for Charlack. Alderman Morice - Ward 1, Alderman Mabra – Ward 2 and the Mayor’s position are all up for re-election. For those interested in running for one of these positions, please call City Hall to find out when the filing dates will be, or you can wait until my next newsletter. Traditionally the filing for offices usually start around Christmas time and is open until late January. I don’t have the exact dates, but I will for the next newsletter. More will follow.....

**Meeting Changes:** Per my last newsletter, we have agreed to change our meeting dates. Instead of having 2 board meetings and 2 work sessions per month, we will only have 1 Board meeting and 1 work session. Our Board meetings will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month and our work sessions will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. We expect these meetings to last a little longer than previously as we will be packing more information into them. This was agreed to by all Board members on a “trial basis.” This takes effect immediately. Our next Board meeting is Tuesday, November 9, 7:00pm at City Hall.

**Veteran’s Day:** Veteran’s Day is Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. A special thanks to all of those who have served our country for our freedom. Thank you!

**Marshall Overlay:** Since the overlay of Marshall has been completed, we now have to look to complete our end of the job. We will be in contact with the residents on and around Marshall to see how we want to handle the area behind the curbs.

**Ward 1 – Missouri American Water:** The job of replacing the water main on Bristow is now complete. They have replaced our yards, sections of sidewalks and driveways and have replaced the curb. Please call Zella at City Hall if you have any problems.

**Sidewalks:** As previously mentioned in a newsletter, we will begin the process of repairing damaged sidewalks through town. This project will be funded from the Community Development Block Grant. More will follow as it develops. Due to winter coming, we may not see repairs done until spring.

#### **Voting:**

**Bill No. 04-850** – An ordinance authorizing the creation of special enforcement areas in which violations of speed limits result in enhanced fines (Double Fine Zones). All aldermen voted “aye.” Motion passed.

**Bill No. 04-851** – An ordinance designating the 8600 and 8700 blocks of Argyle a special enforcement area. This ordinance was a direct result of the community coming to the board with concerns about speeders on Argyle. All aldermen voted “aye.” Motion passed.

**Motion to pay \$700 to an individual for vehicle repairs on a vehicle sold by the City** – This motion allowed the City to pay for repairs needed on a vehicle that was sold. The vehicle was sold without being able to pass inspection. Alderman Brun – Abstain, Alderman Mabra – “Aye”, Alderman Speed – “Aye”, Alderman Morice – “Nay.” Motion passed.

**Motion to pay for Code Enforcement Training in the amount of \$699** – This motion was to allow our Code Enforcement officer to continue his training and maintain his licenses. All aldermen voted “Aye.” Motion passed.

**Decision to withdraw from the Mobile Reserves, SRT program and the leased motorcycle program** – All aldermen voted “Aye.” Motion passed.

**Motion to promote an officer to temporary Corporal with Corporal’s pay** – All aldermen voted “Aye.” Motion passed.

#### **Up & Coming:**

Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm – Board Meeting at City Hall

Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> – Veteran’s Day. Display your flags if you have them!

Tuesday, November 23<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm – Work Session at City Hall

Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving

*Please be respectful of your neighbors*

Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or complaints. If you do not want to receive this every month, call me, and I will take you off the list. Thanks!

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