

Charlack Newsletter

Message from your Mayor:

May, 2005

Well, summer is officially here, which mean kids running all over town! Please be careful as you are driving. There are a few hot topics in this newsletter, the main one being the new City Hall progression. Our budget is also coming up and we will be scheduling a Public Hearing in July for approval. Actually, it looks like the next Public Hearing will have quite a few topics on the agenda. We will try to schedule one meeting to cover all. This newsletter is kind of packed with info. I will put the "Voting" section for May on the next newsletter with the June voting. I wish a Happy Father's Day to all dad's!!

City Hall – The Building: Lots to talk about with this one....We have withdrawn our efforts to purchase Lackland Plaza. The owner and the City could not come to a common ground on the price. During our research, we found another property that recently went up for sale. The property is located at 8651 Lackland. This is the house on the west side of Lackland between Bristow and I-170. It is a white house that sits back on almost 2 acres of land. The Board agreed to withdraw from the negotiations with Lackland Plaza and pursue this other property. After much discussion, the Board voted to purchase this property and make it our new City Hall. We sent in the offer of \$193,000 and it was accepted by the seller. The asking price was \$207,000. We are now in the process of finalizing the paperwork and clearing everything through our legal counsel. More will follow and we will probably schedule a Public Hearing to discuss what modifications will need to be done to make this a legitimate City Hall for Charlack. A courtroom will have to be constructed. It is my hope that we will be able to modify this property solely with the money we made from the sale of the upper park.

Our Public Works garage was sold with the "upper park," and this new location has a facility already on it that will serve as our Public Works garage. The funding for this purchase was made possible when we sold that property. This was all part of the master plan that was discussed in a few Public Hearings and in multiple newsletters. The Board and I are excited about this step forward for Charlack. The new facility will have ample parking for court nights and should serve every purpose that we need as a City. Much more discussion and planning will be forthcoming and, as always, I encourage you to attend the Board meetings to voice your concerns or comments and the work sessions to see the progress. I'd also like to thank the Board of Aldermen, former Alderman Mabra, our City Administrator and our City Attorney for all the extra efforts and time that was put into this process.

On a side note, I informed the owner of Lackland Plaza that his building will need to be updated. This is the entrance to our town and it has become unsightly over the last several years. He informed me that he will look into giving the building a "facelift" by the end of this year. I told him that I will look forward to having the building updated by next summer and he agreed.

8600 Burton Residents: Per resident requests, we have removed the 30 minute parking signs on the 8600 block of Burton. There was no ordinance in place for these signs. It is assumed that they were put there to keep the employees from the businesses at the end of your street from parking on our streets. Please let us know if you experience any parking problems in the future with these business.

Thanks for the Volunteers! I did get a pretty good response from some of you who would be willing to help me with the monthly newsletters. I just want to say "Thanks!"

National Night Out: This year's National Night Out will be held on August 2nd. We will be doing something different this year as the torch being passed from City to City has been cancelled. Our participation with National Night Out will stay within our City, with a party at the park from 7:00pm – 10:00pm. We will have hot dogs, soda, etc. along with music. More will follow in the next newsletter.

Community Development Block Grant: Last month, a Public Hearing was held in regards to the funding for this years Community Development Block Grant funds. Unfortunately, we only had one person in attendance. The projects discussed were as follows:

- *Shoulders and Curbs for both sides of Lackland Road
- *Sidewalk replacement and repair
- *The overlay (new asphalt) of the 8700 block of Windom
- *The overlay of the 8600 and 8700 blocks of Olden

The Board and the one resident narrowed it down to new sidewalks through town and the overlay of Olden. We are hopeful that we will have enough combined money with the Community Development fund and in our road fund to overlay both Windom and Olden. The sidewalk replacement and repair will be a multi-year plan, with only a few sections being done at a time. More will follow.

Citywide Garage Sale & Pet Clinic: Seems as though everything went well with the annual pet clinic and the citywide garage sale. The Pet Clinic was a mainstay with Charlack and it looks like the garage sale will be too!

Rottler Pest Control: I have recently been in contact with Mike Rottler with Rottler Pest Control. They are just finishing the preliminaries on the building they plan to build. Mike said that they are hopeful that they will begin construction within the next few months.

Officer of the Month: Congratulations to Robert Leesman, our newest full time Police Officer, for obtaining the Officer of the Month for May. Congrats!

Building Permits: Effective July 1st, all building and mechanical permits will be issued by St. Louis County. St. Louis County already handles our electrical and plumbing. You will still need to call City Hall before you begin any construction of any permanent structure. More will follow in the next newsletter, with detailed information about St. Louis County permits. The City of Charlack's Public Works will continue to handle Code Enforcement and Occupancy permits.

Other "Summertime" Permits:

Yard/Garage Sales: Residents must have a permit for Yard/Garage Sales per City Ordinance Section 610.030. A permitted garage sale is a garage sale which occurs on a parcel of property within the City of Charlack no more than four times during any one calendar year and is not more than two consecutive days. Permits are free, and the Citywide sale is not included as one of the four times per calendar year.

Swimming Pools: Before you open your pool this summer please get your annual operating permit. The cost is \$5.00 for resident pool permits. Code Enforcement can inspect pools as often as he deems necessary. If you are installing a new pool a permit is also required. Contact City Hall for code information and permit fees.

More Mosquito Info From St. Louis County:

Mosquito control services, Vector Control, will be spraying the City of Charlack on Tuesdays. Spraying may be completed on the evening until dawn the following morning.

STEPS TO PREVENT AND CONTROL MOSQUITO'S AROUND YOUR HOME:

- Clean rain gutters and downspouts
- Discard old tires or store inside
- Empty flowerpots, tin cans, buckets – any container that might collect water
- Store wheelbarrows, canoes, boats upside down
- Empty, clean and refill birdbaths and small wading pools weekly
- Stock ornamental ponds with fish that eat mosquito larva
- Repair leaky outside faucets
- Secure swimming pool covers tightly
- Keep grass cut and bushes trimmed

For more information contact St. Louis County Department of Health Vector Control at 314-615-8935 or log on to: www.stlouisco.com/doh

Up & Coming:

- Tuesday, June 14th – Flag Day - "Display them if you got them!"
- Tuesday, June 14th – Board Meeting – 7:00pm at City Hall
- Sunday, June 19th – Happy Father's Day!!
- Tuesday, June 28th – Work Session – 7:00pm at City Hall

Please Be Respectful of your Neighbors!

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