

Charlack Newsletter

Message from your Mayor:

September, 2005

Lots to cover this month, so I am going to get right into the nuts and bolts! I would like to thank all of you who participated with our summer events. We had a lot of fun doing them and we hope you had a good time attending!

Officer of the Month: Congratulations once again to Officer John Beekman for winning the Officer of the Month for September!

Halloween Night: Monday night, October 31st is Halloween night. Our Police Department will once again hand out bags of chips while on patrol and will also have our Police Department open with an officer there as well. Chief Palme has asked that I send out a few reminders for safety's sake: Please have your children dress with some type of reflective tape on light colored clothing. Have them carry a flashlight. If you need to go into a store, please remove your mask first. If you choose to participate by handing out candy, please leave your porch light on so that the kids know that you are participating. Let's not forget, that this is a fun night for the kids. They will be excited and running around the streets. Please use extra caution while driving!!

Warner's Warm-Up: The City of Charlack will once again participate in Warner's Winter Warm Up, which is an organization that collects new or gently used coats for the homeless. More will follow with drop off locations and dates in the next newsletter.

Colder Weather – Vehicles Unattended: Chief Palme and the Police Department have asked that I remind all Charlack residents not to leave your vehicles running unattended. With the colder weather, a lot of people like to go out and warm up their car while they go back inside. Please remember that the folks who steal cars are waiting for you to do just that!

Halloween Party at the Park: We have a great Halloween Party scheduled for our City on Friday, October 28th. We will be having a bonfire and an outdoor movie!! !

Daylight Savings: Don't forget!! Daylight savings takes place on Sunday, October 30th at midnight. Remember to move your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, October 29th! We all get an extra hour of sleep! Also, don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors every time we have daylight savings time changes!

Planning and Zoning: Our Planning and Zoning Commission is up and running at full speed. This is a vital organization for any municipality. The Commission has approved a new zoning map for Charlack. It is unknown how old our old map was, but we estimate it to be 25 years or more! Thanks to those who helped get this up and running!!

City Hall Project: As you will see on the back of this newsletter, one of the ordinances that I asked the Board to pass was Bill No. 05-566. This was the ordinance that allows us to hire a consultant to help us with our City Hall project. I have turned in the initial plans to our consultant for review. As we get closer to finalizing any plans or begin any projects, I would like to offer to the residents an opportunity to view the plans and discuss the City Hall in an open Public Hearing. I will schedule the Public Hearing when we get a few more things lined up. Check future newsletters!!

Food Basket Program: Not only will Charlack participate once again with the food basket program, but we will host it as well. For the last few years, we have provided the space and much of the manpower to make this a successful program. This year, we will use the new Public Works garage as the facility for the program. As always, volunteers are needed. Please contact Zella at City Hall (427-4715) if you would like to help.

Lackland Plaza Facelift: As you may have noticed, the strip mall behind 7-11 on the corner of Lackland and St. Charles Rock Road had some construction done on the roof that really cleaned it up. The owner of that plaza owns Lackland Plaza as well. It was my understanding after several discussions with him, that he was going to do Lackland Plaza first. Well, obviously that did not happen. I contacted him last week and he said that Lackland Plaza is still going to get the facelift by the end of this year or the beginning of next year.

Charlack Logo and Catch Phrase: Don't forget! October 31st is the deadline to get your ideas in for the Charlack Logo and catch phrase!

Community Fire Protection – Proposition A: On the November 8th ballot, Community Fire Department has a ballot issue that will allow them to continue to offer the excellent services they currently offer. I did not know, and many of you may not know, that our City, as well as the other municipalities that are served by Community, receive free ambulance transports. Most other communities charge as much as \$1000.00 or more if you need to call for an ambulance. Community Fire has not asked for an ambulance increase in the last 11 years and are now operating in deficit. They have the lowest rates in St. Louis County. With the costs of healthcare increasing, it will be difficult for them to continue to offer this service at no charge to the resident. This ambulance increase is needed so that Community Fire can continue to maintain well trained and skilled manpower. In the next few days, Community will be sending out information in the mail or by door hangers. They will also have a detailed advertisement in the Localite, which should come out in late October. As you can tell, I support this ballot issue because it is good for our community. Community Fire is asking that you make every effort to get to the polls and vote YES on Proposition A on November 8th.

Park Developments: We have been working on the park the past few weeks in the effort to get the creek closed in. I have had several meetings with MSD and I hope to see construction begin soon. All of the fill dirt that we received was free from the construction of the new Rottler Pest Control headquarters!

Laborfest 05: If you missed this event, you missed out on a great time. We had approximately 225-250 people attend. A great time was had by all and we look forward to seeing you next year!

St. Louis County Fall Household Chemical Collection Events: The St. Louis County Department of Health Solid Waste Management Program has announced three household chemical collections events, free to St. Louis County residents only. The event dates and locations are: October 8th at Westfield Shoppingtown, South County, south of Dillard's & Sears stores; October 23rd at Town and Country Crossing (Lucent Technologies). 14250 Clayton Road (west of Hwy 141); and November 5th at St. Louis Community College – Flo Valley, on Pershall Road, near I-270 & West Florissant Road exit. Hours of collection will be 9 am – 3 pm. Materials from business, commercial, non-profit, and government organizations are prohibited. For more information on these events, including a listing of what items are and are not acceptable go to www.stlouisco.com/doh/envirom/recycler/waste mg.html, select "What's new" or call the St. Louis County Health Department Waste Management Hotline at 314-286-9200.

Street Improvements: Due to the extreme price increases in oil, the cost to overlay our streets has nearly doubled. For this year, we only expect to overlay the 8600 block of Olden. On the list for street overlay, in order, is the 8600 block of Olden, the 8700 block of Windom, the 8700 block of Olden and crack and fill on other roads through town.

Ordinance's for September:

BILL NO. 05-564 an ordinance approving a subdivision plat for P & A Drywall subdivision no. 2, being a part of U.S. Survey 1920 – T 46N, R 6 E, City of Charlack, Missouri. All Aldermen voted "AYE" – Motion Passed. *This ordinance allows P&A Drywall, a Charlack business, to complete the final phase of their remodeling project.*

BILL NO. 05-565 an ordinance approving the Zoning Map for the City of Charlack and certain changes to the City of Charlack's Zoning Code. All Aldermen voted "AYE" – Motion Passed. *The Planning and Zoning Board identified a few changes with the new Planning and Zoning Map and had to make the necessary changes via ordinance.*

BILL NO. 05-566 an ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Charlack to execute on behalf of the City of Charlack an agreement with Mark Michael, a consultant to work on the new city hall project. All Aldermen voted "AYE" – Motion passed. *Mark Michael is a Municipal Consultant who specializes in working with Municipalities on projects such as new City Hall buildings. Mr. Michael will be consulting us with the engineering and architectural phases.*

BILL NO. 05-567 an ordinance establishing a general revenue fund and fixing the rate of taxation for the maintenance of said fund in the City of Charlack, Missouri, for the year 2005, repealing all conflicting ordinances or parts of ordinances and setting the rate at which said ordinance shall become effective. All Aldermen voted "AYE" – Motion Passed. *This is an annual requirement that fixes the rate of taxation for our City.*

BILL NO. 05-568 an ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Charlack to execute on behalf of the City of Charlack an agreement with Mark Kurtz, a consultant to work on economic development and land redevelopment issues. All Aldermen voted "AYE" – Motion Passed. *As I have stated in previous newsletters, I am continuing to work on getting another large business to move into our City. Currently, the City of Charlack is not "development ready," which means that any new development that might consider land use in our area, would not consider Charlack because we have not gone through the needed steps to allow developers or business to locate here. There are ordinances that need to be passed, resolutions, Tax Increment Financing issues, etc. In the past 3 years, Charlack has taken many steps to make us a strong City. This is the first step of many that will give us the ability to grow and continue to strengthen financially.*

Up & Coming:

Tuesday, October 25th – Work Session – 7:00pm at City Hall

Friday, October 28th – City of Charlack Halloween Party and Movie Night – 7:00pm – 10:00pm at the park!

Saturday Night, October 29th – Daylight Savings – Move you clocks back one hour before you go to bed!

Monday, October 31st – Halloween

And let's not forget, hopefully through the month of October, we get to see Cardinal Baseball! Go Cards!

Please Be Respectful of your Neighbors!

Jim Beekman,
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