

Charlack Newsletter

Message from your Mayor:

October, 2005

The cold is setting in, although you wouldn't know it when we broke record highs last week with 81degree's! Chief Palme has once again asked that we try not to leave our vehicles running while unattended. The next few months are traditionally slow months for City business, so my newsletters may be short (yeah, I know I've promised that in the past and it never happened....we will see!) I apologize once again for getting this newsletter out so late!

I wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

New Officer: We would like to welcome Officer Mike Shepard to the Charlack Police Force. Mike has been with us as a certified reserve officer for the last year. The Chief and Sergeant have decided to eliminate the two existing part time positions (Officer McCarthy and Officer Lawrence) in lieu of a full timer. This will help with the scheduling. Officers McCarthy and Lawrence will remain with our department as certified reserve officers. Welcome Mike!

Officer of the Month: Congratulations to Officer Tony Fanara for obtaining the Officer of the Month for October! Congratulations Tony!

Detra Thomas: Our part time City Clerk, Detra Thomas has graduated from the University of Missouri St. Louis. With her new degree, she has found work in her field and will be leaving us at the end of the year. Detra has been instrumental in the workings of City Hall, especially with the tedious work of rebuilding our databases. We wish her lots of luck with her new career and thank her for the great service she gave us in the short time she was here.

Warner's Warm-Up: The annual Warner's Winter Warm up has started and will run until November 20th. If you have any new or gently used coats that you are not using, please bring them to City Hall and we will get them to the Warner Foundation. Check your closets or basements. This is a great way to help those in need as the cold weather heads our way. If you have coats that you can donate and are unable to deliver them, please call City Hall for arrangements.

Halloween Party at the Park: We had a great time at the Halloween Party! Thanks to all of those who attended and those who helped out. I am encouraged to see more and more residents attending our functions. It really shows the closeness of our great community. Because of the success of the outdoor movie during the party, there are rumblings from some residents and Board members about having a movie night (or two) during the summer months! More will follow!!

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 unable to come to City Hall, please call to make arrangements with the City Administrator, Zella Hernal, and she will come to your home to obtain the information. **We will be accepting sign ups beginning immediately through December 5, 2005.** Those signed up before November 18th will get a check on or about November 25th, those signed up from November 21st through December 5th will receive a check on or about December 16th. Don't miss this great opportunity for our seniors. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Rottler Pest Control Update: If you haven't noticed (and I am sure the folks on Walton and Masterson have) there has been a lot of work going on at the new Rottler site. The ground has been excavated and the concrete has been poured. The next step is to construct the walls. I met with the contractor and Mike and Gary Rottler and they hope to be in their new facility by April 2006.

Yard Waste: REMINDER! The last yard waste pick up for this year will be Wednesday, December 28th. Yard Waste services will resume on Wednesday, April 5th, 2006. I will have this in my next newsletter as well.

What Are They Doing To Midland??: St. Louis County Highways has made the decision to remove the bridge that went over the old railroad tracks at the intersection of Midland and Walton Road. This will not be a quick project. They will be removing one side of the bridge at a time, so we will see two lane traffic for some time. They will be filling in the old tracks with fill dirt and then paving the new road without the bridge. There was some mention of removing the electric signal at Midland and Walton, however, that will not be determined until after the construction is complete. They will need to make sure that there is adequate vision from all angles before removing that signal. I will provide more info if I hear something that you need to know.

Park Developments: I forgot to mention in the last newsletter, but have you seen the new additions to our park? We have two new red maples between the playground and the bathrooms and some new landscaping, especially around the flagpole. Our park continues to improve and we have had many compliments on it. If I could only get the Highway Department to put up that sound barrier wall.....

April 4, 2006 Election: Candidate filing opens December 13, 2005 at 8:00 am and closes January 6, 2006 at 5:00 pm for the April 4, 2006 General Municipal Election. Offices coming up for election are one seat each for Alderman Ward 1 (currently held by Alderman Brun) and Alderman Ward 2 (currently held by Alderman Gene Speed).

City Park (Restrooms): Our restrooms at the park, as well as park reservations have closed for the winter season. The restrooms will be winterized and locked until spring. You can still reserve the park for 2006, however no reservations prior to April 1st, 2006 will be issued. That is also the date that the restrooms will re-open. Our park has been reserved almost every weekend this past year.

City Logo and Coin Phrase: I have extended the deadline for our new City Logo and Coin Phrase. I have received a few phone calls from residents asking for more time. Since we are in no rush to do this, I will extend it until the end of the year. We have several entries and some of them are quite good! Can you beat what we have??

Santa is Coming!: I have once again contacted the North Pole and Santa Claus has graciously accepted our invitation to visit Charlack! He will be here on Sunday, December 18th, from 11:00am – 3:00pm. Make plans to have the kids and grandkids come over to see Santa on his horse drawn carriage! Santa will also have many helpers passing out candy to those who come out. He will also have candy for our seniors. He only knows where are seniors live if they have signed up for the Senior Rebate, so if you haven't done that, please do so this year! I will have Santa's route with approximate times he will be on your street in the next newsletter.

New Public Works Employee: (A Little November News in the October Newsletter): I'd like to welcome our new Public Works employee Charlie Evola! Charlie came from Vinita Park and will be our new full time Public Works employee. He brings a lot of experience and knowledge and should be a great addition to our workforce. Give him a wave when you see him for the first time to let him in on the secret of what a great place Charlack is! Welcome Charlie!!

What Happened to Peter?: With the resignation at year's end of our part time clerk, Detra, the Board has approved hiring Charlie to the full time Public Works position. Peter Daub, who is the current Public Works employee will now be wearing several hats for our City. He will be taking over for Detra, working with Charlie for a few days a week and most importantly, be working Code Enforcement full time. In addition, we have terminated our contract with our cleaning company at City Hall. Charlie and Peter can handle it!

Lawsuit: The City of Charlack and its members of the Board of Aldermen and myself have been served with a lawsuit. Per legal advice, I am unable to go into detail regarding this suit. What I can tell you, is that it involves a merchant who applied for a license in our City. We are bound to follow our ordinances and for that reason (among others), we denied the license. This merchant did not agree with our decision and filed the suit. Our attorney is handling this and more will follow when I am able to discuss in greater detail.

City Hall Closed: City Hall will be closed on November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Ordinance's for October:

BILL NO. 05-570 an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk on behalf of the City of Charlack to enter into an agreement with Aalcan Asphalt Paving & Concrete Company, Inc. for an overlay of an asphalt residential roadway of 8600 block of Olden and crack and seal of McKibbon Avenues. All Aldermen voted "AYE," motion passed.
This is the contractor that did the overlay of the 8600 block of Olden.

BILL NO. 05-571 an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to the City of Charlack to execute on behalf of the City of Charlack and agreement with Mike Pauley, a consultant, to work on computer hardware and software issues. All Aldermen voted "AYE," motion passed.
Mr. Pauley will handle all of our computer needs as well as our existing security systems and email accounts.

Resolution 05-001 an adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

This is a resolution that we have adopted to allow for training for all City Employees. This training is designed to better prepare our employees in the event of critical incidences in our Nation such as a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

Up & Coming:

Tuesday, November 22nd – Work Session – 7:00pm at City Hall

Tuesday, November 24th – Thanksgiving Day!

Tuesday, December 13th – Board Meeting – 7:00pm at City Hall

Sunday, December 18th – Santa Visits Charlack! 11:00am – 3:00pm. More will follow in the newsletter.

Please Be Respectful of your Neighbors!

Jim Beekman,
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