

The Vision

Your Source for City of Wentzville News



January/February 2016

Board Proposes Lower Tax Rate for Second Year

The 2016 budget, approved by the Board of Aldermen late this fall, includes a proposed tax reduction. Taxes were also lowered by the Board in 2015. The proposed tax rate for 2016 is \$0.7345, this is a combined reduction for 2015 and 2016 of \$0.0557 or 7 percent. Your Board is working hard to save you money. But, please keep in mind, the City of Wentzville only represents a small portion of your total tax bill.

To view the 2015 St. Charles County Tax Rates, please visit http://bit.ly/scc_taxrate.

The 2016 budget also calls for a significant increase in slab replacement spending. Raising the slab replacement budget by \$1 million — from \$1.9 million in 2015 to \$2.9 million in 2016. The sidewalk improvement budget has also been increased by \$100,000 in 2016.

Candidate Filing Closes Jan. 19

Candidates can continue filing for the elected municipal offices that will appear on the April 2016 ballot. Candidates will need to file at City Hall, located at 310 W. Pearce Blvd. The filing period will remain open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016.

Positions open for filing include one Alderman from each of the three Wards, as well as the Mayor. The Alderman positions are for two-year terms; the Mayor's position is a four-year term.

City ordinances state that candidates running for Alderman must be at least 18 years of age; a citizen of the United States; and an inhabitant and resident of the City for at least one year prior to the election. Candidates running for Alderman must also be a resident, at the time he/she files and during the time he/she serves, of the Ward from which he/she is elected.

City ordinances state that candidates running for Mayor must be at least 25 years of age; a citizen of the United States; and a resident of the City at the time of, and at least one year prior to, the election.

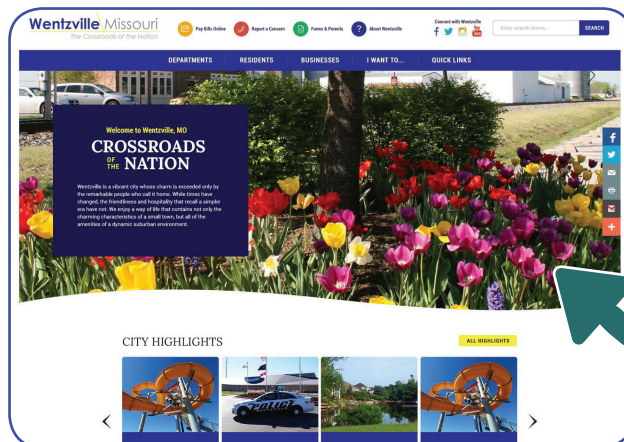
If you would like more information about the duties and qualifications for serving on Wentzville's Board of Aldermen, please call the City Clerk's office at (636) 639-2010.

Recycle Your Christmas Tree



You have the option of placing natural Christmas trees at your curb for recycling (on your regular trash/recycling day) between now and Friday, Jan. 15. Trees must be decoration and stand free. Questions? Call (636) 327-5102.

Natural trees can also be recycled at Progress Park, Heartland Park or Rotary Park. Residents may drop off trees, with no decorations, coverings, stands or lights at one of the locations above from 7 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., seven days a week, until Friday, Jan. 15.



Watch for a new City website coming soon to wentzvillemo.org!

INSIDE: Frozen Pond Reminders, City Hall Update and More!

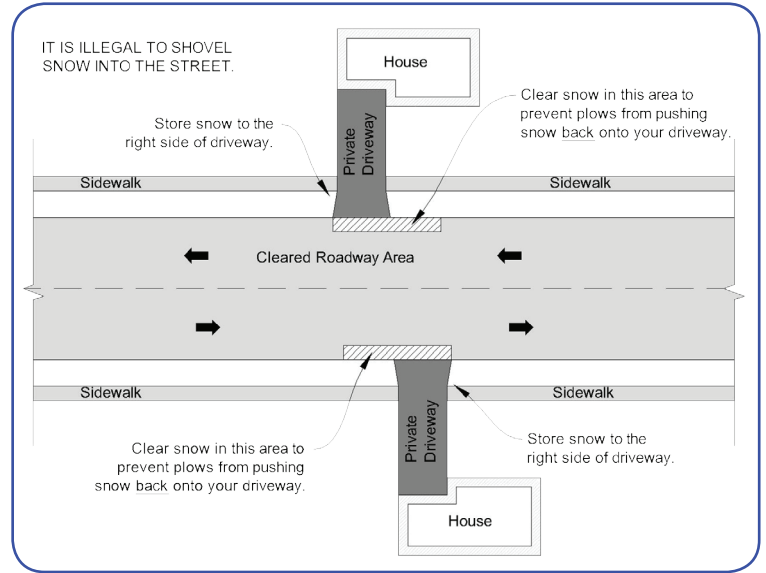


Snow Removal Tips from Public Works

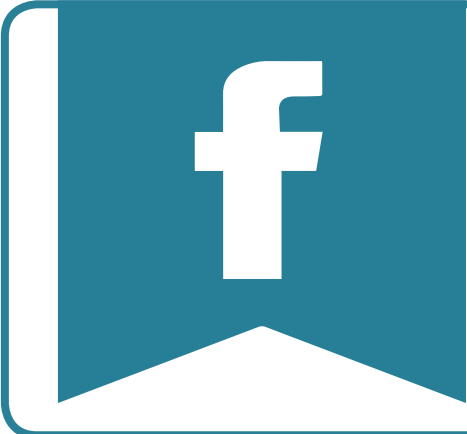
With snow and ice season upon us, Wentzville Public Works is gearing up to keep City roads clear and safe. Below are a few tips for residents:

- **Safety first! Keep fire hydrants clear of snow.**
Residents should keep fire hydrants clear of snow build up to ensure fire fighters can quickly find the fire hydrant in the event of a fire.
- **Observe winter parking restrictions.** It is always a good idea to remove parked cars from the roadway during snow events greater than two inches, Parking is prohibited on City streets when a snowfall forecast of five inches or more results in a declaration of a City Snow Emergency.
- **Store snow to right side of your driveway,** as you stand in your driveway and face the street. For best results, remove snow from the street in front of and to the left of your driveway (see sketch ----->). Snow remaining on the street in front of and to the left of your driveway, drops in front of your driveway when the City plow comes by.
- **Mailboxes:** Occasionally, mailboxes are bumped by snow removal equipment or snow dropping off of the face of the plow. When notified of the problem, the City will erect a temporary mailbox until weather conditions allow for repairs. If replacement is needed, the City will reimburse \$50 dollars for a new mailbox, which meets the minimum requirements of the U.S. Postal Service.
- **Sod:** If sod is damaged, the City will restore that area at the earliest availability of sod material.
- **Landscaping:** The City permits low bushes, ground cover and flowers to be planted in the right-of-way, but does not compensate residents for private plantings in the right-of-way that are damaged due to snow-removal operations.

- **Mail Delivery/Trash Pickup:** Snow Fighters clear snow as close to the curb line as practical to provide access to mailboxes and trash collection. Final cleaning is the responsibility of each resident to receive delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service.



Please remember: When a Snow Emergency is issued, residents must move cars off of public streets. Snow Emergencies, which are issued when five inches or more of snow are predicted, will be publicized on the City's Facebook page and on its website at www.wentzvillemo.org. Thank you for your help to improve our efficiency and effectiveness during these winter-weather events.



CONNECT WITH THE CITY ON FACEBOOK!

Learn about upcoming events/programs, construction projects, new businesses, snow emergencies, and more!

www.facebook.com/Wentzville



Neighborhood Traffic Safety

I touched on traffic safety in the last issue. However, it's such a big concern in our community that I wanted to call your attention to it a bit further.

Residents frequently express their concern regarding traffic speeds and pedestrian safety in our residential neighborhoods. Our goals include creating a safer roadway environment for all users, enhancing neighborhood livability and engaging the community to become active participants in the traffic safety process. So how do we all work together to make these goals a reality?

What can you do as a driver to improve safety?

- Know and obey the posted speed limits.
- Watch for and yield to pedestrians in the roadways.
- Plan your trips.

What can you do teach safety as a parent?

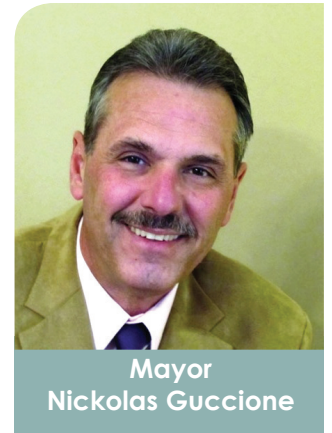
- Set a good example for your children.
- Do not encourage your children to play in the street.
- Teach children how to properly cross a street.
- Teach children the safest route to places they go often – school, a friend's house, etc.

What can you do to improve safety as a resident?

- Get involved. Talk with your neighbors about traffic safety.
- Be aware of existing conditions and notify the City of concerns.
- Report damaged, faded or missing traffic signs.
- Help maintain good visibility by trimming landscaping.

What can the City do to help?

- Continue to programs like "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25." To learn more, visit <http://bit.ly/keepkidsalive>.
- Maintain traffic signs and street lighting. If you see a missing/damaged sign or notice a light that's out, let us know. Report your concern on our website at www.wentzvillemo.org or call (636) 327-5101. If you're reporting a light, please note the number on the pole.
- Maintain the roadway system. We're always working hard to repair damaged sidewalks and streets and to keep our residents safe. Again, you can always let us know if you notice a problem.



Mayor
Nickolas Guccione

Let's work together to keep our streets and children safe! Take care to mind your speed and be aware of your surroundings. Let's continue to make Wentzville a safe place to live, work and play!

Important DATES

January

- Jan. 1** New Year's Day, City Offices Closed
- Jan. 4** Parks and Recreation Board, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 5** Planning and Zoning, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 13** Board of Aldermen, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 14** Board of Adjustment, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 17** Coffee Talk w/ the Mayor, 12:30 p.m.*
- Jan. 18** Martin Luther King Jr. Day, City Offices Closed
- Jan. 26** Downtown Committee, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 27** Board of Aldermen, 6 p.m.

February

- Feb. 1** Parks and Recreation Board, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 2** Planning and Zoning, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 3** Aldermen Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.*
- Feb. 10** Board of Aldermen, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 11** Board of Adjustment, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 15** Presidents' Day, City Offices Closed
- Feb. 23** Downtown Committee, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 24** Board of Aldermen, 6 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, the events above will be held at City Hall (310 W. Pearce Blvd.). All meetings are subject to change. *Beginning in 2016, these two meetings will be held at the Law Enforcement Center at 1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd. Please check the Calendar of Events at www.wentzvillemo.org for the most up-to-date information.



This section features new and established businesses here in Wentzville. If you have a Business Spotlight suggestion, please email the City's Economic Development Director at Dan.Lang@wentzvillemo.org.

Old Friends Vintage Guitars

1 E. Allen St., Ste. 100

Business Owner: Emmett P. Taylor

What year did you open? 2012

What influenced you to locate your business here? I have been a lifelong guitar player. I moved to Wentzville 20 years ago. I had an interest in being a part of the history of Downtown Wentzville.

What do you feel you bring to Wentzville by having your business here? The business brings a unique atmosphere for people to come and get their guitars, and visit.

What products/services does your business offer? A good selection of both vintage and new guitars and other instruments. We also offer guitar, piano, banjo, mandolin, drums, horns and reed instrument lessons.

What's your favorite thing about Wentzville? I credit the past leaders of our community with the vision to create Wentzville Parkway, which has allowed the City to expand, but has helped Downtown Wentzville maintain its old-town feel.

What's next for your business? Expand the lesson capacity for the business and grow the instrument repair business.

What do you hope Wentzville will be five years from now? Downtown Wentzville will continue to thrive and develop. I would like to see the City become more of a destination.

*Below: Emmett Taylor, Owner
Inset: Old Friends student*



SpeedPro Imaging

145 Hamilton Industrial Ct.

Business owner: Stephen Stanfill

What year did you open? 2014

What influenced you to locate your business here?

My employees and I all live in Wentzville and I have other business and real estate interests within the City.

What do you feel you bring to Wentzville by having your business here?

SpeedPro Imaging is primarily a business to business entity. We offer our customers services and products not available elsewhere in St. Charles County. The company both designs and produces its digital products onsite.

What products/services does your business offer? Large-format digital printing, commercial signs/banners, display booths and advertising products, vehicle wraps, flooring, murals, graphic wall coverings, and perforated window displays.

What's your favorite thing about Wentzville? The large number of business and civic organizations, the prospect for future economic growth and a balance between the City's rich historical past and new development.

What's next for your business? We've invested in a highly advanced Flatbed Printer, which allows us to print on virtually any material up to three inches thick. Materials include plastic, metal, flooring, foam board, etc.

What's next for Wentzville/What do you hope Wentzville will be or evolve into five years from now? I believe Wentzville's current efforts to revitalize the downtown area is paramount to the City's future success and the revitalization will be a catalyst for bringing people into the City to enjoy festivals, music, restaurants, art and other activities. The downtown area of Wentzville is one of the few places in the City that has the potential to become a top destination local like Main Street St. Charles, the Loop, Central West End, etc. We need an area like this to better serve the City's younger demographic and to stay relevant into the future.



Stephen Stanfill, Owner and Ben Pfeifer, Director of Production.

Check Out Our New Wentzville Businesses!

- **JOHN E. BURNS, CPA**
14 E. MAIN ST.
- **ANGEL NAILS**
11 WENTZVILLE BLUFFS, STE. 105
- **THE GROUNDS GUYS**
600 W. MAIN ST.
- **BLUE WAVE MARTIAL ARTS & FITNESS**
100 MALL PKWY., STE. 204
- **CARDINAL BODY ART**
986 WENTZVILLE PKWY.
- **ST. LOUIS WHOLESALE**
100 MALL PKWY., STE. 210
- **MISSOURI RETIREMENT SPECIALISTS**
215 CREEKSIDE OFFICE DR.
- **IRISH EYES PHOTOGRAPHY**
24 W. MAIN ST.
- **LOM ENTERPRISES LLC**
1066 CROSSWINDS



Plans for New City Hall Move Forward



Aerial front view of the new City Hall.

In October 2014, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen selected a site for the new Wentzville City Hall, which is adjacent to the City's Law Enforcement Complex at the intersection of Schroeder Creek Boulevard and Wentzville Parkway.

Currently, the City Hall on Pearce Boulevard (which was built in the 1970s), is one of nine buildings that house City staff. With the completion of this building, all City departments and administrative offices will be consolidated, leading to more efficiency. The new structure is designed to offer a more customer-service oriented environment, with adequate parking, technology-driven meeting facilities and one-stop services for residents. The building will also include security features designed for resident and employee safety. Residents will be able to address any department, sign up for service, pay bills, go to court or attend City meetings — all at one complex. The cost of this facility comes from internal resources, with no debt.

In December, following a space-needs analysis, several initial designs and many discussions, the Board selected the rendering pictured below as the design concept to move forward with.

The "L" shaped building will be classical in style with a welcoming entrance. Its appearance from the Parkway will also be aesthetically pleasing. While this project is still a work in progress, groundbreaking for site work is expected in the spring 2016 with completion in the summer of 2017.

The current City Hall has been utilized since Wentzville had close to 3,000 residents — this new facility will take the City well into the future in order to serve upwards of 60,000 residents.

"I have been part of this process for the last eight to 10 years," said Mayor Nick Guccione. "Through this site selection and design process the City continues to be fiscally responsible. The central location of City Hall provides easy accessibility to all residents. And while this building will take us well into the future, it also allows the ability to expand when the time comes. I'm very excited about this new facility, which will make a positive statement about our City for years to come."

"I'm very excited about this new facility, which will make a positive statement about our City for years to come."

**Nick Guccione,
Mayor**



Side view from Wentzville Parkway



Frozen Ponds Pose Safety Risks

The single-digit temperatures which will make their way into Wentzville this winter, will inevitably bring with them freezing ponds, lakes and other frozen bodies of water. However, while the ice may be beautiful, it poses some chilling dangers.

At most, the ice on our ponds and lakes is only about a half to three-quarters of an inch thick. In order to support even the smallest child, it needs to be upwards of two to three inches thick. It's also important to remember that ice is dangerous for our pets, too. Though they generally weigh less than humans, they also have the potential to fall through the ice. If you see your pet venture out on the ice, do not to follow them — especially if they fall through!

Even with precautions and safety plans in place, ice emergencies can happen. Although hypothermia is the greatest danger, getting out of the water is critical. Never try and enter the water to rescue a person or an animal. If possible, try to throw a flotation device or rope to help, but never go on the ice yourself. Call 911 immediately and get help on the way. The Wentzville Board of Aldermen remind you to be safe and aware as you enjoy winter in Wentzville!

Around Town

Tree Carvings Pay Tribute to Wentzville's Rich History

Check out the new wood carvings at 408 Main St. in Downtown Wentzville. These creative and intricate tree carvings were created by Robinson Carvings out of Montgomery City, Mo. (Robinson also completed the carving at Wentzville's UnKorked.) These carvings pay tribute to Wentzville rich history.

The first carving honors Wentzville resident J.C. Brown. Brown also owned the home. Brown, who was born Jan. 12, 1867, was Cuivre River Justice of the Peace in 1903 and was elected Mayor of Wentzville in 1908. After serving three terms as Mayor, he was elected Alderman of Ward 1 in 1914 and served three terms. He then ran for Mayor again in 1920 and served three additional terms. Brown died on March 22, 1939.

The pipe carving represents Wentzville residents Robert and Caleb Dula who operated two tobacco factories in Wentzville in the mid-to-late 1800s. Robert owned and

occupied the home shown in the background until 1885 when the business was sold. The house was built in the mid-1800s and sits on the last lot of the original 1855 platted Village of Wentzville.



HOA Trustees: We Want to Hear from You!

In most subdivisions, the Board of Trustees is comprised of subdivision homeowners who volunteer their time to maintain and improve their respective subdivisions for the betterment and enjoyment of all residents.

Generally, the subdivision community elects trustees to their positions at an annual meeting. The duration of service is detailed in the association's indentures and terms are usually staggered to ensure a continuing level of experience on the board. When your trustees change (or if you live in a newer subdivision) it's important to update your HOA contacts with the City. Providing the City with up-to-date contact information ensures that we are able to share important news, changes and event details (such as the HOA symposium) with you.

**To update your information,
please call Nichole at (636) 327-5101.**





Daddy's Little Sweetheart

Friday, Feb. 5 /Saturday, Feb. 6 | 6 p.m. | Progress Park Center

The memories will last a lifetime when you attend this special evening. This three-hour event includes dinner, dancing, games, a craft and more. Each couple will receive a photo to remember this special evening. Dates for the girls may be dad, grandpa, uncle, adult brother, or a special friend of the family. The cost is \$50 per couple for residents and \$65 per couple for nonresidents (\$25 for each additional guest, adult or child). Register early by calling (636) 332-9236.

Bunny Run 5K & Fun Run

Saturday, March 19 | 6:30 a.m.* | Rotary Park



Get ready for egg hunting with The Bunny Run 5K and One-Mile Fun Run! Put on your speed-enhancing bunny ears and tie up your laces as you race around Rotary Park before the Easter EGGstravaganza! These two fun family events include face painters for the kids, a visit from the Easter Bunny, postrace food and drinks, a chocolate bunny finishers prize for all participants, as well as overall and age-group awards. If you find an Easter egg along the way, be sure to pick it up for a possible surprise at the finish! Costume contest for team, best male and best female (judging at 7:15 a.m.). The winners of the 5K run in each of the following age groups will receive awards; 10 and under, 11-14, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and older. The top three overall males and females will also receive awards, but they will not be awarded for

winning their age group. Every participant in the 5K/One-Mile Fun Run will receive bunny ears and a chocolate bunny! The first 100 5K entrants will also receive a custom race T-shirt. The cost for the 5K is \$25 by Feb. 19 and \$30 after. For the fun run, the cost is \$20 by Feb. 19 and \$25 after. *Registration starts at 6:30 a.m.; race starts at 7:30 a.m.

Easter EGGstravaganza

Saturday, March 19 | 8:30 a.m.* | Rotary Park

Hippity hop, Easter's on its way! The Easter Bunny has been filling thousands of eggs with candy and prizes for the annual Easter EGGstravaganza. Some eggs will contain a slip of paper for prizes. Don't forget your basket to collect all your goodies. Children will be grouped according to their age. Children may move up to older age groups, but not down to younger age groups. Come early and enjoy face painting and games. Registration in advance is \$3/child. The day of the event is \$5. You must have your ticket on the day of the event to hunt. Don't miss this EGGciting event! Please arrive early to allow time for parking. * Gates open at 8:30 a.m. • 9:30 a.m.: Ages 1-2, 7-8, 9-10 • 10 a.m.: Ages 3-4, 5-6



Know Who to Call

Do you have a problem with tall grass in the neighborhood? Have questions about your water bill or what you can and can't recycle? Want to know which ward you live in or who represents you on the City's Board of Aldermen? The City's "Who to Call" sheet can help you reach the right City department. You probably received a copy of the "Who to Call" sheet in your utility bill this fall, but in case you didn't keep it, you can print out another copy online at <http://bit.ly/whotocallinwentzville>. Or, if you prefer, you can stop by City Hall to pick up a copy.





310 W. Pearce Blvd.
Wentzville, MO 63385

PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wentzville, MO
Permit #14

Christmas in Wentzville

Wentzville kicked off the holiday season with a tree lighting and parade downtown. Here are a few photos from the event, which was held on Sunday, Dec. 6. If you missed the 2015 event, mark your calendar now for Dec. 4, 2016.

