

The Vision

Your Source for City of Wentzville News



January/February 2017

Schroeder Creek Boulevard Extension Now Open!

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Dec. 21 to commemorate the much-anticipated opening of the Schroeder Creek Boulevard extension. In an effort to alleviate traffic congestion on Wentzville Parkway, this project provides a new north-south connector between Wentzville Parkway and Pearce Boulevard.

The Schroeder Creek Boulevard extension begins just past the Law Enforcement Center and runs south to West Pearce Boulevard, providing a connection to both William Dierberg Drive and the Wentzville School District campus. Additionally, a 10-foot wide trail and sidewalks run adjacent to the Schroeder Creek extension, which connect to the walking trails at Heartland Park. A signal has also been added to the Pearce Boulevard/ Schroeder Creek Boulevard intersection. The project opened ahead of schedule and closes out a very successful season of road construction in Wentzville. This commitment to improving infrastructure is one of the Board of Aldermen's ongoing strategic plan goals.



Frozen Ponds Pose Safety Risks

The single-digit temperatures that 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 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.

Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

You have the option of placing natural Christmas trees at your curb for recycling, between Monday, Dec. 26 and Friday, Jan. 20. Trees must be decoration- and stand-free. Please set your tree at the curb by 6 a.m. on your regular collection day. 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, coverings or lights at one of the park locations above from 7 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., seven days a week, through Friday, Jan. 20.



Update: David Hoekel Parkway

The David Hoekel Parkway (DHP) project is planned for construction over several years in a number of phases. The current phase being designed includes an interchange connecting I-70 to the City of Wentzville. In 2017, the City will work on right-of-way acquisition for this interchange, with construction expected in 2018.

Information about this project was shared during a Public Hearing (pictured below), which was held in November. At www.wentzvillemo.org, you can navigate to the Engineering Department's webpage to see conceptual maps, interchange renderings and learn more about the DHP project.



INSIDE: City Hall Update, Candidate Filing Info, Tax Overview & More!





Candidate Filing Closes Jan. 17

Candidates can continue filing for the elected municipal offices that will appear on the April 2017 ballot. Candidates will need to file in person at City Hall, located at 310 W. Pearce Blvd. The filing period will remain open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017.

Positions open for filing include one Alderman from each of the three Wards and the Municipal Judge. The Alderman positions and Municipal Judge are each two-year terms.

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 Municipal Judge must be a licensed attorney, qualified to practice law in the state of Missouri, and a resident of St. Charles County at the time of his/her election. The Municipal Judge does not need to reside within Wentzville city limits. The Municipal Judge must be between 21 and 75 years of age.

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. Please note: all filing fees are \$25 and must be paid when filing for the position of Municipal Judge or Alderman.

Check out these new Wentzville businesses!

Wolf Home Investments LLC
223 Creekside Office Dr.

PC Plan-it Computer Company
15378 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.

Mattress Direct
1800 Wentzville Pkwy.

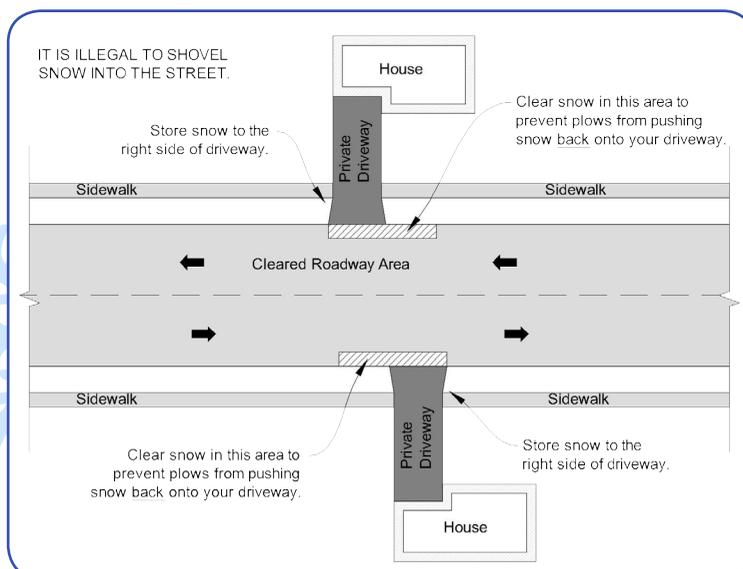
Snow Removal Tips from Public Works

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:

- **Fire Hydrants:** Residents should clear fire hydrants 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 below). 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 for a new mailbox, which meets the minimum requirements of the U.S. Postal Service.
- **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. If sod is damaged, the City will restore that area at the earliest availability of sod material.
- **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 clearing is the responsibility of each resident to receive trash collection service and delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

When a **City 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.



Help and Hope

While the beginning of a new year is often a time of happiness and cheer, that's not always the case for everyone. If you are hurting or in need of resources to help you and your family, please remember you don't have to do it alone. There are many local resources that are designed to help families in Wentzville and beyond.

An independent, nonprofit agency funded by donations, **Crisis Nursery** is committed to preventing child abuse and neglect by providing short-term, emergency shelter for children, birth through age 12, whose families are faced with emergencies or who are in crisis. To reach the Wentzville location, please call the 24-Hour Helpline at (636) 887-3070 or visit www.crisisnurserykids.org.

The goal at **LINC** (or Love in the Name of Christ) is to support disadvantaged families on the path to self-sufficiency. LINC provides this support and direction for families and individuals in the community, helping them set goals and objectives to empower them to become productive citizens within the community. For more than 20 years, LINC has served disadvantaged families in St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren counties. The organization provides emergency assistance for the prevention of homelessness, affordable day-care for single-income families, educational and vocational development, recreational programs and more. To learn more, please visit www.lincsc.org or call (636) 332-5127.

Youth in Need is a nonprofit child and family services agency based in St. Charles. Youth in Need is dedicated to building positive futures for the community's most vulnerable children, teens and families. The organization provides resources for counseling, emergency shelter, teen parent programs, foster care and adoption, Head Start programming, and more. Youth in Need has been serving the greater St. Louis area since 1974. Today, more than 400 full- and part-time staff serve more than 12,000 of the area's most vulnerable children, teens and families across eastern Missouri. To learn more, please visit www.youthinneed.org or call (636) 642-0642.

Founded in 1979, **Crider Health Center's** vision is full, productive, healthy lives for everyone. Crider offers primary care, mental health care, dental and pediatrics to the underserved in St. Charles, Warren, Lincoln and Franklin counties. Crider Health Center forms partnerships in the community with other local agencies and governmental entities to not only take care of physical and behavioral health needs, but to also ensure that people have adequate and healthy nourishment, housing, and the skills that they need to achieve their fullest potential. To learn more, please visit www.compasshealthnetwork.org or call (636) 332-6000.

The Child Center of Wentzville organization responds to allegations of child abuse in 14 counties in Missouri through a supportive team approach to reduce the trauma to children and their families. The Child Center provides forensic interviews and presents prevention education programs. For more information, visit www.thechildcenter.com or call (636) 332-0899.



Mayor
Nickolas Guccione

Protect Your Pets During Cold Weather

While we all understand the importance of keeping ourselves warm and dry during varying weather conditions, it's equally important to make sure our four-footed family members are also safe and warm. Wentzville residents, according to Ord. No. 2012-3207, are required to provide adequate care, shelter and control of their animals. Among other requirements, owners must provide an environment for their pets that has both shelter and temperature suitable for that species and/or breed. This includes environments that are inside and outside. Owners must also provide animals with access to clean, unfrozen water in a tip-proof bowl as well as nutritious food at least once daily. The Humane Society of the United States provides some simple guidelines to help protect our furry friends.



1. Whenever possible, keep pets indoors. Just as wind chill affects us humans, wind chill can threaten a pet's life. Pets are sensitive to extreme cold and are at risk for frostbite and hypothermia during extreme cold snaps.
2. Give your pets plenty of food and (unfrozen) water. Use plastic food and water bowls; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.
3. Protect their paws from salt. The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe all paws with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.
4. Avoid antifreeze poisoning. Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Wipe up spills and keep antifreeze out of reach.
5. Speak out if you see a pet left out in the cold. Politely let the owner know, or call our non-emergency Police line at (636) 327-5105.



Making Progress: City Hall Update

If you've driven down Wentzville Parkway past Schroeder Creek Boulevard lately, you've likely noticed quite a bit of progress at Wentzville's new City Hall site. Check out the City's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/wentzvillecit for time-lapse videos, which will be updated with construction progress every two to three months.



A Night at the Mouse Races (Ages 21+)

On Friday, Feb. 10 join the Friends of the Wentzville Parks (FOTWP) for a night of fun, food and drinks as we cheer on the mice to see which one is the fastest! Proceeds benefit the FOTWP, a 501 (c)3, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping improve parks and recreation opportunities in the City of Wentzville. This organization also helps ensure that Wentzville's youth have access to these opportunities, regardless of their ability to pay. A light snack and beverages will be provided. You're welcome to bring your own food to share with your table. The event will be held at Progress Park Banquet Center and the fun includes a silent auction, raffles, a 50/50 drawing and more! Individual tickets are \$25 each or reserve a table of eight for \$160. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the fun starts at 7 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities are available, please call Christine Eifert at (636) 332-9236 for more information.



Business Spotlight



Have a suggestion for a business to feature in one of the City's publications?
Email Wentzville's Economic Development Director at Dan.Lang@wentzvillemo.org.

Lynn's Pets

15370 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.

Business Owner: Lynn Wyatt

What year did you open? 1977 in O'Fallon and relocated to Wentzville in 1987.

What influenced you to locate your business in Wentzville? This is the town where I grew up.

What do you feel you bring to Wentzville by having your business here? Personal service. We get to know the customers by name and maintain a home-town feel.

What products/services does your business offer? Saltwater, tropical and goldfish; tanks and supplies; snakes and reptiles; small animals; birds; small animal grooming.

What's your favorite thing about Wentzville? Watching it grow and develop.

What's next for your business?

Remodeling and looking to the future.

What do you hope Wentzville will be or evolve into five years from now? Continuing to grow in the right direction.

Other comments, advice or news you would like to share:

I problem-solve for my customers and provide personalized services. We also have live fishing bait available for purchase.

Celebrating
40 Years!



Owner Lynn Wyatt

Home Video Studio

411 E. Pearce Blvd.



Owner Mark Kaiser

Business Owners: Mark Kaiser

What year did you open? 2014

What influenced you to locate your business here? The progressive nature of the City and the quaint feel of the downtown area.

What do you feel you bring to Wentzville by having your business here? A unique service unavailable throughout St. Charles County.

What products/services does your business offer? Conversion of old home movies and videotape to more modern media. Also, audio and video production capability.

What's your favorite thing about Wentzville? The community and its people.

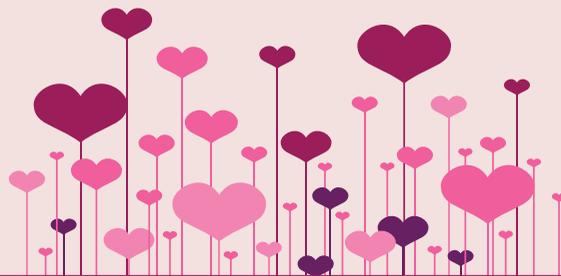
What's next for your business? To establish a satellite drop-off location in St. Louis County and increase our production capability.

What do you hope Wentzville will be five years from now? For the community to continue to grow and expand.

Other comments, advice or news you would like to share: The City needs to continue to improve its infrastructure.

Daddy's Little Sweetheart

The memories will last a lifetime when you attend this special evening on either Friday, Feb. 3 or Saturday, Feb. 4. 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 older brother, or a special friend of the family. Cost is \$50 per couple for residents and \$65 per couple for nonresidents (\$25 for each additional guest, child, or adult). Please register early to reserve your spot.



Bunny Run 5K and One-Mile Fun Run

Get in shape for egg hunting with the Bunny Run 5K and One-Mile Fun Run beginning at 6:30 a.m. at Rotary Park on Saturday, April 8! Put on your speed-enhancing bunny ears and tie up your laces as you race around beautiful Rotary Park before the Easter EGGstravaganza! In addition to the Bunny Run 5K, we will have a One-Mile Fun Run/Walk. These fun family events feature a beautiful course that you are sure to enjoy, plus face painters for the kids, a visit from the Easter Bunny, post-race food and drinks, a chocolate bunny finishers prize for all participants, and overall/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 female, and best male (judging at 6:45 a.m. before race starts at 7 a.m.). Registration starts at 6:30 a.m.; race starts at 7 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 150 5K entrants will also receive a custom race shirt. Participants can pick up packets early at Progress Park Recreation Center on April 6 or 7. Cost: 5K is \$25 before Feb. 26 or \$30 after; Fun Run is \$20 before Feb. 26 or \$25 after.

Easter EGGstravaganza

Saturday, April 8 at 8:30 a.m., we'll kick off our annual Easter EGGstravaganza at Rotary Park! The Easter Bunny has been filling thousands of eggs with candy and prizes for this fun event. 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. Day-of-the-event registration 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. The gates open at 8:30 a.m. Ages 1-2, 7-8 and 9-10 will hunt at 9:30 a.m., while ages 3-4 and 5-6 will hunt at 10:30 a.m.

Bone Hunt

Bring man's best friend to Rotary Park on Saturday, April 8 at 11:30 a.m., where all kinds of treats and bones will be hidden for your furry friends to find! Your dog will be allowed to try to find as many goodies as possible. Dogs must remain on leashes at all times. Don't forget to bring a basket to put your treats in! After the hunting ends, each dog will receive a "doggie bag" to take home. We will also draw for door prizes. Dogs and their owners may roam around in the park after the event and take advantage of our trail, which is a little over one mile in length and loops around the lake. Cost is \$8 for residents and \$10 for nonresidents; day-of registration is \$15 per dog. You must submit proof of vaccinations when registering your pet.



EASTER  **EGGstravaganza** 

Bunny Run  **5K and FUN RUN**

BONE HUNT  

Call the Parks Department at (636) 332-9236 to register for any of the events listed above.

News and Information



Town Hall Meeting Regarding Home Rule Charter Form of Government

A charter city is a city that possesses a unique set of laws that forms the legal foundation of its local government. Through adoption of a charter, the citizens of a city have the opportunity to define the powers and functions of elected officials as well as the organization and procedures of local government.

The City of Wentzville is currently a fourth-class city, which exists and is significantly controlled by Missouri statutes. Wentzville has grown to be one of the largest fourth-class cities in the state of Missouri. As a fourth-class city, Wentzville can only engage in activities expressly permitted under the state statutes. Missouri law permits cities that are larger than 5,000 citizens to adopt a charter form of government and the citizens in many larger cities have done so.



Town Hall Meeting
to explore a Charter Form of Government
Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m.
at the LEC (1019 Schroeder Creek Pkwy.)

Some of the advantages of the home-rule charter are:

- the reduction of potential legislative interference in city affairs;
- a charter permits citizens to have a greater voice in the determination of local government policies and thus encourages many more citizens to become interested in and participate in local affairs;
- a charter permits citizens to determine the form and administrative organization of their local government; and
- a charter form of government provides greater opportunity for local control regarding local issues.

As Wentzville continues to grow, the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and City staff want to ensure that the form of the City's government structure is best suited for the City and its citizens. To explore this topic further, a Town Hall Meeting will be held at the Law Enforcement Center at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18. All interested residents are encouraged to attend.

Christmas in Wentzville



Tax Overview

The Board of Aldermen would like to help better clarify the taxes you pay in Wentzville — both sales tax and real estate property taxes.

SALES TAX

Sales tax is imposed on retail sales of tangible personal property and applicable services. All sales of tangible personal property and taxable services are generally presumed taxable, unless exempted by law. All sales taxes are voter approved. The state sales tax rate is 4.225%, while the rate for St. Charles County is 1.725% and the City of Wentzville is 2.5% — bringing the total to 8.45% (see the chart to the right). Additional taxes may apply when purchases are made in Transportation Development Districts (TDD) or Community Improvement Districts (CID). TDD-related taxes are used to help fund transportation projects within a defined district, while CID-related taxes are used to fund public improvements within the defined CID area. You can learn more at http://bit.ly/tdd_cdd.

SALES TAX BREAKDOWN

JURISDICTION	TAX RATE
State of Missouri	4.225%
St. Charles County	1.725%
City of Wentzville	2.500%
• General	1.000%
• Capital	0.500%
• Transportation	0.500%
• Parks	0.500%
SALES TAX TOTAL	8.450%

PROPERTY TAX

Now let's take a look at property taxes. The City of Wentzville's portion of your property tax bill is 9.45%, and the other taxing divisions make up the remaining 90.55% of your bill. The St. Charles County Tax Assessors website, states that "the tax rate is established initially by a vote of the residents within the boundaries of the taxing division. Property tax rates are monitored and approved annually by the State Auditor." For Wentzville residents, these divisions include:

- St. Charles Community College
- Wentzville Fire District
- City of Wentzville
- Wentzville School District
- State of Missouri
- St. Charles County
- Library District
- Ambulance District

In 2015, the Board of Aldermen adopted a strategic goal to review the City's long-term financial strategies. One method was to reduce property taxes. The 2014 rate was 0.7902 per \$100 of assessed value, the 2015 rate was 0.7545 of \$100 of assessed value and the 2016 rate is 0.7518 of \$100 of assessed value. The 2016 rate is the second lowest rate in St. Charles County. Please keep in mind, however, that the decrease may not necessarily translate into a lower tax bill, as reassessments are done every odd year and, for instance, in 2015 the average residential assessment in Wentzville went up 10 percent. Tax bills also vary based on the rates of other entities, but, as you can see below, the City of Wentzville only represents a small portion.



1. Wentzville R-IV School District 5.2117¢ (65.50%)+
2. Wentzville Fire Protection District 0.8756¢ (11.01%)
3. Special Districts* 0.8469¢ (10.64%)
4. City of Wentzville 0.7518¢ (9.45%)
5. St. Charles County** 0.2403¢ (3.02%)
6. State of Missouri 0.0300¢ (0.38%)

+Please note if you live in the Fort Zumwalt School District, the rate is 5.2465%.

*Special Districts: St. Charles County Ambulance District, Development Disability, St. Charles County Library District and St. Charles Community College

** Includes County, Road and Bridge, and Alarm Dispatch



310 W. Pearce Blvd.
Wentzville, MO 63385

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

Don't miss the fun spring events planned for our residents! See pg. 5 for details.

January/February Holidays

City offices will be closed Jan. 2 (New Years observed), Jan. 16 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) and Feb. 20 (Presidents' Day). Trash/recycling and yard waste collection will not be affected by these holidays. Progress Park Recreation Center will be open regular hours on each of these days; however, the center will close at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 5 (Superbowl Sunday).

Trash/Recycling and Yard Waste Holidays for 2017

Trash/recycling and yard waste collection observes six major holidays per year. The holidays are only observed, however, when they fall Monday through Friday. When these holidays fall on a weekday, collection will occur one day later than normal. This will also affect collection days, which fall after the holiday during that week. If the holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the schedule will not be affected.

For example, Memorial Day falls on a Monday; so, citywide trash/recycling and yard waste collection will be delayed by one day. This means that residents which normal pickup scheduled on Monday, will have their pickup moved to Tuesday; Tuesday's pickup will move to Wednesday, and so on. Residents who have a normal Friday pickup, will then have their collection moved to Saturday. Below is a list of affected 2017 trash/recycling and yard waste holidays.

- Memorial Day (May 29)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (Sept. 4)
- Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 23)
- Christmas Day (Dec. 25)



Roads Not Cleared by the City

Below is a list of roads within Wentzville's city limits that are cleared by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) or St. Charles County, rather than the City of Wentzville. More information can be found at www.wentzvillemo.org. From here, navigate to the Public Works Department's section of the website.

- Interstate 70
- Interstate 70 Service Roads
- Highway 40/61
- Highway 64
- Routes A, Z and N
- Wilmer Road
- Hepperman Road

Supplier Symposium

A Supplier Symposium is being planned for next spring by the City's Procurement Department. Watch for more details coming soon. More information will be shared on the City's website at www.wentzvillemo.org and on the City's Facebook page.



Upcoming EVENTS

- Planning & Zoning**
6 P.M. | JAN. 3 AND FEB. 7
- Parks and Recreation Board**
6:30 P.M. | JAN. 9 AND FEB. 6
- Board of Aldermen, 6 p.m.**
JAN. 11 & 25 AND FEB. 8 & 22
- Board of Adjustment**
6 P.M. | JAN. 12 AND FEB. 9
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
JAN. 16 | CITY OFFICES CLOSED
- Park Board Tree Committee**
5 P.M. | JAN. 18 & FEB. 15 AT PP
- Charter Town Hall Meeting**
6 P.M. | JAN. 18 AT THE LEC
- Downtown Committee**
6 P.M. | JAN. 24 AND FEB. 28
- Friends of the Wentzville Parks**
6:30 P.M. | JAN. 31 AND FEB. 28
- Presidents' Day**
FEB. 20 | CITY OFFICES CLOSED
- Stormwater Committee**
6 P.M. | FEB. 23

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at City Hall (310 W. Pearce Blvd.). Subject to change: visit www.wentzvillemo.org for up-to-date calendar items.