

WASHINGTON

TODAY

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Official Newsletter for the City of Washington, Illinois

Summer/Fall 2011

From the desk of Mayor Gary W. Manier



Bob Morris our City Administrator elected to retire in late June and I would like to thank him for his contributions to this city during the last 9 years. Bob came here at a time when we just exploded in population and he has kept us very strong financially. He had a great way of managing and organizing the everyday operations of City Hall. I would like to wish Bob and his wife Sheila, the very best in the future.

We began our new fiscal year May 1st and are excited about the progress of work completed to date. We are now into our 7th year of street maintenance using the chip and seal process. I know that this has not always been popular with some residents and I understand their concerns. By using the chip and seal process, we were able to repair 10.59 miles of streets this year. Dallas Road is getting closer to being opened. Summit Drive is also nearing completion and this will provide the region with better access to ICC, Sunnyland Plaza, schools, and businesses in this area. This project was funded by the City of East Peoria, Tazewell County, Washington Township and the City of Washington.

I know that many of you are aware of how we renovated the old library into our new City Hall. Now we are in the process of renovating the old City Hall and making the entire facility our new police station. We looked into buying property and constructing a new police station, but the cost to do so would have been over \$5M. This project is going to be accomplished for \$1.5M and we will do this without raising taxes. The renovated police station should be completed in early 2012.

Sunnyland Plaza is starting to make much needed improvements and we look forward to this transformation. The new business partner for the plaza has shown interest is making this plaza a viable place to shop again and wants all of us to be proud that it is in our city. The plaza is the first thing visitors see when entering into our city from the west and hopefully the work that is going to take place will give everyone a better impression of who we really are. We have installed brick crosswalks on the square and hope that this will add to the historic downtown appearance. This project is being funded through the Downtown TIF. I think that we can all agree that the investment of our downtown is a great use of the TIF funds. Now we will be upgrading the square and have approved plans to repair lights, fountain and much needed landscaping improvements.

We are looking forward to future projects that will continue to make Washington the great city that we have all grown accustomed to. We need to find revenues to help fund extending Freedom Parkway all the way to Cummings Lane. We feel that if we can open up this corridor, we can attract new businesses. We also are looking at ways to help fund the renovation of our aging infrastructure in the older areas of our city. The last several years we have waited to see who was going to knock on our door wanting to open a business here, well now we need to become more proactive and seek out just that right type of businesses for us. In the very near future we will begin a new EDC program that will be doing plenty of research before approaching potential businesses to open stores here.

Again this year the St. Jude Runner's from Washington made all of us very proud. They had a total of 88 runners and many volunteer's that made this a very successful day. I'd also like us to remember Alderman Dingedine's family in our prayers, Dave's mother Maxine recently passed away. We also lost one of our business leaders last month, Tom O'Dea – O'Deas Cleaners, please remember them in your thoughts and prayers as well.

Together we can...together we will!



God Bless Washington,



Gary W. Manier
Mayor

WASHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS. . .



I hope all of you are having a safe and enjoyable summer. There are many exciting things happening within our community and the Police Department since our last newsletter. In April the renovation to convert the old City Hall building to the Police Department began and the progress of this project is right on schedule. We anticipate relocation of the communication center and the administrative staff to the first floor by mid-October. The entire project should be complete sometime next spring. All the members of the Department are very excited to see the work in progress. We are all very grateful to former City Administrator Bob Morris, Mayor Manier and the Washington City Council for making this renovation project a reality. We also are very appreciative of the community for their continued support of the Police Department. We know that this new facility will greatly enhance our ability to deliver law enforcement services to our community.

Community Resource Officer Jim Fussner has begun accepting application for our 14th session of the Washington Police Department's Citizen Police Academy. To date, over 200 residents have attended and graduated from this 12-week program designed to familiarize our residents with what the Police Department does to maintain the quality of life our residents so richly deserve. If you are interested in participating in our next class please contact Officer Jim Fussner at the Washington Police Department (309) 444-2313. We would love to have you! Upon graduation you can stay connected to the Department by becoming a member of the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA). Our CPAAA is a very active group of highly motivated residents!

Training & Leadership Development is one of our top priorities at the Washington Police Department. Last October, Sergeant Dave Stark retired from the Police Department after honorably serving our community for over 24 years. In December, Detective Curtis Marshall was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and is currently assigned to the afternoon shift as the Patrol Supervisor.

Community oriented policing continues to be our policing philosophy. We ask all our residents to engage our Police Officers and our Police Officers to engage our residents to continue in forging strong community partnerships. We will take nothing for granted and we collectively realize that our reputation, as an agency, is on the line every minute of every day. All the members of the Washington Police Department understand that 'public trust' is a fragile commodity and we want to keep it! The men and women of the Washington Police Department continue to be honored to serve our community while constantly putting "*People First.*"

If you have any question, comments or concerns I encourage you to contact myself or Deputy Chief of Police Don Volk at the Washington Police Department.

James W. Kuchenbecker, Chief of Police, 444-1112, jkuchenbecker@ci.washington.il.us
Donald J. Volk, Deputy Chief of Police, 444-1113, dvolk@ci.washington.il.us

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP UNITED FUND

Washington Township United Fund is very pleased to announce that we have a new website to facilitate making contributions through various methods. The website is washingtontownshipunitedfund.com. Due to a change in policy, employees and retirees of Caterpillar and other large area employers who allow payroll deductions through Heart of Illinois United Way, will no longer be able to designate Washington Township United Fund. To assure that your donations reach local Washington organization, it will be necessary to donate directly to the Washington Township United Fund. If you have any questions about the organizations that ad to the quality of life in Washington, making contributions, or just have suggestions feel free to contact Jeff Alexander at 444-8031.



Washington Township United Fund was founded in 1959. The Washington Township United Fund (WTUF) is dedicated to improving the quality of life in Washington Township by financially supporting organizations within the community that provide youth programs and family services. We currently provide support to WHIP, Tough Love, Washington Recreation Association, and Northern Tazewell Recreation Association. All monies that are donate stay totally in Washington Township.

CITY SOLICITING UNUSUAL MAPPING OPTIONS

Have you ever had an idea for a map that would greatly help a person find a particular place in Washington? Perhaps you have thought that such a map would greatly impact numerous people. If this is the case, city staff wants your best ideas! There are a variety of maps currently published on the city's website that identify subjects such as streets, zoning classifications, and school districts. Email your ideas to cityhall@ci.washington.il.us (subject line: Map Ideas) by September 30th. Staff will create a few unique maps that will be posted on the website. Please try to suggest maps that will benefit as many Washington residents and visitors as possible. While we do not want to place many limitations on you, we will be unable to create maps that have a minimal focus. Therefore, sorry, but we cannot offer a map that gives directions to your house! There are no limits on the number of individual suggestions. Use your imagination!



RECENTLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES. . .



- ◆ Amending code - - §152.007 entitled “Condominium Subdivisions” and repealing §152.008
- ◆ Amending code - §152.016 entitled “Drainage Plan”
- ◆ Amending code – Chapter 112, Alcoholic Beverages, restating §112.22, 112.25, 112.99 in their entirety
- ◆ Granting a special use to allow a Washington Fire Department training facility in a C-3 zoning district
- ◆ Amending code - rezoning Lots 5 & 6 of Mallard Crossing Commercial Park from C-3 to R-2
- ◆ Amending Code - Chapter 52 entitled “Sewers, Drains, & Sewage Disposal” & other misc. changes establishing base rates & charges for sanitary sewer service
- ◆ Amending code - Chapter 112 entitled “Alcoholic Beverages” by increasing Class D licenses and decreasing Class B licenses
- ◆ Amending code - Chapter 154.004 entitled “Definitions” regarding duplexes
- ◆ Amending code - Chapter 154, various sections regarding off-premise signs
- ◆ Vacation – portion of alley located between 112 & 114 Zinser Place & a portion between 112 Zinser Place and 105 N. Market Street Granting Landmark Designation status to 116 N. Elm Street
- ◆ Designating the intersection of Lexington Drive and Summit Drive as a stop intersection with Summit Drive as a through street

BRUSH PICK-UP SCHEDULED

Brush pick-up service will begin on **Monday, October 17th** weather permitting. Please note the instructions below that need to be followed in order for your brush to be picked up.



Residents within the City limits wishing to use this service must follow these instructions: place the brush (cut ends toward the street) between the curb & gutter and sidewalk or approximately 3 feet off the edge of the roadway – brush piles that do not have cut ends toward the street will be left for the property owner to dispose of at his/her own expense; branches, limbs, or trees greater than 4 inches in diameter will not be picked up - they will be left for the property owner to dispose of at his/her own expense; and residents are reminded that the service is offered strictly for yard maintenance purposes. Any abuse of the service such as tree topping, entire hedge removal, etc. resulting in large piles of brush, branches, roots, and the like will not be permissible. These large piles will also be left for the property owner to dispose of at his/her own expense.

City crews will not enter onto private property in the performance of this service. Beginning on the SW corner of the City (Rolling Meadows South at Knollair Dr.), crews will make one round of the entire City. No return trips will be made!

REMINDER... PETS MUST BE LEASHED AND CLEANED UP AFTER



Please be reminded that City Code requires all pets to be on a leash and all pets to be cleaned up after! Visit the City's website at www.washington-illinois.org and click on Chapter 91 under Municipal Code on the menu bar to review the City's animal ordinance.

LEAF BURNING... THINGS TO CONSIDER



Autumn is fast approaching and the trees will soon be shedding their leaves. We would like to remind residents to be considerate of your neighbor if you choose to burn your leaves. The smoke and smell of burning leaves can ruin an otherwise beautiful fall day for your neighbors. Please visit our website at www.washington-illinois.org and click on 'Hot Topics' on the menu bar to learn more about ways to help keep this beautiful season enjoyable for all!



Just a reminder that the City prohibits burning on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULED

As part of a routine maintenance, the City of Washington Public Service Department will be flushing fire hydrants **beginning at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 6, 2011 and is targeted to conclude on September 16th**, weather permitting. Fire hydrant flushing typically starts at those hydrants closest to the water towers and progressively moves away from the towers. Flushing of hydrants may produce discoloration of water. To eliminate the discoloration, simply open your faucets and allow them to run until water is clear. There is no need to boil water for consumption. **WARNING: BEFORE USING YOUR WASHING MACHINE, PLEASE CHECK FOR DISCOLORED WATER.** If the water is discolored or sediment is noticeable, run an empty cycle through the washer before laundering clothing.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Annual Fall Brush Pickup Service begins Monday, October 17th

Washington Homecoming Parade on September 23rd

Autumn Fest on the Square on September 30th

Moonlight Madness on the Square on October 20th – 25th



Reach us by phone at 444-3196 or Website at www.washington-illinois.org

Mayor
Gary Manier

Aldermen

Robert Brucks, <i>Ward I</i>	Alan Howerter, <i>Ward III</i>
Jim Newman, <i>Ward I</i>	Dave Dingleline, <i>Ward III</i>
Carol Moss, <i>Ward II</i>	James Gee, Jr., <i>Ward IV</i>
Todd Clanin, <i>Ward II</i>	Gene Schneider, <i>Ward IV</i>

City Officials
City Administrator
Pat Brown, *City Clerk*
Ellen Dingleline, *City Treasurer*

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