



Bridgeton BANNER

www.bridgetonmo.com January - February 2013

Your Elected Officials

Mayor:

Conrad W. Bowers
373-3811
or 209-0222



Mayor Bowers

Municipal Judge:

Joseph Larrew

Ward 1:

Scott Zimmer – 575-7474
Bob Saettele – 291-1131

Ward 2:

Robert Benben – 291-5841
Linda Eaker – 291-3880

Ward 3:

Ferd Fetsch – 291-3021
Randy Hein – 298-1700

Ward 4:

Barbara Abram – 739-1050
Joni Norris – 291-8041

City Hall – 739-7500

Community Center

739-5599



Bridgeton's 2013 Budget

By Mayor Conrad Bowers

The Bridgeton City Council approved the 2013 budget by a unanimous vote during the final meeting of 2012. Estimated revenues for 2013 are \$20,004,000 and planned expenditures for all funds are \$24,253,600. Planned expenditures include many capital improvement projects and the purchase of capital items. Almost 20 percent (\$4,500,000) of budgeted expenditures is projected for capital items. Two sources will be used to fund the difference between estimated revenues and expenditures. First, additional funds, from the capital fund balance, not spent in previous years, will be utilized during 2013 and second there is a carry-over from the 2012 unrestricted fund balance. Over \$2,000,000 will remain in the unrestricted fund balance in the event of an emergency or deterioration of economic conditions. Keeping an emergency fund has long been a practice for our City and served us well after the 2011 Good Friday tornado.

Again this year, there will be no tax increases for Bridgeton residents. The residential real estate tax rate will remain as it has since 1984. Additionally, Bridgeton residents will again enjoy the benefit of a zero personal property tax rate. Our diverse and excellent revenue base allows the city to provide many services for our residents; the majority of payroll cost for personnel is associated with providing services for residents. Also, the city allocates a considerable amount of money for contractual services and special benefits, such as refuse collection (\$560,000), street lighting (\$130,000) and senior citizen tax refunds (\$105,000).

Major capital improvements are planned for 2013 and beyond. The new public works garage on Fee Fee Road, that replaces the outdated and tornado damaged structure, will be completed in 2013. This facility was financed using Certificates of Participation which are a form of borrowing similar to municipal bonds. During 2012, Moody's Investor Service assigned Bridgeton a credit rating of Aa2. Only 23 cities in Missouri have ratings within the double-A category. This rating allowed financing at a very favorable interest rate (2.35 percent) and the Certificates will be retired with existing revenue sources.

A total of \$3,500,000 has been committed to road and bridge reconstruction projects and the ongoing sidewalk and pavement repair programs planned for 2013. The largest project will be the reconstruction of Fee Fee Road from Maryland Heights to Old St. Charles Road. Future projects will eventually improve Fee Fee Road from Old St. Charles Road to Natural Bridge.

Also, the 2013 operating budget provides for one additional police officer and includes funds for a two percent cost of living increase for our full-time employees and scheduled merit increases.

If you have questions about plans for 2013 or the budget please contact one of your elected officials. They will be pleased to hear from you.

In addition, copies of the 2013 budget are available for review at the Bridgeton Trails Branch of the St. Louis County Library at 3455 McKelvey Road.

SENIOR CITIZEN UTILITY TAX REFUND

If you are a Bridgeton resident age 65 or over* as of January 2012 (or receiving Social Security Disability effective 12/1/12) you may be eligible to receive a tax refund from the City of Bridgeton for the following utilities: gas, electric, water and telephone (landline OR cell phone taxes are refunded – not both).

Now through Wednesday, February 29, 2013, bill receipts will be accepted for the previous 12 month period (January through December 2012.) NO EXCEPTIONS AND NO EXCUSES! Actual bill receipts are required for proper payment and should be submitted to the Community Center in person (for first timers) or by mail for returning residents. The Senior staff will be available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proof of age and residency is required. For more information, please call the Senior office at 314/739-5599.

*Note: For those residents who have recently reached the age of 65, eligibility begins the full month following your date of birth. (i.e. a resident born on 1/15/47 would be eligible from February through December.)

Bridgeton Holiday Lighting Contest

Congratulations to all of the 2012 Holiday Lighting Award Winners. Thank you for your commitment to making Bridgeton brighter this holiday as well as a beautiful city in which to live. We would like to also thank everyone that took time out to call the Bridgeton Community Center to nominate his/her neighbor. We wish every Bridgeton Resident a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

The Bridgeton Beautification Commission conducted their annual House Judging Tour on Sunday, December 9th. Ten winners were selected based on quality of display, attractiveness and overall appearance. Residents who received an award during the past three years were ineligible for consideration.

Each winner received an engraved commemorative Christmas ornament and a sign placed in their front yards to notify neighbors and passersby of this special recognition.

The Beautification Commission selected the following residential winners:

Mr./Mrs. Gary Deatherage
3831 DePaul Meadows Ct.

Mr./Mrs. Tim Bodde
3898 Park Place Estates Ln

Josh, Jackie, Matt & Lauren Wasser
11872 Beaverton

Polly Channel
4223 Tideland

Mary Tipton
4213 Tideland

Mike & Cherie Blaesing
11818 Majella

Melissa/Jason Mitchell (Mother & Son)
12758 San Clemente

Tonya Mason
3384 Tortosa

Susan Busch
12015 Clichy

Bill Rosner
12720 Spanish Village Dr.

The commission recognized Orchid'Dell Florist as the best decorated business in the City.

Wayne & Helen Kelley Named VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

The City of Bridgeton hosted the 33rd annual Boards and Commissions dinner on November 16th at the Embassy Suites St. Louis Airport Hotel. The elected officials sponsor this dinner to recognize the many volunteers who serve the city on one of the fourteen active Boards or Commissions. Ray Hartman who is well known in the area and currently owner of St. Louis Magazine was the featured speaker for the evening.

Wayne and Helen Kelley were honored as Volunteers of the Year. Wayne has been an active volunteer since 1998. He has served on the Design and Review Board, Finance Commission and Personnel Commission. He is currently serving on the Finance Commission as the Chairman. Helen has volunteered at Community Helping Ministry and Mercy Hospital for many years. In addition, Helen assists Wayne helping our seniors with their income tax preparation.

The following businesses made donations for attendance prizes at the dinner: Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel, El Maguey, Embassy Suites, Massa's, Orchid'dell Florist & Gift Shop, Red Lobster, TGI Friday and Wal-Mart.

If you are interested in serving on a City board or commission please contact any Councilmember, the Mayor or Staff member.



Pictured: Helen and Wayne Kelley receiving an award for Volunteers of the Year.

City Clerk's Report of Recent Councilactions

Approved budget for 2013

Authorized an amendment to the retirement plan for employees of the City of Bridgeton.

Amending Bridgeton Zoning Ordinance, (Appendix I, Planned Commercial District, B-5(J) "4361 Cypress Road at I-70), to add approximately 29 acres of property currently zoned R-2 single family dwelling district and to add "Vehicle Service Station" and

"Automobile Parking" to the permitted uses of land (City of St. Louis)

Authorized a User Agreement with St. Louis County Emergency Communications Commission for subscriber radios for an interoperable radio system for the City of Bridgeton's Police, Public Works, and Parks Departments

UPCOMING EVENTS

SWEETHEART BALL

Girls from ages 5 – 12 can bring their favorite adult male (dad, stepdad, grandpa, uncle, older brother, etc.) for a magical night of fun on Friday, February 8th from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.! The evening will include dinner, dancing and lots of special memories. A picture of your sweetheart and her favorite guy will be taken to help them remember the evening! Registration ends Monday, Feb. 4th or when full. Register early-space is limited! Resident fee is \$28 per couple. Non-resident fee is \$33 per couple. The cost for an additional girl is \$14 each.



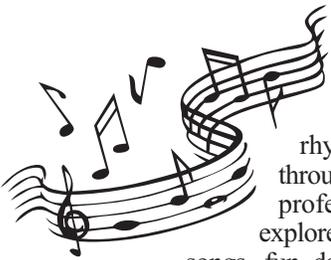
SHE AND ME Very Fancy TEA

Girls (ages 3 to 8) and a special woman in their lives (mom, grandma, aunt, etc.) can spend an enchanted afternoon together on Saturday, March 9th from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. We will serve tea or punch and cookies to all participants. Girls will receive a feather boa and other goodies, as well as have their face painted by Impish Grin Face Art. Girls and their “she” will work together on a craft to take home. Bring your camera and dress “fancy” for tea. Registration closes Monday, March 4th, or when full. Register early; space is VERY limited. Resident fee is \$22 a pair. Non-resident fee is \$26 a pair. Each addition girl is \$11.



MUSICAL ADVENTURES

Musical Adventures is a social and skill building class for toddlers through preschool aged children (3-5). Core musical concepts and rhythms are instilled in each child through play and interaction with trained professional instructors. Children will explore the world of music through familiar songs, fun dance tunes and hands-on instrument experience. Instructors use the guitar to teach and children are introduced to a wide variety of percussion instruments. This class will be held on Monday from 11-11:30 a.m. It will run from February 4 through March 25. Resident fee is \$70 and Non-resident fee is \$75.



PET LICENSES DUE

Pet licenses for 2013 are now available for purchase at City Hall. Proof of rabies inoculation is required. The fee is \$2.00.

Please remember - Dogs and cats may not be allowed to run at large. They must be licensed annually and must be immunized against rabies. Call the Animal Control Officer at 739-7557 about questions or problems concerning animals.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING



Pre-requisites:

- Must swim 300 yards continuously using these strokes in the following order: 100 yards front crawl, 100 yards of breaststroke and 100 yards of either front crawl or breaststroke or a combination of both. All 300 yards must be completed using rhythmic breathing with your face in the water and a stabilizing, propellant kick.

- Minimum age of 15

- Must swim 20 yards using a front crawl or breaststroke, surface dive to

a minimum depth of 7 feet, retrieve a 10lb object, return to the surface, and swim back to the starting point with the object within one minute and forty seconds.

While returning to the starting point, you must hold the 10lb object with both hands and keep your face above the water.

IMPORTANT: Skills testing for all sections will be held the Friday before your first class from 5-9pm

Training is held on Saturdays and Sundays. Session schedule is as follows:

S1	February 15, 16, 17, 23, 24	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
S2	March 15, 16, 17, 23, 24	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
S3	April 19, 20, 21, 27, 28	9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The cost for Residents is \$145; Non-residents is \$160.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP



For ages 15+. This is a great way to get your teen started on his or her summer job search-join Bridgeton Parks and Recreation staff to learn more about summer employment opportunities within the department. Find out what positions are available, and what the qualifications and requirements for each position are. Staff will also give tips on what constitutes a great job application, and how to wow a potential employer in an interview.

This workshop will be held on Sunday, January 27th from 2-3 p.m. The workshop is FREE – but you must pre-register by January 23rd.

GOLF COURSE OPENING

Berry Hill Golf Course is scheduled to reopen on **MARCH 1ST.**



Calendar of Events

February

- 5 Design and Review Board7:00 p.m.
- 6 City Council7:00 p.m.
- 7 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 8 Sweetheart Ball, BCC.....6:30 p.m.
- 11 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
- 12 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 13 Street Commission7:00 p.m.
Housing Board of Appeals7:30 p.m.
- 14 Beautification Commission6:00 p.m.
Finance Commission.....7:00 p.m.
- 18 President's Day - City Hall Closed
- 19 Design and Review Board7:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board6:00 p.m.
- 20 Business Watch Meeting.....8:00 a.m.
City Council7:00 p.m.
- 21 Municipal Court10:00 a.m.
Historical Commission6:00 p.m.
- 25 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
Special Events Commission6:00 p.m.
- 26 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 28 Board of Adjustment.....7:00 p.m.
Senior Citizens Tax Refund Ends

March

- 1 Berry Hill Golf Course Opens for the Season
- 5 Design and Review Board7:00 p.m.
- 6 City Council7:00 p.m.
- 7 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 11 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
- 12 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 13 Housing Board of Appeals7:30 p.m.
Street Commission7:00 p.m.
- 14 Beautification Commission.....6:00 p.m.
- 18 Police Commission7:00 p.m.
Personnel Commission7:00 p.m.
- 19 Design and Review Board7:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board6:00 p.m.
- 20 Business Watch Meeting.....8:00 a.m.
City Council7:00 p.m.
- 21 Historical Commission6:00 p.m.
Municipal Court10:00 a.m.
- 25 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
Special Events Commission6:00 p.m.
- 26 Municipal Court6:00 p.m.
- 27 Ward 1 Meeting – City Hall7:00 p.m.
Ward 2 Meeting – City Hall7:00 p.m.
Ward 3 Meeting – City Hall7:00 p.m.
- 28 Board of Adjustment.....7:00 p.m.

For information about your city, please refer to our website. The address is: www.bridgetonmo.com

Part-Time Employment Opportunities for 2013

Bridgeton youth and others can get a jump on applying for summer and other seasonal positions. The Parks and Recreation Department and the Public Works Department are accepting applications for part-time and seasonal employment.

Available positions in the Parks and Recreation Department include: program instructor, recreation aide, custodian, lifeguard, sports official, maintenance worker, day camp counselor, seasonal laborer and concession worker.

Available positions in the Street Department involve assisting in all types of street and storm water maintenance. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age and be in possession of a valid Missouri driver's license.

For more information about each position, contact the Community Center or City Hall. The City of Bridgeton is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



City of Bridgeton
12355 Natural Bridge Rd.
Bridgeton, MO 63044

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