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The City Voice

Monthly Newsletter



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Happy New Year!

A New Year brings hope of great things to follow. We often reflect at this time of year about personal goals and resolutions, all with the best intent and enthusiasm we can muster. While we will face fiscal challenges, I am optimistic of many positive things to come in the New Year for the City of Hobbs, and I have just one resolution for the City Manager's Office: to support our employees in 2016 as we face our fiscal crisis head on.

While the end of 2015 brought us the Goliath storm, we answered the call. It was just a another reminder of the talent and character our employees bring to our organization.

Thank you all for giving so much of your time and energy to ensure we are heading in the right direction. While these first few weeks were full of activity and time-consuming work, we have accomplished a great deal!

Calendar of Events for JANURAY

- 4 - Candidate Filing Day
- 12 - Write-in Candidate Filing Day
- 11 - Father Daughter Dance tickets go on sale (see Parks and Rec department)
- 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — Non-Emergency City Services CLOSED
- 19 - Warrior Award nominations due
- 25 - Trash Pickup returns to normal
- Feb. 6 - Father Daughter Dance



OUR MISSION IS S.E.R.V.I.C.E.

SAFETY
ENGAGED TEAM MEMBERS
RESPONSIVE
VISIONARY
INCCLUSIVE
CUSTOMER DRIVEN
ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

January is National Mentoring Month!



During the month of January, organizations across the nation celebrate the value of quality mentoring programs that focus attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us; individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, and others can work together to increase the number of mentors and investments in our youth, as well as our “up and coming leaders” within various organizations. One of the initiatives that have made great progress within the City of Hobbs over the last year was the implementation of Administrative Regulation (AR) 15-01 establishing administrative leave for City employees to complete volunteer work. The purpose is to allow team members to participate in giving back and supporting the community. We will support philanthropic

programs/activities that enhance and serve the community in which we live and work. At the same time, the City of Hobbs recognizes that participating in these sorts of activities enriches the lives of its team members.

MLK, Jr. Walk – The Power to Make Change

For about 20 years, 80 or more supporters, at the grace of the weather, have attended the MLK March in Hobbs to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. This year the theme was “The Power to Make Change.” The march has always served as an opportunity to display hope and faith, as well as remembrance of MLK. During the march, demonstrators sing, wave flags, and promote positivity and awareness for the work done through the Civil Rights Movement. Participants begin their walk from MLK Soccer Complex and finish at Booker T Elementary School, a march that lasts for about 45 minutes. At Booker T, a program of speeches, presentations, and readings of MLK’s quotes was held. The program hosted speaker Terrance “Mack” Wright, children presented readings from MLK as well as skits, and other presenters took part in the presentation. Participants were advised to park their vehicles at MLK Soccer Complex, and Hobbs Express made arrangements to shuttle them from Booker T back to their vehicles at MLK. If you would like to get involved in the march or program in the future or would like more information on the event, contact Joe Cotton at (575)318-6413.

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

2016 Hobbs Firefighter Calendars for \$10

(HFD and Lea County Animal Transport)



The Hobbs Fire Department and Lea County Animal Transport partnered together to produce the first “HFD Firefighter & Lea County Animal Transport Calendar.” The calendar features firefighters from the HFD posing with a dog or cat, mostly ones available at the shelter. The 2016 calendars are now on sale for \$10, and all proceeds benefit the Lea County Animal Transport, a service that transports animals of Lea County to areas that do not euthanize.

Workplace Safety Provisions by Nicholas Goulet

Recent tragedies have prompted much discussion here at City Hall and across the country. We feel sorrow for those who experienced such great loss, and these events make us all think a lot more about how important safety and awareness can be. We know that work needs to be done in regards to policy development and education.

In Hobbs, we have initiated discussions and programs to assess and address many of the basic security issues that need immediate focus.

We have had discussions on the issue of school safety with the leadership of Hobbs Municipal Schools (HMS). Hobbs Police Department and HMS have a school resource officer program already in place that provides law enforcement officers in middle and high schools throughout our community.

At City Hall and other City buildings, we will continue to utilize our safety and facility management staff, with assistance from HPD, to implement emergency action plans to enhance our workplace security. In years past, we have established parameters on what should be done during certain types of emergencies. Such parameters include fire drills, as well as other preventative measures like teaching people to “stop-drop-roll” when exposed to fire, or to call 911. One new measure that is similar is a program called “Run, Hide, and Fight”. This program, adopted by the Department of Homeland Security is intended to implant a protocol in the minds of everyone who could face an active shooter situation. The City plans to review emergency evacuation plans for all facilities.

Much has been done, but a lot of work remains to ensure we are all prepared in the event we have the need to respond. We must take care of our team members.



Legislative Priorities by J.J. Murphy

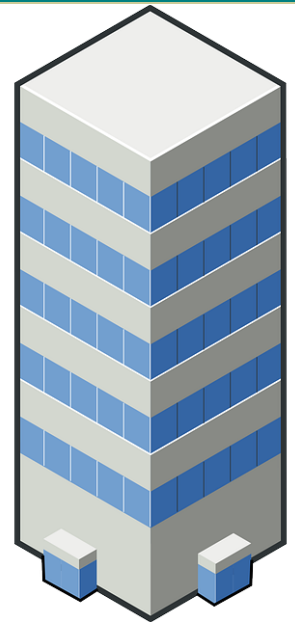
This year's 30-day legislative session begins January 19th. In preparation for the session, staff and I have met to determine areas of interest and expressed our priorities to Mayor Cobb and City Commission. A resolution approving the FY 2017-2021 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) was reviewed and approved at the August 17, 2015 regular Commission meeting. The top 5 ICIP priority projects for this year are:

1. Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent system
2. Sewer Main Replacement Program
3. Community Housing Projects
4. Drainage Master Plan
5. Multi-Generational Recreational Center

Follow Bill locator and updates @ www.nmlegis.gov

2015 Building Activity by Manny Marquez, Building Official

With the end-of-year report reflecting decreases in most construction categories, the Building activity still remains steady for this year. It is keeping growth relatively positive in the Commercial and Residential Construction. At the end 2015, 4,106 permits were issued totaling just over \$86.2 million in construction evaluation. Housing was a major factor with 169 permits issued for single family, site-built homes and 3 Multi-Family Apartments Complexes. This is the highest number of permits for housing in the last 3 years combined. In 2015 there were 18 permits on the Commercial side and 34 for 2014 for new construction. Between 2010 and 2014 a total of 7,486 permits were issued and in 2015 the 4,106 a 54% of the total permit between 2010 and 2014 alone. The average permits between 2010 and 2014 were 1,487 permits. One of the brightest spots is in the Multi-Family, since 2010 to current a total of 10 new Multi-Family Apartment Complexes that provided 1,056 units to our community.



In the new construction the noticeable businesses were Rosa's Café, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Dickey's Restaurant to name a few. New Hotels include Hilton Garden Inn, Value Place, Zia Hotel, Main Stay, and also several business offices. The Boys and Girls Club is another noticeable building achievement to add to the list for 2015. This year we can expect to continue on the Housing Market, as well in the commercial, and remain steady on the Construction Industry.



Pre-Budget for FY 2017

The City of Hobbs will hold a minimum of one (1) budget public work session prior to the first Commission meeting in May, 2016. In order to comply with Section 6-6-2 NMSA 1978, local governments have following deadlines to adhere to:

June 1 – Budget (preliminary) request are due to New Mexico Local Government Division
 July 31 – Budget (final) Final Day to submit budget adjustment resolutions for current FY
 Final budget requests for next fiscal year including the approving resolution due at New Local Government Division

The New Mexico Local Government Division requires the City of Hobbs to establish and maintain a cash balance in the general fund equal to 1/12th of the budgeted expenditures at fiscal year-end (June 30). The City of Hobbs preliminary budget will hold two public meetings regarding the preliminary budget. The two public meetings are as follows: 1) Preliminary budget work session discussions and 2) Final adoption of fiscal year preliminary budget. The timeline for work session is the 2nd Commission meeting in April and the 1st Commission meeting in May.



Elections by Jan Fletcher, City Clerk

The Hobbs City Commission is comprised of seven members, people from all walks of life, who devote their time to public service as elected officials. The Mayor is elected at large; City Commissioners are elected by the voters in their respective districts, and must reside within the districts they represent.

The Mayor and Commissioners are elected for four-year terms. The terms of the City Commissioners are staggered so that three Commissioners are elected each two years. The next election is March 1, 2016, for a Mayor and Commissioners for Districts 1, 2, and 3. The election for Commissioners for Districts 4, 5, and 6 will be held in March of 2018, along with the position of Municipal Judge. Once elected, the Commission selects one of its members to serve as Mayor Pro Tem until the next election. The Mayor and Commissioners have no term limits. The annual salary for the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and Commissioners is determined by ordinance. Elected officials may also receive medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits, and may qualify for public employee retirement benefits. The City Clerk oversees the election process including required candidate filings.

Important dates:

January 26, 2016- First day for Absentee Voting in the City Clerk's office only

February 2, 2016 – Voter Registration Closes with the Lea County Clerk

February 10, 2016 – First day for Early Voting in the City Clerk's office only using Electronic Tabulators

February 26, 2016 – Last day for Issuance of Absentee Ballots and Last Day for Early Voting

March 1, 2016 – Election Day...7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

If you are not sure of your Commission district, go to www.hobbsnm.org and view the Commission district map. You may contact commissioners by email, mail or phone.



Voter ID's by Jan Fletcher, City Clerk

CITY OF HOBBS VOTERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE A PHOTO ID TO VOTE IN ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BEGINNING WITH THE ELECTION ON MARCH 1, 2016. IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A PHOTO ID, NOTHING ELSE IS NEEDED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PHOTO ID, THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE WILL ISSUE VOTER PHOTO ID CARDS WITHOUT CHARGE AT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT CITY HALL, 200 EAST BROADWAY, HOBBS, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

For more information on Voter ID's, please call the City Clerk's Office at (575) 397-9200.



Let's extend a huge **CONGRATULATIONS**
to our **Ugliest Christmas Sweater** contest winners!



1st Place – Julia Henry



2nd Place – Lou Anne Lopez



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Warrior Awards

The Human Resources Department is now accepting nominations for the next Warrior Award. Please submit them to HR by the end of the day on January 19th.

The writable form is located on the intranet under “printable forms.”

Forms may be printed and turned in, or you can “save as” and e-mail the form to Valerie Rojas in HR at vrojas@hobbsnm.org.

Nominations can be accepted by anyone, however, HR does require supervisor approval for nominations. Voting will take place the following week, and the new Warrior Award will be presented their helmet.

The City of Hobbs will be hosting the New Mexico Municipal League Annual Conference on August 31 – September 2, 2016. Approximately 600 – 800 attendees from cities, towns and villages all across the State will be traveling to Hobbs to view our beautiful city during this conference!



J.J.'s Motivation of the Month:

“The ultimate measure of a person is not where he or she stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he or she stands at times of challenge and controversy.” — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.