

THE CITY OF Byrnes Mill

Volume 2, Issue 1

May 2018

CITY BIDS FAREWELL TO GIBSON AND WELCOMES NEW MAYOR

It is with great sadness that we share the resignation of Mayor Susan Gibson whose mobility has continued to worsen due to Post Polio Syndrome which is progressively debilitating.

We would like to start by thanking her for serving our community for a total of seven years. A resident of Byrnes Mill for 17 years, Gibson first started out serving with the Byrnes Mill Improvement Committee, the group that started the Byrnes Mill Farmer's Market where she served as Market Master. She and a group of those individuals began attending City meetings to become more involved, which is when she realized that a lot of updating needed to happen thus began her time as Mayor.

Through her leadership, in conjunction with the Board of Aldermen, many positive changes have occurred in our City. Some of the highlights for Susan were:



- Making the City's finances transparent & reinstating yearly audits
- Updating policies and procedures & getting the City completely online to communicate with residents
- Park updates to include a restroom and playground known as Hog Hollow

- Byrnes Mill's new and first City Hall (building)

"It was a group effort," she explained. "The Board and I worked together to accomplish many of the things I set out to do when I ran for Mayor."

She is confident that the City is in good shape with the right leadership in place.

"Our city is blessed with some really great leaders. Debbie is doing a stellar

job, Gary is a treasure and Bob is really taking hold of public

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Single Service Hauling
- Franks Road Repairs
- National Night Out
- Operation Clean Stream
- What is Proposition Fair
- Share Your Good News

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Mayoral Update	2
Public Works	3
Public Safety	4
Events & News	5
Proposition Fair	6
Your Community Page	7
Contact Information	8

FAREWELL & WELCOME: MAYORAL UPDATE CONT.

works and getting it in shape. The Board is comprised of hard working public servants who give of their time and individual talents in a way that is so under appreciated. We have a top notch city attorney who gives us brilliant guidance. Committee Chairpersons like Ann Walters are worth their weight in gold. It has been my pleasure to work with each and every one of you.”

“I feel really honored to have been able to serve all these years,” she said. “I feel such fellowship and gratitude towards the Board because we worked really well together!”

Upon her resignation, following the April 18 Board of Alderman meeting, Alderman Rob Kiczenski, who has been serving as Board President, assumed the role of Mayor, a position he will hold until April 2019 when the next election will occur.

Kiczenski looks forward to continuing his work with the Board of Aldermen, enhancing the progress made under Gibson’s lead. While many advances have been made, there is more work the city needs to undertake.

“The repair and maintenance of the City’s roads will be a priority to ensure the safety of our residents and all those who travel our streets,” Kiczenski said.

He went on to say, “The police force has vehicles which are older and in need of costly repairs. The City must also address the staffing level of the police department, allowing for backup officers.”

Kiczenski has called Byrnes Mill home for 14 years now, serving as an Alderman for nearly a third of his time here. His desire is to continue to make the City a better community and a place our residents are proud to live.

APRIL 3 ELECTION RESULTS



On Tuesday, April 3, residents voted incumbents Cindy Davies—Ward II and Robert Kiczenski—Ward III to serve another term on the Board of Alderpersons. Alderperson Glenn LaVenture was elected to serve a full term, having previously filled a vacancy for Jim McBroom.

Additionally, residents voted for Proposition C, a 1/2 cent capital improvement sales tax that will be used for improvements and

maintenance of major City roads. These improvements will reduce storm water damage and increase safety among other benefits.

Proposition T, a 1/2 cent transportation tax, that would have been used to maintain equipment and other transportation services did not pass.



MCAFFEE SWORN IN AS DEPUTY CITY CLERK

On Wednesday, May 2, Tracy McAfee was sworn in as Deputy City Clerk. Her duties will include assisting City Administrator, Debbie LaVenture with City Clerk and Administrative duties as well as continuing to handle permits. McAfee previously served as City Collector/Permits.



PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES

SINGLE SERVICE WASTE HAULING -

The City of Byrnes Mill has been considering a single provider for waste hauling for the past two years. In August 2017, with plans to close the Byrnes Mill Recycling Center due to ever-increasing costs, this option was again brought to the table. With only 20-25% of the vehicles coming through the center each month from Byrnes Mill residents, it only made sense to think of alternative options rather than using City funds to pay for services who were being used mainly by those which reside outside of the City.

“THE CITY IS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ST. LOUIS-JEFFERSON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE RECYCLE CENTER WILL REMAIN OPEN WITH THEIR SUPPORT,” EXPLAINED DEBBIE LAVENTURE, CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

Bid requests have been sent out to determine what options are available to manage not only waste but also recycling.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

Once a company has been selected from the submitted bids, which should be early this summer, City residents will be notified of the changes and what will be offered in regards to single service trash and recycling curbside pick-up.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

After City officials met with an expert in the field, they found that there were even more benefits to moving in the direction of a single hauler for waste management. In addition to the obvious ease of curbside recycling pick-up, this change will also increase safety and decrease road maintenance with less haulers on City streets as well as reduced service costs.

BURNING TRASH NOTE

On a side note, we would like to remind all residents that the burning of trash within city limits is illegal. The pollutants released from burning trash causes toxic chemicals to be released into the air. To expose yourself, neighbors, and the environment to such hazards is dangerous and unlawful. Such activities are a violation of section 220.070 of our City Codes and subject to fine.

FRANKS ROAD REPAIRS

As many may have noticed, construction to repair damages to Franks Road, which began late January, has continued.

According to Public Works Supervisor, Bob Schmidt, the road repair is approximately 300 feet long.

“WE ARE BUILDING A RETAINING WALL WITH A HEIGHT OF 6-14’ TO PREVENT THE BANK FROM SLIDING,” SCHMIDT EXPLAINED.

Drainage will be improved by installing catch basins and curbing to help prevent future erosion. When complete, the entire area will be overlaid with asphalt.

The project has been slowed

because of weather, utilities being moved and material supply issues due to the abundance of rain in late winter/early spring, Schmidt explained.

P & M Excavating of House Springs is the contractor heading up the Franks Road project.



City residents will know more details about single service trash and recycling curbside pick-up by early this summer.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Repairs are to begin early summer on a section of Upper Byrnes Mill Road, between Olde Mill Estates and Lower Byrnes Mill Road, due to storm water erosion. The Public Works Department will replace the culvert and extend the catch basin, which will allow the road to be widened at this location. This section will be closed approximately 3 days for the repair.

OTHER PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

City workers are in the midst of improving drainage by cleaning ditch lines as well as repairing and installing new culvert pipes.

Additional work includes repairing signs along the roadways, trimming trees and cleaning brush back on the road shoulders in the right of ways.

Public Safety Information



National Night Out

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 7 for National Night Out, one of the City's greatest events of the year.

You and your family are invited to Spring Hills Presbyterian Church, where the festivities will be held in the parking lot.

Along with food, games and other activities, the community will be able to visit with police officers, the

Mayor, and other City officials. Vendors will be onsite with safety related and other helpful information.

This is the 35th Anniversary of National Night Out, which was created in 1983 as a way to promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighbors safer.

The event will be held from 5-8pm.



VACATION PATROL —

This is a reminder if you are going to be away for any length of time, the Byrnes Mill Police Department will be sure to send extra patrol to your area. Request forms are available online on the police department's page.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH— A message from the Chief:

Because people were paying attention and looking out for their neighbors, a man was caught who had been stealing mail. This was not new for him and it was found that he had warrants out as well.

I encourage you to pay attention to your surroundings and look out for your neighbors. This is how we keep our neighborhoods safe!

Shop With a Cop



This past Christmas, Byrnes Mill Police surpassed their goal, helping 119 children to receive well-deserved Christmas cheer as part of the Department's Shop With a Cop program. In addition to receiving gifts, many of which they were able to select themselves, children and their families were invited to attend a dinner held at Deer Creek USA Golf and Event Center.

The program was set into

place a number of years ago to assist children who live in Jefferson County or who are currently in foster care.

Monetary donations and raffles held throughout the year help the department to provide this wonderful opportunity for children and their family.

Byrnes Mill Police have challenged Departments across the county, many of which will be introducing similar programs in their communities this year!

Special Thanks to everyone who supports the event each year.

Please consider making a donation to assist with the 2018 season.

Please send to:

Spring Hills Presbyterian Church
6247 Upper Byrnes Mill Road
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051
Attn: Shop With A Cop

Be sure to put "Shop With A Cop 2018" in the memo line. All donations are tax deductible.

Operation Clean Stream

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 25** if you're interested in joining the community's **Operation Clean Stream (OCS)** team. Known as the country's largest and longest running river restoration project, OCS is a group that repairs damage which occurs to area streams, tributaries and rivers due to flooding, trash and littering. The local group will clean the 2 ½ miles of river from Rockford Beach to Byrnes Mill Park. According to area coordinator, Rob Kiczenski, the local team removes an average of 100 tires per year from the river as well as other trash and debris. If you're interested in volunteering, call City Hall at 636-677-7727 or email robert.kiczenski@byrnesmill.org. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt and food after their hard work. Some boats are available but volunteers are encouraged to bring their own boat or canoe.

LEASH LAW REMINDER —

Over the past several months, the City has received numerous reports of dog bites resulting from roaming animals. Please review information regarding animal regulations in the City of Byrnes Mill Codes as pertains to dogs; in particular leash law and related topic(s) that can be found on the home page of our website, byrnesmill.org. **City Codes.**

Please also remember that pet owners are to register their cats and dogs annually through City Hall. More information can be found online.



EVENTS & NEWS

Byrnes Mill
Fall Festival
Saturday, October 6
10am - 5pm

~

PIONEER CRAFTS
VENDORS
MUSIC
FOOD
PETTING ZOO
PONY RIDES
HAGEMEISTER HOUSE TOURS
AND MORE!!!

Sponsored by Byrnes Mill and the
Northwest Historic and Preservation Society

For more information call 636.677.7727
or visit www.byrnesmill.org

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Northwest Historic and Preservation Society is looking for new members. If you have a love for history and community, this might just be the organization for you!

Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7 pm inside the Jefferson County Library, High Ridge Branch.

Take part in upcoming events such as the Hagemeister House Open House at Byrnes Mill Fall Festival and a two-day Christmas Open House to be held Thanksgiving weekend.

For more information, please call 636-375-3558.

CITY CLEAN-UP DAY IS A SUCCESS —

Saturday, April 28, many residents participated in Clean-Up Day, a city-wide effort to polish the area we all call home. From tending to yardwork and outdoor home maintenance projects, residents did their part to ensure the success of the annual event. The City, in turn, offered trash pick-up and hauling of items such as appliances and tires for a nominal fee. We appreciate the hard work of our volunteers, residents and City workers. Thank you all for participating!



CHANGES TO CITY SEWER —

The City of Byrnes Mill is very pleased with the finalization of the sale of its sewer system to Jefferson County Public Sewer District. Upon completion of the sale, residents should not expect many changes to their current sewer program.

Residents will continue to pay the flat rate of \$42.19/month with annual increases to follow the City's former rate schedule which allows for inflation increases each year.

Sale of the sewer system will alleviate complex and expensive facets that come with operating a sewer district.

"Having the district with its sole focus and expertise in sewer operation take over our operations, allows the City to concentrate on providing the services it performs best such as public safety, public works and recreation," explained [former] Mayor, Susan Gibson.

Residents may still visit byrnesmill.org to get connected to the Jefferson County Public Sewer District and find a link to make payments.

PROPOSITION FAIR: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

With ever-increasing internet purchases, many communities are seeing a decline in traffic to local retailers. Internet sales, also known as e-commerce, represent close to 10% of retail purchases made in the United States and are expected to be nearing 20% by 2020. Although e-commerce eases purchasing for consumers by bringing the shopping experience to the comfort of their own home, it has also had a negative impact on local businesses.

How do internet sales affect local businesses?

Good question! Having overhead such as a showroom, personnel salaries, payroll taxes and other related taxes and benefits has never been such a disadvantage to local businesses as it has over the last several years. With internet sales increasing, local businesses are doing all they can to encourage consumers to continue to shop at their stores, many of which compete with e-commerce [internet] retailers in other states; sometimes even in other countries. E-commerce [internet] retailers are making it easier for consumers to shop but harder for local mom-and-pop stores to stay afloat. Having to compete against little to no overhead while still maintaining a presence in their local community is no small feat for many local businesses.

So what about e-commerce [internet] retailers?

Unlike local businesses, e-commerce [internet] retailers do not have the overhead as local businesses. This means they can offer items to the public at a significantly lower cost to traditional retail establishments. E-commerce [internet] retailers are not required to collect municipal or county tax thus making the market more competitive in a completely new area and significantly deteriorating *brick and mortar* retailers.

What are federal, state and local governments doing?

Government entities of all sizes are considering the implication of a *Use Tax* which would essentially provide a balance and fairness to the retail marketplace. Not everyone will be adopting this type of tax. However, those that do will join MANY across the country who are trying to instill a fairness to a market that is slowly squeezing smaller, local stores out of the picture.

What is a Use Tax?

The Missouri Department of Revenue defines Use tax as a tax imposed on the storage, use or consumption of tangible personal property in this state. Cities and counties may impose an additional local use tax as well. *Use tax does not apply if the purchase is from a Missouri retailer and subject to Missouri sales tax.*

How will a Use Tax affect local government/cities?

Sales tax revenue is the principal funding source for local government services such as law enforcement, streets and other public safety services. Declining sales tax revenue allows pressures to fall on these areas, essentially hindering growth to necessary services.

How will a use tax affect local businesses?

Competing with e-commerce [internet] retailers makes it difficult for local businesses to survive. A local use tax will essentially level the playing field at both city and county levels, restoring balance in the marketplace that has been teetering more to one side in the past few years.

What's happening in our area?

Byrnes Mill and other cities will see Proposition Fair on the August ballot. Proposition Fair will help cities and counties implement a Use Tax.

Does Proposition Fair mean a tax increase?

No. Should local government move forward with adding a Use Tax to the ballot, it will only be asking e-commerce sellers to charge consumers the full retail sales tax rate that is not currently being charged. Cities and counties are unable to collect the use tax without a public vote which must be approved in each jurisdiction separately.

We hope that providing this information in advance of election day might give you time to research the proposition in order to make a more informed decision when voting.

For more information on Prop Fair, visit fairjeffco.com

Welcome White Oak Home Market

Back in December, the City was proud to welcome its newest retail business, White Oak Home Market. Owner Michelle (Worley) Walters decided to open a retail division of her interior design business to fulfill a dream of opening a storefront.

Inside you'll find treasures of all kinds such as home accessories and gifts as well as other specialty items.

The store is currently open from 10 am - 5 pm on Fridays and Saturdays, with hopes of additional hours and a larger storefront in the future.

White Oak Home Market is located at 4577 Hunter Lane.



Visit whiteoakhomemarket.com or follow her on Facebook for updates @whiteoakhomemarket.

Did you know that current Byrnes Mill businesses are listed on our website? We encourage you to visit this page and learn more about how you can Shop Local! Helpful information on new and current businesses can also be found in this section.

If you own a local business and are currently registered with the City of Byrnes Mill but are not listed on the business page, or if you need to make changes to your listing, please contact byrnesmill.communication@gmail.com.

WHAT'S YOUR GOOD NEWS!?!

We are excited about the progress of our website, which allows us to keep in touch more readily with our residents. Not only can we share information in a more timely manner, we can also communicate good news that others might like to know!

We have recently introduced a Community News & Congratulations page that features topics such as:

- Graduations & Scholarships
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Honors & Awards
- Promotions & Retirements
- Weddings & Engagements
- Baby Announcements
- Lost & Found Pets

We've included a form here  to get your started. However, we hope that you'll begin to utilize this tool online by visiting the Community Page on our website: byrnesmill.org.

Please take a look at all the great resources on our website while you're there!



Community News & Congratulations Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone & Email Address _____

What are you celebrating? _____

Special Notes _____

Signature _____ Date _____



City of Byrnes Mill

141 Osage Executive Circle
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Municipal Complex

Byrnes Mill City Hall

141 Osage Executive Cir.

Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Phone: 636-677-7727

Fax: 636-677-5533

www.byrnesmill.org

Hours: Mon-Fri

9am–4:30pm

City Administrator/Clerk:

Debbie LaVenture

Collector/Deputy City Clerk :

Tracy McAfee

City Attorney: Robert Sweeney

Police Department

Chief of Police: Gary Dougherty

Lieutenant Roger Ide

Phone: 636-677-7727

Phone: (non-emergency): 636-797-9999

Municipal Court

Judge: Colby Smith-Hynes

Prosecuting Attorney: Allison Sweeney

Court Administrator: Elise Gannon

Prosecuting Attorney Clerk: Julie Davis

Court Night: 2nd & 3rd Tuesday

Public Works

4197 Lower Byrnes Mill Rd.

Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

Supervisor: Bob Schmidt

Staff: Brandon Rock and

Zoey Rock

Hours: Monday- Friday, 7am–3:30pm

Phone: 636-671-0021

Code Enforcement:

Dave Taylor

Part-time availability

Phone: 636-677-7727

EMERGENCY: DIAL 911

Elected Officials

Mayor Rob Kiczenski

Board of Alderpersons

Ward 1: Glenn LaVenture, Bob Prado

Ward 2: Cindy Davies, Jerry Klipsch

Ward 3: Rob Kiczenski, Mary Scheble

Board of Alderpersons Meetings

1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7pm

Boards & Commissions

Planning & Zoning (Meetings as needed)

Ann Walters

Lisa Hosey

John Scheble

Cindy Davies

Rick Schweppe

Richard Ross

Planning & Zoning Meetings

2nd Monday, 7pm *as needed*

Board of Adjustment (Meetings as needed)

Sally Eads

Ron Davies

Pete Frisella

Craig Morris

Doug Smith

Dan Mueller

** All meetings are open to the public.*