

# City of Byrnes Mill Newsletter



## Winter 2012

## City Hires Consultant to Study Sewer Rates; Board to Consider a Sewer Rate Increase

The City of Byrnes Mill recently hired Carl Brown Consulting, LLC to do a sewer rate analysis. Residential sewer rates have not increased since the establishment of the Sewer District in 1990 and an analysis was needed to determine if the current rates are adequate to keep and maintain the sewer system now, 10, and 20 years into the future.

“The City has experienced an increase in costs the past several years due to sewer system repairs, the need for capital improvements and government regulations,” said City of Byrnes Mill City Administrator Larry Perney. “When looking at the budget, expenses were outpacing revenues and the long-term viability of the sewer system was in question. City leaders are doing their due diligence by examining the current rate structure to determine if proper funding is available to adequately maintain system operations now and into the future.”

“The City has never had a sewer rate increase,” said Mayor Susan Gibson. “The City needs to find out if current rates will adequately fund current and future operations. If not, the City needs to establish rates that will enable the City to properly maintain the system, but that are fair to all rate-payers. A rate study is the first step in this process.”

Carl Brown Consulting was formed May 1, 2003. They serve utilities by helping them in all aspects of rate analysis and rate setting. Carl Brown has been doing water, sewer and storm water rate analysis and infrastructure asset management, finance and related works since 1993. From 1993 through 2005, Brown did much of this work while employed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Since 2005, Brown has done this work on a consulting basis. To date, Carl Brown Consulting has performed more than 174 rate analyses.

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a Public hearing on March 21, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., at Byrnes Mill City Hall, 127 Osage Executive Cir., Byrnes Mill, MO 63051. The hearing has been called by the Board of Aldermen to consider a Sewer Rate Increase. All interested parties are urged to attend.

## Paying Traffic Citations in Byrnes Mill Just Got Easier

*TrafficPayment.com to take online and over the phone credit and/or debit card payments*

The City of Byrnes Mill is pleased to announce a new convenience for those who receive traffic citations. Traffic tickets can now be paid online quickly and easily. Defendants who are not contesting their violation can pay their fines with a credit or debit card online at [www.TrafficPayment.com](http://www.TrafficPayment.com). Fines can also be paid via telephone at 1-800-444-1187. Bilingual operators are available to take telephone payments Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The online process is very easy and takes just a couple of steps. Using the service requires having your citation in hand and completing the required information such as the driver's license number, the citation number, and the amount of the fine. The fine amounts are listed on the site or call the Court at 636-677-7727 to confirm fine amounts and other costs. The next step requires completing contact information such as address, telephone number and email address in order

to receive a receipt and confirmation number. The process takes just a couple of minutes and only four clicks to complete the payment.

The court is notified as soon as the payment is made. TrafficPayment.com recommends printing a copy of the receipt and keeping it in the glove compartment of the car to have proof of payment.



# The Mayor's Message



Mayor Gibson

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope your holiday season was as fun as mine was. I'm blessed to live in my little cottage on Lake Montowese and have my three-year-old grandson Sam live just across the lake with my daughter and son-in-law. He spends Christmas Eve night at his Gigi's and goes home from here to snuggle in and wait for Santa. Just magic. I'm sure that you, too, enjoyed

your neighborhood and home traditions, and also created warm family memories there.

Now we're in the midst of winter, always a good time for reflection and planning. When I reflect on my last year, I'm amazed at all the changes that occurred and all the progress we've made together. It all began with my decision to file to run for your mayor. The process of running for office was fun. I had a great group of supporters who really helped me get my message out – to update and computerize City Hall, to build community and to plan for the future. I enjoyed getting to know as many residents as I could, and I remember our conversations.

The job became immediately challenging when both our long-time City Administrator and City Clerk resigned, but the transition went well. All the other City employees really jumped in and went above and beyond their roles to keep things running. Volunteers came forward to help reorganize, paint and freshen up City Hall.

Now our new City Administrator Larry Perney is doing a great job of continuing to update all our records and digitize all our processes, saving taxpayers time and money. He recommended Debbie Laventure to become Byrnes Mill City Clerk and the Board approved. I couldn't be happier with their choice. Debbie is a breath of fresh air and such an organizer!

Looking ahead, I have recently formed two committees of Board members -- one will work on a study of employee benefits and the other will work on redistricting. Jerry Klipsch volunteered to do a review of the language in our special use permits in cooperation with our Planning and Zoning Commission. We will start our budget process in March and are now in the process of starting an audit for last year. We are in the planning stages of opening up City Hall five days a week to better serve our citizens.

I also look forward to beginning more community events, beyond our Farmers Market and Fall Festival. I think it would be fun to add a couple "Movies in the Park" nights. Just bring your family, a cooler and a blanket, and enjoy a summer night in the park. I'm also going to ask the Board of Aldermen to consider allowing permitted overnight camping in the lower park by organized, chaperoned groups like the Scouts.

A monthly "trunk sale" – a community garage sale – could be held in the park where we used to hold our Friday night Farmers Markets (now set up on the field by McDonald's on Highway 30).

Also on my wish list is an "Annual Tree-Lighting in the Park" the first week of December. Some of our residents do a beautiful job of holiday decorating in their own yards, and I hope that a few of them would "adopt a tree" in the park next year. That would be a wonderful family tradition and a great childhood memory for our kids.

Of course, all these activities need volunteers. As you look at your new calendars and planners this year, will you consider investing two or three hours a month for your City? You can also call City Hall for a list of available volunteers opportunities. That goes for Scout troops and church groups as well. We want Byrnes Mill to be a volunteer-friendly, small town that thrives on meeting neighbors and sharing good ideas.

I plan to start my "Coffees at the Cabin" in the spring, but please give me a call at home (677-0514) or at Byrnes Mill City Hall (677-7727), to tell me what you think or what you think needs our attention. I'm always open to listening.

~ Susan Gibson

## Municipal Calendar

### MARCH

3/7 7:00 p.m. Board of Alderman Meeting

3/12 7:00 p.m. Planning & Zoning

3/13 7:00 p.m. Traffic Court

3/20 7:00 p.m. Municipal Court

3/21 7:00 p.m. Board of Alderman Meeting

### APRIL

4/4 7:00 p.m. Board of Alderman Meeting

4/9 7:00 p.m. Planning & Zoning

4/10 7:00 p.m. Traffic Court

4/17 7:00 p.m. Municipal Court

4/18 7:00 p.m. Board of Alderman Meeting



Mary Scheble

# Meet Your Alderperson

**Mary Scheble**  
**Ward 3**

**Years of Residence in Byrnes Mill:** 38 years

**Years Serving as an Aldermen:** Elected in April 2011 (Mayor from 1987 to 1993)

**Other City Volunteer Work:** President of the Byrnes Mill Improvement Committee, help with the bi-monthly

Farmer's Markets, helped established the Fall Festival, Oasis Tutor for R-1 Schools

**Current/Former Occupation(s):** Registered Nurse

**Reasons for Wanting to Serve Residents and the City:** Help restore financial transparency. Improve communications with our citizens. Make the park more user friendly with restrooms, water to the pavilion, hiking trails. Get to know the people in Ward 3 and their concerns about the City

**Address:** 3660 Woodview Dr.

**Home Phone :** 636-677-8633

*(Other aldermen will be featured in future issues)*

## Board of Aldermen Meeting Highlights

### Establishing Tax Levy

Yearly, the Board of Aldermen must impose by ordinance for general revenue purposes a property tax. *The Board approved ordinance #754 - Imposing a tax for general revenue purposes for the year 2011; levying and authorizing the assessment and collection of said tax; said tax to include all real estate, personal property and mixed estate, including merchandise, raw materials and manufactured products, taxable according to the laws of Missouri.*

### Road Adoption

Yearly, the Board of Aldermen must enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Jefferson County for receiving a one-half of one-percent sales tax for capital improvements to publicly maintained roads. *The Board approved ordinance #741 - Authorizing the Mayor of the City of Byrnes Mill to enter into a execute and agreement for tax revenue sharing with Jefferson County Commission.*

Every five years, the City may adopt new roads to make capital improvements on. Privately owned roads may apply to have their roads dedicated to the city, and thus receive

capital improvements and maintenance. The Board is currently discussing and holding workshop to further work out details, establish expectations and answer frequently asked questions about the process.

### Sewer Rate Study

The Board of Aldermen, after examining the sewer budget, discussed the importance of doing a rate analysis to determine if the current rates were adequate to keep and maintain the sewer system now, 10 and 20 years into the future. *The Board approved ordinance #764 - Authorizing and Directing the Mayor of Byrnes Mill to Execute a Contract with Carl Brown Consulting, for Professional Services Related to a Sewer Rate Study.*

### City Audit

The Board of Aldermen discussed the importance of maintaining and controlling the city finances. They agreed on doing an audit. *They approved ordinance #765 - Authorizing and Directing the Mayor of Byrnes Mill, Missouri to Execute a Contract with Daniel Jones and Associates for Professional Services Related to City Audit for the Year 2010-2011.*

### MODOT HYW 30 Changes

The Board of Aldermen have spent a lot of time and effort on MODOT's proposed changes to the intersection of Upper Byrnes Mill Rd/Osage Executive Cir. and Highway 30.

With the proposed changes, motorists on Hwy. 30 will be allowed to make right turns onto the side streets, but will not be allowed to cross over the highway or make left turns onto Hwy 30. In order to allow motorists to safely enter onto Hwy. 30, new u-turn crossovers will be constructed east and west of the intersection.

The Board of Aldermen had many concerns about the new changes. They would prefer a stop light at that intersection. The City asked for and received a special Public Hearing in order for the city and its citizens to voice their concerns. In addition, a letter was sent to State officials letting them know the city's position.

After all this, MODOT will proceed with the plan they proposed. If you have questions or comments, please contact MODOT at 1-888 ASK MODOT.

For a full list or work done by the Board, please see all the meeting minutes at [www.byrnesmill.org](http://www.byrnesmill.org)

# Byrnes Mill Business Spotlight

## *New Eclectic Trading Company Offers Global Merchandise*

If you'd like to get away on a round-the-world trip to beat the winter blahs, but can't afford the price tag, you can "Shop the World at ETC" – Eclectic Trading Company, Byrnes Mill's newest business.

Bobbie Kassman, the owner, has painted and decorated the 1,500+-square-foot store to resemble a colorful bazaar, filled with thousands of unusual, reasonably priced items (many from \$10 - \$30) from more than a dozen countries, including Afghanistan, England, Spain, Peru, India and China. Beautiful beaded scarves, pashmina shawls, unique purses, casual and dressy jewelry, funky shoes, antique pieces, wine racks and other furniture items offer a wide assortment. Walls are covered with antique and newer mirrors, plates and framed art. Rounders hold new and used designer clothing (Chico's, Coldwater Creek, etc.), and tables are filled with unique gifts, stationery, mugs and housewares.

Eclectic Trading Company opened the day after Thanksgiving. Kassman considered setting up by K-Mart or in Eureka, but high rents forced her to

reconsider. "I got in my car and drove down 30 and thought, 'It would be nice to have more high-end merchandise available to residents here.'" She decided to move to 4575 Hunter Lane, behind McDonald's and next to Rockin' Robins Cafe.



*Eclectic Trading Company owner Bobbie Kassman*

think this the perfect area. I already have repeat shoppers who come in weekly to see new merchandise, and who have referred friends here. I know that it will take time for people to learn about us and to drop in, but I'm hopeful that my unique merchandise and reasonable prices will be a good attraction and addition here."

### **Eclectic Trading Company**

4575 Hunter Lane

Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

**HOURS:** Tues. - Sat.: 11 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Sun.: Noon - 5:00 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**Phone:** 636/375-5100.

**Email:** eclectictradingco@att.net

**Look for other Byrnes Mill Business spotlights in future editions of the newsletter.**

## Please Support Byrnes Mill Businesses

AT&T Mobility  
Aim To Please  
AllFive, LLC  
Autozone  
BIC  
Big T Rental  
Billyo Art  
Brown's Christmas Trees  
Byrnes Mill Farm  
Byrnes Mill Stables  
Byrnes Mill Medical Center  
Central Glass  
Circle K  
Company B Bar-B-Que  
Custom Tie Lock  
DBR Auto Group  
Eagle Bank of Jefferson County  
Eastern Missouri Concrete  
Eclectic Trading Co.  
Cinco De Mayo Bar & Grill  
Energy Fitness Gym  
Enfab  
Forest Lawn Pet Cemetery  
Haskin Surveying  
Highway 30 Towing  
Hood's Discount Center  
Luckyone Properties  
McDonald's  
Meyer Insurance  
Midwest Marine Fiberglass  
Mini School of Jefferson County  
Moder Valley Nursery  
Nassar Tire  
Northwest Towing & Storage  
Premier Real Estate  
Red Box  
Rockin Robins  
San A Vie Salon & Spa  
Shelton Carstar  
Taco Bell  
Throop Stables  
Tyrer Estates Apartments  
Valley View Apartments  
Walgreens  
Woolsey Motors

## SHOP LOCAL!

# City of Byrnes Mill Community CLEAN UP DAY Saturday, April 28th @ 8am



The City of Byrnes Mill's Annual Community Clean-up Day will be on Saturday, April 28th. Volunteers are needed to donate their time and/or trucks to help pick up and dispose of unwanted items. To offer your service or equipment, please call Community Clean-Up Day Chairman John Scheble at 636-677-8633. Food and drink will be provided at the end of clean-up for all the volunteers. Please help keep Byrnes Mill beautiful!

**Tags may be Purchased at City Hall in advance to save money on large haul-aways:**

- Pick-up load of trash – \$30.00 each in advance; \$40.00 the day of clean-up
- White items (appliances): \$5.00 each in advance; \$7.00 the day of clean-up
- Tires: \$5.00 each in advance; \$7.00 the day of clean-up

To purchase a tag, please visit City Hall during regular business hours (Mon.-Fri.- 9am-4:30pm). After purchasing tag, just put them on your items and have them out to be picked up by 8am on Clean-up Day. You can also bring a load yourself and pay at the Recycling Center (4197 Lower Byrnes Mill Road) on Clean-up Day.

## Spring Hills Presbyterian Church Holds Ground-Breaking



Mayor Susan Gibson took part in ground-breaking ceremonies at Spring Hills Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Highway 30 and Upper Byrnes Mill Road . The church is currently meeting at the small church on the hill, located across from the church property. After taking part in a potluck luncheon and before the ground-breaking ceremony, Gibson addressed Spring Hills members and its ministry team and supporters, welcoming them to the community and thanking them for their past years of volunteer service in the park and participation in Byrnes Mill's Farmers Markets. Pictured are (from left to right), Elder David Haas, Pastor David Stain, Byrnes Mill Mayor Susan Gibson, Elder Joseph Blanner and Elder Gary Strieder.

# Public Works Department

Public Works invests most of its budget, time and manpower in Byrnes Mill's street department, sewer system and recycling center. Other citizen services include improvement and maintenance in the parks; storm water management; code enforcement; building, land development and inspection, and animal control.

## Sewer District Televising Equipment Generates Income

"During the past six months, the Sewer District has generated money or saved money for our citizens," says Tony Whitby, Public Works Director since 2000. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires all cities to annually inspect their sewer infrastructure.

In 2009, the Board of Aldermen approved the purchase of a televising camera for the sewer system at a cost of \$62,000. With that specialized equipment, Whitby is able to perform those services for other cities and generate income for Byrnes Mill.

In 2010, the televising camera brought in \$16,000 worth of revenue. During 2012, the Public Works Department already has contracts totaling \$34,000 in revenue. Whitby generally charges about \$1/foot for televising services. He just finished a project for the Eureka sewer system that generated \$3,000 and will be doing projects for Byrnes Mill Farms' sewer system for \$15,000 this year.

"By being able to do our own inspections and generate income, we have already offset the cost of that equipment in just two years," Whitby stated. "Going forward, that equipment will be a money-maker for the City."

## Road Adoption Three Years Ago Brings Results

Three years ago, the subdivisions of Woodview and Rosewood turned over their roads to the City for maintenance. Since then, the Public Works Department has done extensive ditch repair and new asphalt overlay on Abby, Sheble, and Laura Court streets in the Woodview subdivision, as well as the Rosewood subdivision and Rosewood Road.

"We have four full-time workers who are available to make improvements on our roads and to regularly maintain them and provide snow



*New Restrooms in Byrnes Mill City Park*

removal," Whitby explains. "We're on hand to provide more full-time care."

## Recycling Center Steadily Increases Volume

The Recycling Center is manned on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Whitby adds that hauling Byrnes Mill containers to the Bayless and 55 recycling center adds another 20 hours to the Department's workload, for a total of 48 hours per week invested in the Recycling Center.

Their work has paid off. Whitby has kept logs of the Recycling Center use and reports that 200 cars a month bring newspaper, various glassware and plastic items to the Recycling Center. In 1996, the Byrnes Mill Recycling Center recycled 100,000 pounds; in 2011, that number had grown to 500,000 pounds of recyclable products. "I'd like to encourage our citizens to take advantage of this service and help us raise that level even higher during 2012," says Whitby.

## Byrnes Mill City Park Restrooms Added

Whitby designed the structure and the City Parks Department staff built new restrooms at Byrnes Mill City Park, finishing installation in August 2012. Rustic in design, Whitby wanted them to blend in well with the rural surroundings. Fall Festival goes in October 2011 and regular Park users appreciate the new restrooms.

Whitby has an "open door" policy and invites residents to call him at 636-671-0021 or to visit the Public Works office during working hours, 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, at 4197 Lower Byrnes Mill.

# Police Department

## *Byrnes Mill Police Receive Crisis Intervention Team Training*

City of Byrnes Mill Police Chief Ed Locke and Officer Tim Whaley took Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) January 9-13, 2012 at the Jefferson College Law Enforcement Agency in Imperial, MO. The 40-hour training course covered these topics: recognizing mental illness, suicide intervention, hospital procedures, intervention, cultural diversity, tactical communications, and reporting. The course also helps officers to learn what resources are available to Missouri police departments. Locke and Whaley were certified after the successful completion of this intense training program.

“Everyday police officers respond to many different kinds of

situations,” said Byrnes Mill Police Chief Ed Locke. “Being a CIT-trained police officer gives them the tools and knowledge necessary when responding to incidents involving mental health issues or suicide attempts. The more education and training an officer has in assessing and defusing a crisis, the better.”

### **2011 Review of Calls**

During 2011, the Byrnes Mill Police Department responded to a total of 1,348 calls, an increase from the 1,204 calls they handled during 2010. A breakdown of the call crime statistics are available on the Byrnes Mill Police webpage at <http://police.byrnesmill.org/>.

## APRIL 2012 BALLOT

Candidates for this upcoming election are as follows:

Aldersperson Ward 1 (2 year term)  
**Jim McBroom**

Aldersperson Ward 2 (2 year term)  
**Samuel E. Pierceall**

Aldersperson Ward 3 (2 year term)  
**Sharon Ippolito**

These races are uncontested.

**New City Hall  
Hours  
Mon - Fri  
9 a.m. - 4:30 a.m.**

# Byrnes Mill Improvement Committee (BIC)

## *A Look Back, A Look Forward*

We're looking forward to another exciting year of working with our City and the surrounding community to improve and enhance the lives of our residents.

Last year, we ended with a fantastic Fall Festival. Hundreds of people shopped at the vendors' booths, bought delicious D.J.'s brats, listened to fun music and visited with friends and neighbors. It was huge success, thanks to good attendance from all of you and people from the surrounding communities.

BIC volunteered to give out free hot cocoa to the participants in the Lions Club Christmas parade in House Springs. We donated more than 200 cups of hot cocoa to the chilled participants. We enjoyed having a ringside seat to the many floats and vehicles.

Thanks to donations, we were able to purchase Christmas lights and banners for the park decorations. It was a living Christmas card to all our residents.

In 2012, we look forward to expanding our Farmer's Markets -- EVERY Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. They will continue to be held at the field by McDonald's. This market continues to grow in numbers of vendors and buyers, and offers farmers and vendors in the area an opportunity to sell goods and produce directly to you. You get the freshest seasonal produce, as well as specialty items like Greek-imported olive oil and cheeses, fresh baked goods and crafts from local artists.

Also in 2012, a local Boy Scout, Grant Summer, requested funding so

that he can construct a bench at Byrnes Mill City Park, part of his path to becoming an Eagle Scout.

BIC enhances the quality of life in our city by income from our activities, donations of money, and volunteer hours from people like you! If you can help just a few hours a month, you'll be amazed at the small and large projects we can accomplish together. We welcome your ideas and suggestions to help improve our current plans, as well as new community activities and projects that you feel will add to the quality of life here in Byrnes Mill.

Call Mary Scheble at 636/677-8633 to share your suggestions or to volunteer. We'll see you at the market!

Mary Scheble  
BIC President



# City of Byrnes Mill

127 Osage Executive Circle  
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051  
www.byrnesmill.org

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## ECRWSS Postal Customer



High Ridge Fire Dept. has agreed to provide Byrnes Mill residents with an Emergency Shelter. In case of emergency, go to High Ridge Fire Station #1, 2842 High Ridge Blvd.

### Government Center

Byrnes Mill City Hall  
127 Osage Executive Circle  
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051  
Phone: 636-677-7727  
Website: www.byrnesmill.org  
HOURS: Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

City Administrator: Larry Perney  
City Clerk: Debbie LaVenture  
City Collector: Mary Ann Hedrick  
City Attorney: Dennis Tesreau

### Police Department

Police Chief: Ed Locke  
PHONE (non-emergency): 636-797-9999  
EMERGENCY: 911

### Municipal Court

Municipal Judge: Colby Smith-Hynes  
Prosecuting Attorney: Sally Slipian  
Court Clerk: Elise Gannon  
Deputy Court Clerk: Mary Sheriff  
COURT NIGHT: 2nd & 3rd Tuesday

### Public Works

4197 Lower Byrnes Mill Road  
Director – Anthony Whitby  
Public Works Staff: Robert Barnett,  
Aaron Dillard, & Tim Hill  
HOURS: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri.  
PHONE: 636-671-0021

### Recycling Center

4197 Lower Byrnes Mill Road  
HOURS: Tues., Thurs. and Sat.  
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
PHONE: 636-677-0021

### Elected Municipal Officials

**Mayor**  
Susan Gibson - 636-677-O514

### Board of Aldermen

**Ward 1**  
Jim McBroom, Bob Prado  
**Ward 2**  
Sam Pierceall, Jerry Klipsch  
**Ward 3**  
Devon Ising, Mary Scheble

### Boards & Commissions

**Planning & Zoning Commission:**  
(meetings as needed)

Richard Lawson  
Terry Oberer  
Mary Mantoan  
Sam Pierceall  
Tim Hill  
Benjamin Shelledy  
Anne Walters  
Tom Wilkinson

**Board of Adjustment:**  
(meetings as needed)

Sally Eads  
Ron Davies  
Pete Frisella  
Craig Morris  
Doug Smith  
Sharon Ippolito

**Park Commission** (meetings as needed)

Terry Oberer  
Devon Ising  
John Scheble  
Fran Kempin