



Leavenworth Courier

News from the Leavenworth City Council

WINTER 2016



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- City Council Circle of Communication 2
- City Hall Parking Lot—2 Hour Limit 2
- Winter Reminders 2
- Snow Removal: Your Responsibilities 3
- Fall Festivals & Events 3
- City Project Update 4



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

December:
City hall will be closed Friday December 23rd at noon and Monday December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

January:
City Hall will be closed on Monday January 2nd to celebrate the New Year.

“A Minute with the Mayor”

As 2017 Draws Near...



Cheryl K. Farivar
Mayor

One of the most important accomplishments for the City in 2016 is the development of the 2017/2018 Budget. The purpose of the Biennial Budget is to present to the public and City Council a comprehensive picture of the current status of the City; a forecast of income and expenditures, a tool for decision making and a means to monitor performance. A copy of the City budget is available at www.cityofleavenworth.com.

Overall, the City financial position remains very stable. Our tourism based economy continues to allow our residents and businesses to enjoy a number of amenities and services offset not with property taxes, but with the revenues derived from our visitors and guests. The City has made, and continues to make, investments in roads and infrastructure, reduced or held steady on fees and service rates, and continues to support the promotion of tourism and funding of tourism improvements. In addition, the City also has continued to increase the fund reserves in many of the funds across the board to ensure financial stability in future years.

In 2017, the City utility rates will hold steady. No increase has been proposed for water, sewer, stormwater, or garbage collection fees for residential service. Businesses will only see a slight increase in garbage fees as the City tries to balance the commercial services provided and commercial fees collected. In 2017, the City will complete a rate study on all utilities which will be the basis for future rate considerations.

Roadway, infrastructure, and civic improvements will continue in 2017/2018. Two residential street improvement projects are scheduled for 2017; Whitman Street and Commercial Street (3rd – Joseph). The complete reconstruction of Pine Street from Titus to Ski Hill Drive is scheduled for 2018; Highway 2 will also have two new crosswalk improvements completed in 2017. Also on the agenda for 2017 are park improvements; a new skate park and parking lot improvements, just to name a few of the civic improvements for the City.

One large and expensive issue facing the City is the upgrades necessary at the City’s Waste Treatment Facility. Our planning process for this project will take us through 2017. The project is necessary to meet the Environmental Protection Administration/Department of Ecology regulations regarding phosphorus loading in the Wenatchee River. All waste treatment plants must meet the newer stricter regulations by 2020. At this time, the project is estimated at \$5 - \$7 million. More information will be forthcoming as the planning and design work continues.

These are just a few of the items listed within the 2017/2018 Budget Documents. I would encourage you to take the time, review our budget document, and please contact me with any questions or comments.

Happy Holidays!

Holiday Garbage Schedule:

DECEMBER

Residential: No change in schedule

Commercial: Garbage collections normally scheduled for Mon, Dec 26th will be picked up Tues, Dec 27th.

JANUARY

Residential: No change in schedule.

Commercial: Garbage collections normally scheduled for Mon, Jan 2nd will be picked up on Tues, Jan 3rd.



WINTER REMINDERS

Winter will be upon us soon. Here are a few reminders regarding the snowy season to keep us all safe.

- * **Winter** parking regulations are in effect from November 15 to March 15. During this time there is **NO PARKING** within the **City Limits** between the hours of 3:00 AM and 7:00 AM.
- * **Remember...**cars have to be at least **two feet** off the paved portion of the road.
- * **Remind** family members, friends, and out of town guests about winter parking regulations.
- * **Failure** to follow the winter parking regulations will result in a parking ticket, unplowed streets, or even towing your vehicle.
- * **During** plowing operations, a berm of snow may be left in your drive or walkway. We apologize for the inconvenience, but it is unavoidable. It is your responsibility to remove the berm.
- * **Please** do your part by keeping your snow out of the street and on your property. Also, it is important to remind anyone removing snow for you of these requirements or you could receive a citation.

If you have any questions, please give City Hall a call at 548-5275.



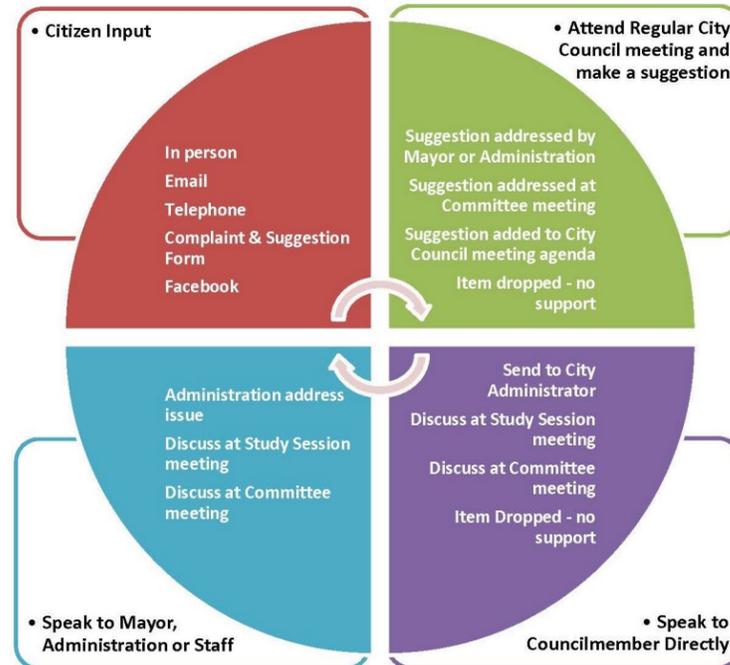
City Council Circle of Communication

By Carolyn Wilson
Leavenworth City Council

Growing up I imagine most of us played the game we called "Gossip". Everyone formed a circle and the first person would say a short sentence really fast into the next person's ear. Then that person said what they thought they had heard into the next person's ear. By the time it made it around the circle, the sentence was usually nowhere near what the first person had said. That game comes to mind many times when someone stops me at the grocery store or in the Post Office and asks why the City "is doing this" or "not doing that". Interestingly enough, about half of the time, the City is NOT "doing this" or IS "doing that".

By the time an issue or discussion item made its way to the person talking to me, it had gone through three or four other folks. Unfortunately, the true context of the issue has been lost along the way.

Leavenworth City Council's Circle of Communication



What is the solution to this conundrum? Please take the time to come to our meetings and hear the facts for yourself. As a Council, we understand that folks in Leavenworth are very busy people. But, if there is an agenda item (agendas for upcoming meetings are posted on the city's website) that you are particularly interested in, please come and talk to us about it. Or, if you want to discuss an issue that is not on the agenda, come and tell us that too! It is a much better venue than talking about it in the grocery store... especially if my frozen pizza is melting...

Changes are coming to the *City Hall & Library Parking Lot* beginning January 1, 2017. The parking lot will become a timed 2-Hour parking lot, Mon–Fri, 7:00 AM–5:00 PM. The 2-Hour parking will include the entire parking lot with exception to the designated "City Official", "Disabled", and Electric Vehicle Charging Station parking spaces. After 5:00 PM on weekdays, all day on weekends, and all day on Federal holidays, the parking lot has no time limitations. The parking lot is open from 7:00 AM – 3:00 AM; there is no overnight or RV parking in the City's parking lots.

2 HR PARKING
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
7AM – 5PM

The 1-Hour parking zone located in front of the library will be eliminated and re-designated to 2-Hour Parking, Mon – Fri, 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The "City Official" parking will remain along the back row and is for City employee use during business hours with a displayed parking pass. The 2 "City Official" parking spaces located on the front row are reserved for city vehicles and law enforcement 24/7.

These parking lot modifications are being put in place because of the lack of available parking for citizens conducting business at City Hall or the Library during normal business hours. As a reminder, the P-2 Parking Lot adjacent to City Hall has Free Parking, Sun – Thur, 5:00 PM – 3:00 AM.

Snow Removal: Your Responsibilities

Sidewalks: The owner, or occupant of every building, structure, or unoccupied lot in the City of Leavenworth fronting or abutting any street shall clean the sidewalk in front of or adjoining each such home, building, or unoccupied lot. The City requires sidewalks to be clear within 24 hours after a snowstorm. Snow removed from sidewalks should be placed outside of the City right of way or on private property and NOT in the road. City crews are responsible for clearing sidewalks at city facilities as well as portions of the "Safe Routes to School" on West Street.

Driveways: Snow moved by a snow plow generally has no place to go towards the edge of the street. Many times snow plowing leaves piles of snow in front of driveway entrances, which may create

hardships for residents; however, the City possesses neither the personnel nor equipment to clear the hundreds of driveway approaches within the City. Snow removal of driveway approaches are the residents' responsibility. No private driveway will be plowed by the public works crew. Please clear snow berms in driveways to the downstream direction of travel. This will result in the snow you shoveled being moved away from your driveway instead of plowed back into your driveway the next time a plow comes by.

Mailboxes: In most cases, damage occurs during the plowing process because aged posts or improperly mounted boxes are unable to withstand the rigors of the winter plowing season. The City may replace the mailbox and/or post if it is not in the City right of way and it is actually

struck and damaged by a snow plow; incidents will be considered on a case by case basis. The clearing of mailboxes is the responsibility of the homeowner. It is not the city's intent to pile snow from the plows so that it blocks mailboxes, although there may be situations where this happens. In such cases, it is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to ensure that mailboxes are cleared for mail delivery.



Waterfront Park

The place to walk or ski with your dog!



Just one block from downtown Leavenworth, skiers and snowshoers can join this three-kilometer trail at the end of 9th Street or the end of Division Street at the Barn Beach Reserve. The trail crosses Blackbird Island, provides views of wildlife, shining waters, and the surrounding mountains and continues on to connect with the Golf Course Trail. There is no charge to use the Waterfront Park and Blackbird Island trails. There is a small charge if you want to continue on to use the Golf Course trail.

www.skileavenworth.com

Winter Festivals and Events

Christmas Lighting Festival 2016

December 2—4, 9—11, & 16—18

Santa Parade: 12:00 PM Saturday & Sunday

Fee: No Charge

Join us for the most wonderful time of the year, when our quaint Bavarian town becomes a Village of Lights (over half a million of them!) and holiday cheer abounds!

On Friday evenings, live musical performances of your favorite Christmas songs fill the streets, interrupted briefly at 4:30pm for the arrival of St. Nickolaus at the Front Street Gazebo, who welcomes children young and old with the story of his legacy and "gold" for the good boys and girls!

On Saturdays and Sundays the festivities kick into full gear at 12:00pm with the Arrival of Santa and costumed holiday characters in a march from the Festhalle to the Gazebo!

Throughout the day you will find high-caliber performances in the Front Street Gazebo, including hand bell choirs, a top-ranking Army National Guard Dixie band, breakout solo artists, the best high school and professional choirs in the Pacific Northwest, and more!



Bavarian Icefest—2017

January 14—15, 2017

Fee: Active Duty Military \$0.01, Adults 18+ \$5.00, Youth 11—17 \$3.00, Children 12 and under are free (covers participation in any/all games)

Leavenworth loves winter, and each year on MLK Jr. weekend we celebrate winter's bounty with Icefest! The village is still dressed in over half a million twinkling lights and this weekend is a flurry of frosty frivolity. Come celebrate winter with us!

