One of the greatest assets in the City of Fairway is the beautiful tree canopy. The City maintains almost all of trees that are located along the streets, as well as the trees at the Park, greenspaces and other City-owned properties. The street trees are unique in that they are located between the street curb and the property line of residential properties. This strip of land is known as City Right-of-Way and is 10-12 feet wide. The Public Works Department oversees the maintenance of City trees and removes any limbs that obstruct traffic lights and signs on an as needed basis.

The City also contracts with an outside company for the routine maintenance and care that cannot be handled by the Public Works Department. The contract stipulates that all tree maintenance must be performed by a trained arborist or directly supervised by an arborist who is certified through the Kansas Arborist Association or the International Society of Arboriculture.

City trees are examined and receive routine maintenance on a three year cycle. The City has been sectioned into thirds and before April 1st each year, one of the three sections is examined by an arborist to identify what, if any, pruning is needed. The arborist also looks for trees that may need to be removed due to extensive decay, splits, or other defects. Routine maintenance includes pruning of large dead branches, crossed limbs, broken or hanging limbs, sprouts on the lower 8 feet of the tree, clearance over streets of 15 feet and yards/sidewalks of 8 feet.

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of trees on their private property. The City suggests residents implement a similar three year cycle approach using a certified arborist to care for privately owned trees. Regular maintenance is key to the future tree canopy in Fairway, KS, the City of Trees!
Two years have passed since I was elected and sworn in as your Mayor. It has been an honor to serve you. Many of you have contacted me with concerns, likes, dislikes and suggestions. Please continue to do so as my commitment to you - to keep Fairway the great City we all love to call home - remains as strong as ever.

Our accomplishments over the past year have been many. My State of the Cities address during the NEJC Chamber of Commerce luncheon in January summarized several of them and I would like to share those highlights with you. Our Parks and Recreation activities continue strong and growth records were set in every area. Department revenue numbers shattered those of previous years. City pool memberships and daily pool attendance totals were 1,948 and 37,000 respectively. The City hosted more than 17,000 participants at programs and events. The City Hall space is booked almost every weekend. Summer camp registrations increased by 81% and facility rentals by almost 40%. The Public Works Department became the smallest department in the country to earn APWA Accreditation. This is a well deserved honor and distinction. The Sheridan Road Bridge was replaced during the year. It’s design and construction is being considered for an award by the APWA. The City Council approved an agreement to develop a collaborative County-wide organization to address stormwater and flood control matters at the watershed level. This is a big step toward solving our stormwater problems. The Police Department continues its outstanding service to the community. New replacement body-worn cameras, in-car video systems and a new record management system improving communication in the City and with the County were all purchased during the past year. The old equipment had aged over the past 7 to 10 years and needed upgrading. The Shawnee Indian Mission welcomed 14,000 visitors last year with over 1,000 being local students.

All of this was made possible by our dedicated revenue streams from residents and visitors to the City as well as the experienced and hardworking City staff. It takes everyone to maintain our beautiful City. The financial position of Fairway remains very stable and very strong. I thank the Governing Body and the entire City staff for their dedication in managing our taxpayer dollars efficiently.

We welcomed Fairway Creamery to our City, a fantastic addition and fun neighborhood gathering place. As you may be aware, both Stroud’s and Houlihan’s recently closed. There is no definite news concerning replacement tenants as of this writing. Meetings have been held with both landlords in which the City’s thoughts and desires were clearly shared. Activity continues in trying to replace and reopen our neighborhood restaurants. We will keep you posted. The City will be developing a new City website this year. Look for an announcement approximately mid-year. The 2019 year was a very busy year and 2020 is beginning the same. Three new Council members and one returning member were sworn in during the January City Council meeting. Welcome to all!

Respectfully,
Melanie J. Hepperly
Mayor, City of Fairway
2021 BUDGET PROCESS BEGINS

There are many opportunities for citizen input during the City’s 2021 Budget process. Committee meetings offer an excellent time for citizen involvement. The City utilizes a host of communication tools to keep the public informed of the budget schedule including: Committee meetings, Budget Public Forum, the City website www.fairwaykansas.org, Facebook and the City E-mail Program. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend City Council meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Budget Process Schedule:

March-May: Department Directors and Committees develop budgets; first draft of budget reviewed by Finance Committee in May.

June: Further review during Committee meetings; second draft reviewed by Finance Committee.

July: Valuation report received from County. Budget Public Forum will be scheduled to discuss the Budget.

August: Budget Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. on August 10th. Final Budget considered by City Council during regular Council meeting on August 10th.

Chief's Corner

Police Chief : David Brown

Happy Spring Everyone! I’m not sure about you but I’ve watched the Chiefs/49ers game a couple times now and still get excited about the drive, sense of purpose and teamwork our Chiefs showed. Of course everyone I’ve talked to has a story to tell about what they did in the third quarter to help change the momentum of the game. Some say they turned their Chiefs’ hats around, others changed the venue they were watching the game at, and my son in California made everyone change their seats at the home where he was watching. It worked! :) When the community comes together, great things can happen. The same goes for our Fairway community. Our elected officials, city staff and officers at the Police Department work best when we’re working with you, our community members. While we strive to be very good at what we do, we are at our very best when we all work together. Enjoy a safe and happy spring. Please give us a call if you see something in your neighborhood that causes concern. Also, take note of the bicycle safety course we are sponsoring with our Parks and Rec Department this spring - there are more details about how to sign up in the Parks and Recreation section of this newsletter.

As always, my best to each of you,

Dave

Does Your Spring Project Need a Building Permit?

A simple phone call may save you money, headaches and heartaches! When in doubt, contact City Hall 913-262-0350 x 0.

To view permit information visit www.fairwaykansas.org or open a web browser and type bit.ly/FairwayPermits.

Check with City Hall before starting your project:

- Be aware of the Public Tree Protection Ordinance. Violations of the Public Tree Protection Ordinance will result in fines.

- Interior projects: structural, mechanical, electrical or plumbing changes or upgrades require a building permit and a Johnson County licensed contractor to perform the work

- Exterior projects: fence, retaining wall, shed, driveway, sidewalk, deck, patio, roofing or siding require a building permit and may also require a Johnson County licensed contractor

- A building permit is not required for projects that are generally cosmetic, like painting and general maintenance.

Before you hire a contractor, we encourage you to look them up in the Johnson County Licensed Contractor Listing Search to make sure you partner with a contractor who is licensed in Johnson County. Visit the Johnson County website jocogov.org or open a web browser and type bit.ly/JoCoContractor.
Inside This Issue: Parks and Recreation Guide

STORM DAMAGE BRUSH COLLECTION
The Public Works Department will collect brush when City-wide storm damage is declared. This collection is for large storm debris that does not meet the regular yard waste collection guidelines.

“City-wide Brush Collection” will be communicated via the City E-mail Program and Facebook.

If the Citywide Storm Damage Brush Collection is NOT activated, homeowners are responsible for cutting and bundling the limbs for WCA’s weekly yard waste collection on Mondays. WCA will pick up limbs provided they meet their requirements:
- Limbs must be less than 2 inches in diameter
- Limbs must be tied with string or twine in bundles and not exceed 4 feet long and 18 inches in diameter
- Bundles must weigh less than 40 pounds
- Visit wcawaste.com/fairway or call WCA 816-380-5595 x 0 for full details
- Homeowners are responsible for removal of any limbs that do not meet the WCA collection guidelines and may need to contract with a private company

License your dogs by March 31 to avoid the late fees!

Residents may renew their dog’s tag in person or by mail with a current rabies certificate from a licensed veterinarian. If renewing by mail, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with the rabies certificate and appropriate fee.

Fairway City Hall
5240 Belinder Rd.
Fairway, KS 66205

Make checks payable to the City of Fairway.

LICENSING FEES are as follows:
Neutered males & spayed females ............... $ 10.00
Unaltered males & unaltered females .......... $ 25.00

Delinquent fees are added to each dog license.

DELINQUENT FEES are as follows:
1st month late fee: (beginning April 1)........$ 10.00
2nd month late fee: (beginning May 1)........$ 20.00
June 1st $30.00 late fee + citation + $58.00 court costs

All dogs, including foster dogs, over the age of 6 months are required to be licensed annually with the City. If you no longer have a previously licensed pet or have questions, please contact City Hall at 913-262-0350 x 0 so that we may remove the pet from the database.

STAY INFORMED!
Sign-Up for City E-mail Program!
Visit www.fairwaykansas.org to register your email for targeted City information. Also, find us on Facebook. Simply log on to Facebook and do a search for “City of Fairway, KS” and “like” us.
If you have any questions please contact Fairway City Hall at 913-262-0350 x 0.