



December 13, 2024

To: Mayor Mike Topliff and City Council Members  
From: City Administrator Sam Anselm  
Re: Weekly Update

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Please see below for this week's update and let me know if you have questions on any of the items.

#### Community Services

##### Parks and Recreation

- Last week all replacement steps were installed at Heselton, Wayhaven and Lofton Parks.
- Concrete was poured for the new Wayhaven Park basketball pad. The goal will be installed soon to complete the project.
- Two new benches were installed at Galloway Park this week.
- A total of 39 basketball games were played last week.

##### WP Public Library

- Thirty-three adults participated in the 30x30 Reading Challenge at the library. Ozark Pizza Company sponsored the challenge and provided a gift card to the winner.
- Konopy has gone live, giving patrons access to 30,000 films and documentaries to choose from.
- On Saturday, December 14, there will be a Saturday Storytime with Patty Goss, and adults also can hand-paint an ornament that day during a craft program with Delores Mercer Winkler.

##### WP Civic Center

- West Plains R-7 students will perform in an All-Bands Concert at the civic center Monday, December 16 at 7 pm.

##### WP Tourism/Welcome Center

- A holiday open house was held last week that included extended hours and visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Approximately 60 people attended.
- Tourism Assistant Terry Hampton will lead the Non-Profit Expo/Volunteer Fair at the civic center January 28. The City of West Plains will have a booth.

- As an effort to increase awareness about events in West Plains, tourism staff will distribute 3x3 cards to area gas stations, restaurants, retail stores, etc. The cards will have a link to the events calendar on the Explore West Plains website.

#### Facilities/Grounds

- The floors in the new training and breakrooms at city hall should be completed by the end of next week. They were ground down this week and the cracks filled in preparation for an epoxy finish.
- The sports complex will have new heat exchangers in two of its units.
- Quotes are being gathered to replace the wiring and conduit for the civic center pool pump room.

#### Fire

##### Last Week's Activities:

- 1 EMS incidents. (Medical calls, EMS lift Assist, Lock-in)
- 5 Structure related calls. (5-Fire alarms)
- 1 Heat from short circuit.
- 3 Motor vehicle accidents.
- 1 Outside trash fire
- 1 Smoke odor removal
- 2 Flue inspections.
- 1 Public Relations event.
- 2 Unauthorized burning.
- 1 Authorized Burn.
- 1 Carbon Monoxide Event.
- 24 burn permits were issued. 4 days of no burning.
- Hosted Howell County Fire Officers meeting.
- Hosted Region G All Hazards team training.
- The mobile command unit is currently being repaired. The new fire engine was picked up in Springfield on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Equipment is being moved and mounted and driver training is under way. We should have the unit in service in the next couple of weeks.
- 84 Hours of shift PTO taken, covered by full-time/part-time.

#### Planning

- The Bruce Smith Parkway extension from Garner Road to County Road 6460 was paved this week. Next for this area will be sidewalks to be funded by the MoDOT Transportation Alternatives Program. MoDOT has given a notice to proceed for engineering to begin.
- MoDOT funding for the U.S. Highway 160 overpass project is being shifted to only include construction engineering. New agreements are being drafted with MoDOT Multimodal. The change is due to the EDA's additional funding for project construction.

- Due to lack of participation in the CDBG Residential Buyout program for homes affected by the 2017 flood, the city is working with SCOCOG to request CDBG to allow commercial buyouts with the remaining program funds.
- The steering committee for the Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) program has been assembled. Olsson will be reaching out soon to schedule the first meeting in January.

### Police

- The police department continues to do traffic education, awareness, and enforcement at the R7 school zones and around the detours.
- Members of the police department attended search and rescue training at the West Plains Civic Center Tuesday, December 10, 2024, through Thursday, December 12, 2024.
- Investigators are still following up on the homicide from a couple weeks back interviewing individuals connected to the victim and suspect.
- At the end of last week the department's SRT Team responded to a mutual aid request from Oregon County Sheriff's Office. They had a barricaded suspect that had assaulted two officers and was in a pursuit where patrol vehicles were rammed. US marshals went to the suspect residence with fugitive warrants and the suspect fired at the marshals. Howell County Sheriff's SWAT, West Plains SRT Team, and later the Missouri State Highway Patrol responded. The standoff lasted all night with the suspect firing from the residence and hitting armored vehicles. Gas was deployed whereupon the father and mother left the residence armed, and were taken into custody. The suspect was taken into custody in the early afternoon after falling through the attic. The suspect had over sixty firearms, pipe bombs, and a working cannon within the residence. ATF and the FBI bomb unit responded to collect the explosives and render the location safe. No officers were injured.

### Transportation

- Street crews continued working on the Grace Ave. drainage project setting decorative blocks and poured additional decorative blocks. The construction crew continued to work on the damaged wall on the Monk Ave. drainage ditch.
- Several of the transportation crews attended free classes and equipment show at the 811 Summit put on by Mo One Call Wednesday and Thursday in Springfield Missouri.