



February 28, 2025

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

Please see below for this week's update.

Administration

Human Resources

- This week was the deadline for companies to submit proposals for health insurance and benefits brokerage services.
- We currently have just one full-time job opening listed on our website, for an equipment operator in our parks & recreation department, and interviews are scheduled for early next week.

Community Services

Parks & Recreation

- Planning has begun for the upcoming pool season, which kicks off on Memorial Day (May 26). Onboarding will begin shortly for new and returning lifeguards. As in past years, the onboarding will take place at the civic center, and all prospective lifeguards will need to complete the city's required drug testing and the water certification.
- Pending projects include repairs to the outfield fence and installation of the new shade structure at the Hilburn Sports Complex.

WP Public Library

- The Scholastic Book Fair will be held March 3-7 from 9 am -5:30 pm in the West Plains Public Library Community Room. On Tuesday, March 4, the library will host a "Family Night" and remain open until 7 p.m. All proceeds support the library's children's department.

WP Civic Center

- Grizzly basketball played the Moberly Greyhounds for their last regular season home game on Wednesday. The Grizzlies will host a TBD play-in game on Tuesday, March 4.
- WPC will host the 10th Annual Brewfest on Saturday, March 8, in the arena and exhibit hall.

- A bid for the rights to sell alcoholic beverages is being developed and will be distributed to local vendors soon.

WP Tourism/Welcome Center

- Tickets are now available for the Balloon Glow on Saturday, April 12 and can be purchased at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/asdfghj/event/balloonglow/>. Gates open at 3:00.
- The musical lineup for the event is:
 - Thundershine – 4 p.m.
 - Bryant Band – 5:30 p.m.
 - Simply Seger – 7 p.m.
- Balloon Glow starts at 7 p.m.
- The fireworks finale begins 8:30 p.m.
- Food trucks, vendors, a kids zone, and a beer garden will also be available.

North Terra Golf Course

- Work began this week on the new irrigation well for the back nine of the golf course.
- Jeremy Haynes, who previously worked at the West Plains Country Club, is now heading up the North Terra course for Maxim Golf. Jeremy has already painted and reorganized the pro shop.

Facilities

- A gutter system will be designed and installed in the elevator mechanical room at the civic center, which is required for inspection purposes.
- The cabinets in the new IT room at city hall will be finished up this week.

Fire

Last Week's Activities:

- 10 EMS incidents. (Medical calls, EMS lift Assist, Lock-in)
- 4 Structure related calls. (1- Fire alarm, 1 – Structure Fire, 2- Smoke detector checks)
- 1 Gas odor investigation.
- 1 Citizen Assist / Public Event
- 16 burn permits were issued. 1 day of no burning.
- Staffed stations for the weather event from 0700 on 02/18 until 1900 on 2/19
- WP Fire Academy working on finishing up Hazmat Operations and looking forward to moving into the FF1 portion of training.

Planning

- The planning team put on a workshop on permitting processes for contractors Thursday and it was a huge success. On a sunny, spring-like day, 48 contractors participated in the workshop and networking opportunity that included a free lunch provided by event sponsors R.P. Lumber, Meeks, Cape Electric, and Winsupply. Big shoutout to Kurt and Shawn for putting it together, to Kurt for a great presentation, and to Brian Mitchell for a

tasty lunch! Most attendees also filled out surveys that we will use to make improvements in processes and to plan future workshops.

- Cameron presented a new work request format for GIS to the management team Wednesday. This allows users to request new projects, maps, etc. through a managed workflow system. Employees can go to www.westplains.gov/maps or email Cameron for more information.
- Sen. Brad Hudson submitted a \$2.5 million funding request to the Missouri Senate budget committee this week for the renovation of 601 Washington Avenue. Staff are also receiving questions about the project from the House budget committee as well.
- The annual MS4 stormwater program report was submitted this week to the Department of Natural Resources.

Police

- On Friday, February 28, 2025, the drone team conducted a drone in-service training for building search at the West Plains Civic Center. The training was for familiarization and pilot training for flying in close counters and room search.
- Sergeant Colter Reid attended an advanced SWAT training with members of Howell County SWAT in Atlanta, Georgia this week. The training will certify the participants as instructors so they can return and train other team members on techniques they have learned.
- The animal care and control facility remains full.

Transportation

- Street crews began the week cleaning salt spreaders and trucks. A crew continued to patch small street cuts and potholes. Work on the Grace Ave drainage project should resume Tuesday by hauling more block to the site and if the ground firms up crews can begin setting again next week. The construction crew will be working with the parks and rec department cutting concrete squares, jack hammering and removing debris to prepare to set bases for the shade structures being installed at the baseball complex.

Utilities

- Utilities administration reviewed RFQs for the water storage booster stations, completed yearly reports for electric, water, and sewer, and collaborated with Tantalus on programming new card readers for meter reading.
- The electric department had four crew members in Springfield on Friday for opacity method certification related to generator regulations. Crew 331 has been working at the old MFA feed, installing a new service, disconnecting the old three-phase service, and removing poles and primary lines for the owner. Crew 321 set up a new three-phase bank at 509 Washington for new businesses and another three-phase bank for the new Dollar General. Crew 318 assisted other crews and installed new meter bases at Missouri Conservation.
- The water department installed a new one-inch water tap for the new Dollar General and repaired a water leak at Harlin Drive and Renfrow Avenue. They repaired a main break on

North U.S. 63 by Bayird Dodge. Three crew members attended trenching and shoring training with MPUA.

- The sewer department has been operating the new sewer jetter truck (pictured below), cleaning sewer mains, and responding to trouble calls.



- The wastewater treatment plant team worked on repairing an oil leak on the number one screw pump and running aerators due to a gearbox failure on the number four rotor.
- The water treatment plant team is working with TOTH Engineering on SCADA alarms at the Oregon Street well, which may be related to a pump failure. They are in contact with Flynn Drilling to replace the pump or connecting wire at the site and are also working on ODC's chlorine injection system.
- Last week the sanitation department transported 157 tons of refuse to the transfer station, bringing the cumulative total to 308 tons. Over-the-road drivers delivered 16 loads of refuse to the Hartville Landfill. The department has received a new side-load trash truck, pictured below, and new poly carts have been ordered with a lead time of four to six weeks.

