



Everman Community Newsletter

May 2017

City Hall 817-293-0525 www.evermantx.net
City Cable Access Channel 27 (Charter)

Mayor's Corner

Everman Residents,

The city of Everman held elections on May 6, 2017 and the only item on our ballot was Proposition 1. Proposition 1 was the reauthorization of one-fourth percent of collected sales taxes to be utilized for the maintenance and repairs of streets, belonging to the City of Everman. This is not a new tax. It has been in place for four years. City of Everman residents voted 45 "For" and 9 "Against" Proposition 1. We had 54 residents out of 2,768 registered voters (or 1.95%) that voted on our Proposition 1. The City of Everman had to spend \$8,000 to have this election. That works out to \$148.15 per ballot cast.

All City Council seats were unopposed. Your council will remain the same for the next two years. The next time City Council seats will be up for grabs will be May 2019.

The city is looking for citizens that would be interested in volunteering on one of our boards. We currently have two positions available with the "Board of Adjustments" and one position available on the "Planning and Zoning" Boards. If you might be interested in one of these board positions, you can contact City Secretary Mindi Parks at Everman City Hall. You can also be placed on a "Waiting List" for one of our other boards, if and when a spots comes available.

Your city has been working of several items that will help revitalize and clean up our city. The first items are participation with a non-profit named "6 Stones". This group has been working in the North East corner of Tarrant County, and we are hoping to bring it to South East Tarrant County. Their focus is the rehabilitation of homes needing repair. These homes typically belong to Veterans, Senior Citizens and Handicapped individuals that are on a fixed income. There will be more information to follow.

The City Council has given approval for our Everman Police, Fire and EMS to organize an "America Celebration" here in our city. The date will be July 1, 2017. There will be many activities for all to enjoy. More details will be announced, as this event gets closer.

On May 9, the Everman City Council designated the month of May as "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month". We are urging all citizens of our community to become aware of the inherent danger involved in operating a motorcycle, and for riders and motorists alike to give each other the mutual respect they deserve. The Roca Motorcycle Club of Fort Worth accepted this proclamation.

The next proclamation also designated May as "Support Our Soldiers Awareness Month". Support Our Soldiers (S.O.S.) was founded in July 2011, here in the City of Everman. This incredible group sends care packages to our soldiers stationed all over the world. These care packages contain items that are not readily available to the soldiers. Items like deodorant, shampoo, snack items, etc. If you might be interested in helping this organization, you can look them up on Facebook, or online at www.supportoursoldiers.com. There are several lists of items that are needed for our soldiers, or they also accept cash donations. You can also sign up for the upcoming fundraising event on September 9, 2017. This is the REDneck Round-up Fundraiser. There will be a BBQ Buffet, Music, Line Dancing, Cotton-Eye Joe Lessons and a live auction. If you cannot attend then you can sponsor a soldier to attend this event, in your place. All information is on the website. Teresa Nelson, founder of S.O.S., accepted this proclamation.

Our last proclamation was recognizing the EISD Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC). This group has done outstanding work with the Everman School District Community. SHAC has brought forward information on nutrition, Physical Education, Health Education, Health Services, Counseling, Psychological and Social Services, etc. to our students, parents and citizens. SHAC was also recognized for the Easter Event held at Pittman Park. This event was a great success and can only grow bigger with time. James King (EISD) and Chief Randy Sanders accepted this proclamation.

Lastly, the Everman City Council recognized Howard Walley. Howard has served on the Everman Board of Adjustments for 35+ years. Howard has just recently stepped down from this board to devote his time to the Support Our Soldiers Foundation.

That's all that I have for now.

Ray Richardson

Mayor

City of Everman

NSF CHECK POLICY

City Manager

All NSF checks will be charged a service charge, the price to be adjusted periodically to reflect banks charge. All NSF checks are to be paid for with cash or money order, no checks will be accepted for a payment of an NSF. Once the City gets the NSF check back, it will not be re-sent to the bank. The bank presents the check two (2) times before returning it to the City. If a customer gives the City an NSF check two (2) times in a one (1) year period, then that customer forfeits the right to write checks for a one (1) year period, ending a year after the date of the second NSF check given. Customers that have given an NSF check will be notified of such and given three (3) working days to pay for the NSF check and the service charge. If on the Fourth (4th) working day, the NSF check has not been paid for, the water will be cut off and an additional service charge will be added to the account.

The City has an ongoing street rehabilitation program set up with Tarrant County for the last 4 years. Since the County is providing the labor, knowhow and equipment, we are getting the most coverage available from the street bond. Due to the County's workload, we are at their mercy as to when the projects will start for the year and how many they plan on completing for the year. As of now, the following streets are finished; Marlene, Barron, Vaughn, Lee, Chimney Rock, Southway, Gristmill, Angela Court, Christy Court and Wichita. The remaining approved streets to be repaired on the current contract with the County are; Enon, Chambers Creek, Langley, Smith, a portion of Bell, Hansbarger and Hansbarger Court, Prairie and Rodgers, Portions of Race, Russell and sections of Christopher. The county plans to start as soon as ATMOS Energy lowers their gas lines a minimum of 18 inches. This probably will not be completed until the end of summer. The county plans to start with Chambers Creek and then Enon. We are waiting to hear on which other streets they plan to do this year. Please be patient, our streets will be done. Also on another street note, we

have collected 300,000 dollars over the last 4 years in the ¼% sales tax for street repairs and that tax will continue for another 4 years since the voters spoke to keep it on the books.

Let us Talk Trash. Everman is starting to experience some illegal dumping about town. It seems that many fence materials from repairs, back yard clean up and general garbage is starting to find its way to Roy C. Brooks Blvd. As most of you know, we have a small Street Department who takes care of a wide variety of city needs other than streets. It throws them behind when they spend a day to two cleaning up from the illegal dumpers. Our Trash service will pick up to two yards in bulk trash every Friday. It must be placed in a manner that a single person can move and load it. Some folks like to just dump it in a pile which makes it too much of a task to get it picked up. In addition, brush needs to be cut to 4 feet in length and bundled not to exceed 50lbs per bundle. Please do your part to help us clean up Everman and if you see or know of someone dumping on Roy C. Brooks, please call the police.

City Manager

Michael Box

CODE COMPLIANCE

Maintain curbs and fence lines when maintaining your property.

DO NOT place refuse on curb other than Tuesday or Fridays OR any earlier than 6PM the day prior. Brush that is prepared properly may be at curb on Tuesdays or Fridays. Bulk pick up is on Fridays. If you are unsure as to whether or not your discarded waste will be picked up/removed due to size and/or content, call Waste Connections at 817-222-2221

Vehicles are to remain intact and tires inflated at all times regardless of hobby vehicles, trailers, etc.

Maintain swimming pools including securing it from outside intrusion. If for whatever reason you will or cannot use your pool drain it and cover it to prevent accidental drowning as well as mosquito infestation.

Donna Strickland, Code Compliance

LIBRARY LORE

Greetings from the Everman Public Library

We hope you are enjoying the Spring season and we also hope you can stop by the library to pick up a good book or a great movie to enjoy in these rainy afternoons.

We are very excited about our Summer Reading Program in the month of June and we hope you are making plans to be with us and bring your little ones. The Summer Reading Program is sponsored by the Friends of the Everman Library and this year the title of our theme will be: On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!

Physical exercise is very important for a healthy life but intellectual exercise is equally important and we are here to encourage you to train your brain and feed your knowledge with the many resources we have at the library. Especially let us make sure the little ones grow up appreciating the joy of reading a good book. Remember that a good book is a good friend. The Summer Reading Program will begin on June 8 at 10:30am and it will go through all the month of June every Wednesday at 10:30 am. More information about other activities on the month of July will be announced.

If you would like to make a donation to help support, some of these programs you can send your checks to: Friends of the Everman Public Library P.O. Box 40341, Everman TX, 76140.

We hope you can stop by and visit us. If you have not been by the library in a while then it may be a good idea to stop by and activate your membership under our new automated system.

Thank you so much for your attention and we hope to see you soon.

Obed Rodriguez, Librarian

**POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

AN ALARMING FACT

The City of Everman Division of Emergency Management and the City of Everman have recently installed a new Emergency Warning Siren system. The system will be tested on the first Wednesday of each month, at 1:00 p.m. (weather permitting). Unlike the old system, the unit

rotates when activated, allowing for 360-degree notification. The City of Everman is surrounded by warning systems that are on the City of Ft. Worth and, anytime the City of Ft. Worth activates one of their units, every unit in the City of Ft. Worth activates at the same time. Many times if there is an emergency or potential, emergency in another part of Tarrant County, Ft. Worth will activate their system and we will hear their sirens going off. Tarrant County has set certain criteria as to when these systems should be activated. These include tornado, severe thunderstorm warnings, winds expected be over 60 mph, or other emergencies deemed necessary. The emergency warning systems are intended to notify persons outside to take cover and tune in to local radio/television, NOAA weather radio, or other media to find out what is going on. They are not guaranteed to be heard from inside a structure. During periods of threatening weather, if you are away from your home and out in the city, remember to listen for the siren and take whatever actions are necessary to assure your safety.

LOCAL POLICE ADD SERVICES

The Everman Police Department's K9 officer, Corporal James Thompson and his side kick NIKO are now fully certified Drug apprehension officers and are on the streets, sniffing out their next drug bust. The duo has already been successful in recovering various types of narcotics within the City and has made multiple drug arrests. Certified by the National Drug Dog Association (NDDA), Niko is a fully certified peace officer and is protected by the same laws that protect any other law enforcement person. Everman Crime Control taxes were used to purchase a new Chevy Tahoe for the team to patrol and respond to calls for service in.

In addition, the Everman Police Department has now added a DRONE division (at no cost to the City) to be used in investigations, search for lost or wanted persons, during felony arrests and a number of other situations that could come up. Officer James Spradley, is a national certified DRONE pilot and has attended many hours of training on its proper use. Officer Spradley was able to obtain the Drone, a camera for the drone, and will very soon have a FLEER camera with night vision installed. All of this equipment has been

donated through local individuals and companies. The unit is housed in a Chevy Tahoe that was previously assigned to the K9 division. The unit is equipped with a large screen monitor that allows the ground officer to view what the DRONE is viewing from a distance off. By using the remote control, the operator can send the DRONE unit into areas where perhaps vehicles cannot get into. Several cities in the area have gone to this technology, due to the lack of helicopter services from area agencies that used to be willing to assist but have now become "to busy".

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

On June 30, long time Director of Emergency Services, Randy Sanders will be retiring and Craig Spencer will take over that position. Craig Spencer will be the Police Chief, Director over the Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management co-coordinator, and will handle other assignments as determined by the office of the City Manger. Craig Spencer is an experienced Police supervisor, and he is a Fire Fighter, has years of experience in Emergency Medical Services, and fire investigations. Sanders hopes to remain active (as a volunteer) within the fire department continuing fire inspections, fire investigations, and fire Marshal duties.

Director of Emergency Services, Randy Sanders

Everman Animal Control

The summer heat will be upon us soon, The Everman Animal Control Center would like to remind pet owners to provide your animals with proper shelter, shade, food and fresh water daily. We recommend the use of plastic bowls to keep the water cooler longer, metal bowls will transfer the heat to the water, which causes the water to become too warm for your pets to drink.

If you live in a residential zoned area, **you shall not keep livestock, chickens, roosters or ducks.** City Ordinance # 559 Section 3-11, It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any horse, cow, cattle, sheep, goat or fowl (*Chickens, Roosters and Ducks*) within 200 feet of another person's residence or occupied building.

City Ordinance # 559 Sections 3-18, Sanitation and defecation, (a) Animal enclosures and pens shall be kept cleaned to prevent unsanitary, unpleasant or obnoxious odors and conditions that attract breeding of flies, mosquitoes or other insects. (b) It is unlawful to allow any

animal to damage, soil, and defile or defecate on private or public property. When walking your four-legged friend be sure to bring along a bag to **properly remove and dispose of your animal droppings.**

If you do not have a four legged furry friend and are interested in getting one please come see the animals we have awaiting a forever home. The adoption fee is \$20.00. Call our shelter for additional information at 817-561-5495.

Animal Control Officer

NOTES FROM PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Everman offers to its citizens several different parks. Pittman Park, which is situated across from city hall features two pavilions, a splash pad, a children's playground, a walk track with an exercise station, condition restrooms, and a basketball court. Everman citizens are encouraged to take full advantage of the different features this park offers. The pavilions can be rented out to citizen for events such as birthday parties, barbeques, etc and are open until 10:00 pm. The splash pad is open during the summer months and offers children a fun way to cool off. Children can spend time burning off energy in the playground and then coolly refresh themselves in the splash pad. There are also cooking grills in the park. Therefore, while the kids are splashing in the splash pad mom and dad can be grilling up some hotdogs. Pittman Park is also surrounded by a mile walk track, and along with the exercise station, gives everyone a chance to keep fit and healthy. The restrooms provide cool air in the summer and warm air the in winter. The basketball court is open to the public seven days a week and stays open until 12:00 am for those late night gamers. Just north of Pittman Park is the football field, which can be rented by youth groups for seasonal football competitions. The city is updating its rules and policies for the field, so it is not being offered for rent at this time. Johnson Park, located on Everman Parkway offers four baseball fields. Each field is designed for a different age group. There is a large pavilion at the park, which can be rented to citizens. The park also offers a children's playground and public restrooms.

The City of Everman wants all its citizens to enjoy themselves at these parks. In order to do that, rules have been implemented to make the parks safe and appealing. I will not go over all the rules, but I will mention some rules that are very important. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed to be consumed at the parks. Alcohol can sometimes bring out the worst in people, which can lead to dangerous conflicts. Pets are not allowed in the parks. There have been incidences where pets have attacked people in the park. No motorized vehicles are allowed in the park. These can create ruts in the ground, which, in turn, can cause tripping hazards. They are also unsightly. No bicycles, tricycles, or things of this nature are allowed on the walk track. This can be dangerous to the walker and the cyclist. These rules are designed so that everyone can have a safe place to enjoy themselves. There are other rules posted at the parks. Remember, these parks are designed for you. So, please follow the rules and, please, keep them clean and enjoy your parks.

Director of Public Works
Jeff Reed

The City of Everman will have the water meter change out project completed by the end of June. The new technology will eliminate the human error issues we have had in the past regarding under read or over read water meters. You may notice a change in your water usage, as the new meters are more accurate. The technology will notify the city of potential leaks at your property then we will notify the customer. In the past, we have had issues with citizens tampering with the water meters, this will not be tolerated. The water is not to be turned off or on by anyone except a City of Everman water utility worker. In the event that your water is turned off by the city for any reason, it will be turned back on when the issue that caused the service to be interrupted is resolved and the water clerical staff issues a work order.

The spring and summer bring out the annoying mosquitoes that may carry diseases. We all need to do our part by making sure we do not have standing water, discarded tires, tall weeds and debris that may be breeding grounds for mosquitoes. If you see something that appears to be a potential hazard, report it.

I know we have repeatedly brought up the MS4 storm water protection requirements, unfortunately we are consistently seeing violations of the Ordinance. Weeds, leaves and grass **ARE NOT** to be blown into the street at all. The property owner may be held liable if your yard service blows your yard debris into the street. Once the yard waste is blown into the street it finds its way to the creeks and streams, the decomposition of the yard waste

and pesticides deplete the oxygen and poison the aquatic life in the waterway. We must all protect our ecosystem.

City Ordinance # 631 has been adopted and implemented in accordance with our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit to prevent contaminated storm water runoff. No person shall dump, allow, or permit to be introduced yard waste (grass clippings and leaves being blown into the street), garbage, motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous waste, industrial waste, any waste water from cleaning of pavement that contains any harmful quantity of soap, detergent, solvent or any other harmful cleaning substance and runoff from any animal pen are just a few examples of ways to protect our water from contaminates. Violations may be reported to City Hall at 817-293-0525.

The MS4 permit requires we convey the above information in order to educate the citizens and public of the negative impact caused to our water and environment.

Lisa Minnis

Economic Development news

Michael Nicoletti, Economic Development Director

Things happening in the City

Summer Feeding Program at Pitman Park. This will be free Breakfast served at 10:45am, and lunch served at 1:00pm. There will be all kinds of different things going on at this program like Arts and crafts, vacation bible school and more. Please join this program and get to enjoy free breakfast and lunch and all the fun activities. This will be starting on June 6 and will go throughout the summer. We also would like to share that we now take Court payments in the form of a credit card at the window and now online through our city website at www.evermantx.net. This is located on the home page of our website.

