



PROSPECT CITY NEWSLETTER



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Volume 3, 2020

Tough Times, Tough Choices

I am sure none of us have ever experienced such strange times. Almost everything shut down. We are in early stages of the worst pandemic since the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918-1919. Over 100,000 Americans have been killed by this highly contagious virus in just the last four months. Millions have lost their jobs (currently over 35 million) and many businesses have closed. It appears to me from the medical experts that this may continue for months, and probably until there is a safe and effective vaccine.

I feel that my single most important responsibility is the safety of the residents of Prospect.

Accordingly, in March I closed City Hall to the public. Starting May 18th, it was opened on an appointment basis, for limited purposes, such as obtaining permits, licenses, and fingerprinting. Just call 228-1121 for an appointment. Prospect City government is functioning normally in most respects, thanks to our committed administrative and public works staff, our police force, also to Rumpke (who continues to collect our trash) and Greenscapes (who continues to keep our landscape looking good). We all are available by phone. We are grateful to all of them for their continued service, as well as the workers who collect our trash, deliver our mail, and the folks who do our grocery shopping for us and bring them out to our cars.

However, the Prospect Library remains closed as we are following the Kentucky state guidelines for safety at work. The City Council has not followed its normal meeting schedule. When the Council next meets, I anticipate it will begin its consideration of my proposed 2020-2021 fiscal year budget and proposed budget ordinance, which was distributed to them two weeks ago.

Because our only defense from infection, at least for now, is staying physically apart, sadly we will not be

City Hall Operational Changes

Prospect City Hall re-opened Monday, May 18 **by appointment only for essential services.** Appointments can be made to pay property taxes or an ABC or business license, apply for a permit, have a document notarized, or to be fingerprinted. If you have other essential business that cannot be conducted by phone or email, please call 228-1121 to see if we can accommodate your request.

**To schedule an appointment,
for Administrative business call 228-1121**

OR

**For permits, business or ABC licenses
email: citycode@prospectky.com**

For notarizations and property tax payments email: cityclerk@prospectky.com

**For Police Business and finger printing call:
228-1150. You may also email to:
citycops@prospectky.com**

When you arrive for your appointment, please call 228-1121 to let someone know you are here and we will unlock the door for you.

**Only one person will be admitted at a time.
Please wear a mask and observe distancing
guidelines.**

**The library remains closed
for the foreseeable future.**

(Continued Next Page)

**Thinking about running for Prospect City Council?
The deadline for filing with the County Clerk
is June Second**

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able to have the annual Fourth of July event this year, not even the fireworks which normally draw hundreds of people. We also would not have been able to a parade, or bouncy houses. This was a difficult decision, and not everyone will agree.

I want to pass along that Prospect has again been ranked as one of the five safest cities in Kentucky. This has been true for several years. My wife, Sally, says the Prospect Police are the single best thing we get for our taxes, and I agree. This takes nothing away from the essential work that Laura Taylor and Ron Cundiff and the rest of our staff do every day – I couldn't do this without all of them.

As to the two proposed LDG apartment developments, there has been no news since the last Newsletter. Our Police Chief, Jeff Sherrard, has written a reply to a letter he received which assumed that our police would be providing coverage, telling them that we would not because they are in Metro and not Prospect; and I have heard nothing further since I agreed to be a consulting party regarding any historical site issues. If and when there are any developments, I will let everyone know.

There will be an election for City Council this November. I mention this because the cutoff date for filing with the County Clerk, which used to be in August, has been changed to June 2nd. The six member City Council is the policy-making body for the City, through its setting of the budget and its sole legislative power.

The weather has gotten beautiful, and lots of us are enjoying being outside. Everyone I see outside, as I take our little dog Brylee for her two walks a day, is being friendly and polite, as they cross over the street to observe social distancing.

Please stay safe.

John E. Evans

John E. Evans,
Mayor



Coffee with the Mayor

Due to the current health situation "Coffee With The Mayor" has been canceled for the foreseeable future. While the office may be closed to walk-in traffic, City Hall remains staffed and ready to address any concerns you may have by calling 228-1121.

Safety Tips for Walkers & Joggers



With a lot more people being home, more people are enjoying the outdoors and we are seeing an increase in the number of walkers and joggers and cyclists. The most important thing for pedestrians to keep in mind is to "be visible." Walk facing oncoming traffic, never to your back where you can't see what's coming. Wear bright colors when walking in daytime. When walking at night, wear light-colored clothing and reflective clothing or a reflective vest to be visible. Local sporting goods stores and running stores carry several reflective items. Drivers are often not expecting walkers or joggers to be out after dark, and you need to give them every chance to see you, even at street crossings such as US 42 where there are crossing signals.

Be just as cautious at dawn or twilight, as drivers still have limited visibility or may even have the setting or rising sun directly in their eyes. Walkers and joggers are reminded that state law prohibits pedestrians from being in the street where sidewalks are provided. KRS 189.570 states, "Where a sidewalk is provided and its use is practicable, it shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway." Be safe and have fun.

It's Your Newsletter, Tell Us What You'd Like!

Now that the newsletter has gone completely digital, we are no longer bound by "the rule of four." This limited page numbers to an even number and confined the amount of information that could be included in the publication with leaving blank space. This opens up room for a theoretically unlimited number of pages!

Now that being said, what would you like to see in the newsletter? What changes would you make? Suggestions may be sent to: Ron Cundiff at citymaint@prospectky.com.

Tell us what you like, or don't like, about the newsletter and help us improve it!

RECYCLE THESE

PAPER



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



PLASTIC BOTTLES



METAL CANS



empty aerosol cans that didn't contain hazardous or flammable material

CARTONS



DON'T RECYCLE THESE:

- Clothing
- Batteries
- Plastic Bags
- Pots & Pans

Visit www.rumpke.com for a complete list of what you can and can't recycle.

RUMPKE

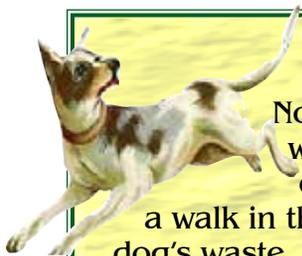


US-42 Safety Improvements Working Group

In late 2019, Mayor Evans created an all-volunteer working group to explore installing lights along US-42 to both increase safety and enhance the unique, small town charm of Prospect. The Chair for the working group is retired architect, Herb Shulhafer and it consists of two Council Members, Greg Huelsman and Rande Swann, Public Works Director Ron Cundiff, along with residents Sarah Odell, Belinda Smith, John Simpson, Nick Nicholson and Doug Farnsley. The group has worked tirelessly with the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency, (KIPDA), to apply for a grant to complete the project. The grant would be used to install bespoke street lighting along both sides of US-42 from I-265 to the exit of Hunting Creek, centerline rumble strips on the downhill portion from I-265 to Harrods Creek Bridge, and install new guardrails, to current highway safety standards, along the same downhill portion. The 80/20 grant, if approved, would allow Prospect to pay for just 20% of the project cost with the remaining 80% coming from KIPDA. More important, Prospect residents would not pay any additional taxes to fund these safety improvements. It should be noted that the project is entirely dependent upon receiving the grant from KIPDA and subsequent approval by the City Council. The competitive grant process closes at the end of May and we should know if we have been awarded a grant by the end of July. The Mayor, along with the working group, are hopeful to bring these much needed safety improvements to US-42 and build upon the charm and safety that Prospect offers its residents and continue to make us one of the most desirable places to live.



Members of the US 42 Safety Improvements Group meet via the cities new video conferencing system. Attendees of the meeting were: Top row (L to R) Mayor John Evans, Herb Shulhafer and Nick Nicholson. Bottom row (L to R) Council Member Greg Huelsman, John Simpson and Sarah Odell. Not pictured are Council Member Rande Swann, Belinda Smith, Doug Farnsley and Public



A Good Walk Spoiled

No, we're not talking about golf! We are talking about inconsiderate pet owners who do not clean up after their dogs do their...umm.. "business", leaving it for others to deal with. Please remember to clean up after your dogs while out for a walk in this great weather. If you are one of those wonderful people who do bag your dog's waste, PLEASE dispose of it properly in a waste bin. It makes no sense to take something that is already biodegradable, wrap it in plastic and leave it lay on the sidewalk. The city would also like to remind dog owners the landscaping beds through out the city are not dog potties. Please direct your animals to places people don't have to work.

Permit Applications By Mail

In effort to allow residents to resume projects at their homes and local businesses to make improvements, yet maintain safety for the public and city employees, the City has begun to accept permit applications by mail.

All restrictions outlined in the City's Code of Ordinances will remain unchanged and compliance by the applicant must continue as usual. What will change is the application process.

Application forms, as well as the entire Code of Ordinances can be found on our website (prospectky.us) under the Government tab. Or you may also request an application form by emailing citycode@prospectky.com. Applications and applicable fees can then (with clear return address) be mailed to:

City Of Prospect
Attn: Code Enforcement
P.O. Box 1
Prospect, KY 40059

Once your application has been approved and your permit issued, your permit will be mailed to the provided return address.

In observation of social distancing, inspections will be conducted "no contact" with applicants. Any failed inspections will be addressed by phone or by mail. You must still call City Hall to request an inspection upon completion of your project and deposit refunds will still be mailed out in the same manner as have previously been mailed

If you have any questions regarding the permit application process, you may call City Hall at 502-228-1121 or email citycode@prospectky.com for more information.

So, Bambi Is In Your Backyard, Now What?



Love them or hate them, one thing Prospect has no shortage of is deer. With the advent of summer so comes fawning season for the area deer. Every season City Hall receives several calls from people who have found a newborn fawn in their yard and "don't know what to do about it." They may appear alert, but unable to stand causing humans to want to "help" them. Like a new colt, they are wobbly at first and must have some time to stretch and strengthen their legs so they can stand, walk, or run. A newborn fawn may have trouble keeping up with its mom as she forages for food. Often the doe will "park" her fawns and will return throughout the day to feed and check them. Just because you do not see the doe, doesn't mean she is not in the area and caution should be used approaching a fawn.

The biggest danger to an apparently abandoned fawn is the well-meaning human who wishes to help the baby. If you find a fawn in your yard, the best course of action is to leave it be. Enjoy it from a distance, odds are it won't be there long. If, however, you find a fawn that is on its side, is crying excessively, is near a dead doe, or has an obvious injury, you should call the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. Never approach a fawn, or for that matter allow your dogs to. A mother deer can be lethal to pets and can seriously injure humans as well.

Election Sign Regulations

With the election campaign season upon us, please be reminded that Prospect City Code of Ordinances, at Section 157.27 (H), prohibits political campaign signs from being posted on your property more than thirty (30) days prior to the election. The ordinance also provides that signs may not be more than sixteen (16) square feet in area, and they must be removed from your property within five (5) days after the election. Only one sign per candidate, placed no closer than 10 feet to the curbs edge is allowed. Additional controls concerning campaign signs are found in deed restrictions and by-law provisions of specific neighborhoods or subdivisions. They are valid controls and take precedence if more restrictive than the City Code. If you have questions concerning neighborhood controls, contact your homeowner or property owner association officials to avoid being cited. Your cooperation in observing the provisions of the ordinance and deed re-restrictions in your neighborhood helps to improve the appearance of our city while giving everyone a chance to express their political preferences well in advance of election day.

Shout-Out!

In regular circumstances, we take commonplace activities for granted. Police keep us safe, grass gets mowed, subdivision entrances are maintained, city bills get paid, trash and dog waste bags are picked up in parks, library books are shipped to and from city hall, pot holes are filled in, questions



Maintenance Crew extraordinaire Bryan Whitlow (left) and Rusty Waters (right) clean up a downed tree in the Innisbrook subdivision.

are answered, drains are cleared, city parking lots are cleaned, garbage and recycling pick-ups are twice a week, and house-watch rounds continue.

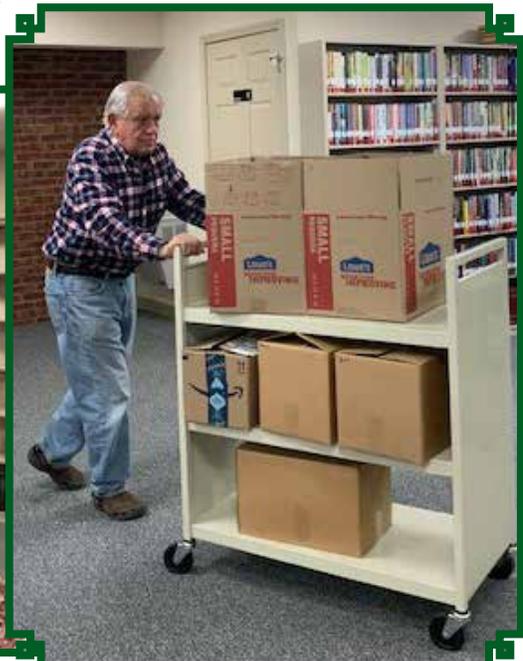
We owe enormous gratitude to those who keep the City of Prospect going during this unique and difficult period. Their courage, selflessness, and hard work make our personal, effective responses to this pandemic possible. How can you be safe at home if actions we take for granted stop?

Let's give a huge THANK YOU to the staff at City Hall, our wonderful police officers, our waste management contractor

Rumpke, our landscape contractor **Greenscapes**, and our elected officials. This tremendous group effort allows us to move forward as life becomes more normal.

Sandra Leonard
Prospect City council

Work goes on in the library as Council Members (left to right) Sandra Leonard, Don Gibson and Frank Fulcher organize and pack books.



With a much cuter maintenance crew of his own, Councilman Harold Schewe and his three daughters (left to right) Olivia, Emma and Molly pull invasive garlic mustard at Hunting Creek Park.

City Hall, Police And Library Hours

Monday 8:30 - 6:30

Tuesday - Thursday.....8:30 - 5:00

Friday..... 8:30 - 3:30

Contact Information

City Hall.....228-1121

Prospect Police Department (General Information)....228-1150

Prospect Police Dispatch.....228-COPS(2677)

Police, Fire & EMS Emergency911

Email Contacts

City Clerk.....Laura Taylor.....cityadm@prospectky.com

Dir. of Public Works.....Ron Cundiff.....citymaint@prospectky.com

Code Enforcement.....Mike Lesch.....citycode@prospectky.com

Chief Of Police.....Jeff Sherrard.....chief@prospectky.com

Police Dept.....Jill Vidito.....citycops@prospectky.com

Mayor And City Council



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