

May 2021 Edition

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# HOUSTON LAKER

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*Morning Light*

 Jean Anderson

# May 2021 Community Calendar Events

May 9<sup>th</sup> -  **Happy Mother's Day**

May 10<sup>th</sup> - City Council Meeting, 7:30pm at City Hall, wear a Mask.

May 19<sup>th</sup> - Venetian Gardens Homes Association meeting, 7:00pm , City Hall, wear Mask

May 25<sup>th</sup> - Recycling and Trash pickup day

May 31<sup>st</sup> -  **Memorial Day**

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Trash pickup day

June 5<sup>th</sup> - Fishing Tournament 7am to 3pm

June 5<sup>th</sup> - HOA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnic at the Beach starting at 3pm

June 19<sup>th</sup> - Annual 2021 Young Artists Workshop 1:00pm – 3:00pm, City Hall

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## To all residents in good standing:

We will be celebrating the **75th Anniversary** of the Venetian Gardens Home Owners Association on June 5th immediately following the fishing tournament.



The celebration will begin at 3:00 at the swim beach. Burgers and dogs will be provided. Side dishes welcome.

We have a lot of new residents. I hope you will all come to meet your neighbors and help us celebrate our 75th Anniversary.

Mark your calendars for June 5, 2021 at 3:00pm. Hope to see you all there.

Kerry Hallowell

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## LOOK

If you see any geese nesting please call or email the location to one of the Homes Association Board members.



## **PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE GEESE.**

Why we do not feed the geese...They become reliant on human food and abandon their natural nutrition sources, which may cause health issues. In addition they become accustomed to human activity and will use the park and beach as their restroom.

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**CITY OFFICIALS**  
**CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE**

Mayor Chuck Stone = 816-305-3196  
([mayor@houstonlake.net](mailto:mayor@houstonlake.net))

City Clerk Sarah Schofield = 816-741-0644  
([cityclerk@houstonlake.net](mailto:cityclerk@houstonlake.net))

Sewer Grinder Pumps  
Sarah Schofield = 816-394-8828

City Collector - Kathryn Kreider  
([taxcollector@houstonlake.net](mailto:taxcollector@houstonlake.net))

Alderman (Ward 1 So.), Mayor Pro-Tem  
Evonne Briones = 901-596-6704  
([sw2-alderman@houstonlake.net](mailto:sw2-alderman@houstonlake.net))

Alderwoman (Ward 1 So.)  
Sarah Farsace = 816-863-2412  
([sw1-alderman@houstonlake.net](mailto:sw1-alderman@houstonlake.net))

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)  
Teena Walker-Robin = 816-769-6082  
([nw1-alderman@houstonlake.net](mailto:nw1-alderman@houstonlake.net))

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)  
([nw2-alderman@houstonlake.net](mailto:nw2-alderman@houstonlake.net))

Codes Enforcement Officer  
Cathy Grove 913-701-7142  
([codesenforcement@houstonlake.net](mailto:codesenforcement@houstonlake.net))

Platte County Circuit Court Clerk  
Kim Johnson = 816-858-2232

Platte County Sheriff  
Non emergency 816-858-3521  
For emergencies please call 911  
Fire Dept. Dispatcher = 816-741-1191  
Fire Dept. Admin. = 816-372-9024

**VENETIAN GARDENS**  
**HOMES ASSOCIATION (HOA)**

President = Kerry Hallowell  
816-695-4100 ([hallowellkerry2020@gmail.com](mailto:hallowellkerry2020@gmail.com))

Vice President = Joe Briones  
([j.briones.venetian.gardens@gmail.com](mailto:j.briones.venetian.gardens@gmail.com))

Public Relations Officer = Joe Briones  
([hoacommunications@houstonlake.net](mailto:hoacommunications@houstonlake.net))

Secretary /Treasurer/ Lake Tags = Susan Hodges  
816-786-2377 ([hodges.susan@outlook.com](mailto:hodges.susan@outlook.com))

Board Member = Mary Head  
816-741-5639 ([maryjewel40@gmail.com](mailto:maryjewel40@gmail.com))

Board Member = Teresa Olson  
816-536-4336 ([teresaaolson@hotmail.com](mailto:teresaaolson@hotmail.com))

Registrar/Editor - Houston Laker = Mary Head  
816-741-5639 ([editor@houstonlake.net](mailto:editor@houstonlake.net))

Water Quality Officer = Sharron DeLaFuente

Dam/Watershed Officer

Aerator Maintenanc

For more City and Homes Association Info  
and the Houston Laker Newspapers go to  
[www.houstonlake.net](http://www.houstonlake.net)

City of Houston Lake City Hall (816)741.0644



## Annual 2021 Young Artists Workshop

The Houston Lake Arts Circle cordially invites all young family members and grandchildren of our Houston Lake residents to participate in the 2021 Young Artists Workshop. \*Please RSVP\* (below)

**Theme:** Mask

**Who:** All young family members of our Houston Lake Residents (ages 2 – 18)

**What:** The annual workshop is a **free event** held each spring to inspire young artists of Houston Lake's residents to create and display their own theme-related artwork.

**When:** Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Where:** Houston Lake City Hall

**Activity:** Young Artists will participate in creating a mask-er-piece! A group photo of all young artist participants with their mask-er-piece creation will be displayed during the 2021 **Annual Art Exhibit on August 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 4 pm**. Young Artists are encouraged to leave their original creations at City Hall to be displayed at the Art Show.

For questions about the upcoming workshop or Art Show, please contact one of the following Houston Lake Arts Circle members:

	Name	Phone	Email
1	Linda Kramer	816-225-4110	<a href="mailto:lindakramer@gmail.com">lindakramer@gmail.com</a>
2	Kathryn Kreider	816-591-1342	<a href="mailto:dkecoronado@sbcglobal.net">dkecoronado@sbcglobal.net</a>
3	Jean Anderson	816-645-1529	<a href="mailto:blue.jean@me.com">blue.jean@me.com</a>
4	Evonne Briones	901-596-6704	<a href="mailto:ebriones@houstonlake.net">ebriones@houstonlake.net</a>
5	Shelly Broll	913-602-2265	

### Please RSVP!!

Complete **this portion of the flyer** and return to the **City Hall mailbox by Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

Resident's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

# of Children Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

# Mask

## Call to Artists



## Art, Life & Folks Houston Lake Arts Circle

Registration Dates: May thru July  
Art Delivery Date: August 7, 2 - 4pm  
Exhibit: August 14, 1 - 4pm

**Houston Lake Arts Circle** is honored to announce a call for entries to our 7th Annual Art Show **Mask**

This is a call to residents for their handmade creations in any medium. Let your art be inspired by the theme, **Mask**. Whether your art is modern, traditional, still or kinetic.

### Entry Guidelines

Open to all Houston Lake Residents. All works must be made by the artist. Floor works must be firmly stable and less than 3 sq ft. Wall mounted pieces are limited to 20 lbs, and must be ready to hang. Limit 2 entries per artist.

### Exhibit

Performance works performed only at the exhibit opening.

Physical art remains on display after the opening. Selected pieces displayed Aug - Feb, remaining pieces displayed March - July.

### Mask Registration Form (due 7/31/2021)

*Please print clearly*

Artist:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

Art Work

Title:

Approximate size:

Medium (watercolor, yarn, etc):

May we post you and your works on Facebook / Instagram? Yes/No:

The Arts Circle will care for your art, however we aren't responsible if damaged

### Mask Artwork Form (attach to back of art)

Artist:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

Art Work

Title:

Medium (watercolor, yarn, etc):

The Arts Circle will care for your art, however we aren't responsible if damaged

Dear Residents of Houston Lake,

Venetian Gardens Homeowners Association will be applying for a Community Development Block Grant from the Missouri Department of Economic Development. Eligible Communities: Cities under 50,000 in population and counties under 200,000 are eligible to apply for a CDBG grant. The grant is to reduce the risk of homes on the lake from being flooded during heavy rains, and one way to be accomplished this is by removing the peninsula. The first step to qualify for this grant, is for our community to complete the LMI Survey from the State of Missouri. The survey is required from each home in Houston Lake and to be reviewed in Jefferson City. The surveys are ANONYMOUS.

The survey is to identify if a community is a low to middle income community. LMI is generally calculated on an area basis, meaning either the entire jurisdiction of the applicant (or subapplicant) or a defined targeted area within that jurisdiction must be at least 51% LMI.

If awarded the grant money it is to be used for the removal of the peninsula near Houston Lake City Hall.

Why use the money for the peninsula? Answer: the grant we will be applying for is an Emergency fund. If awarded the fund, we can apply the monies for the removal of the peninsula. By removing the peninsula, we are increasing the potential volume of the lake which can reduce the risk of flooding in Houston Lake. The Board is open to conducting a vote on the removal of the peninsula in the future. There are a few homes that are in flood Zone A on FEMA's map and many more near the edge of the zone.

Why not dredge the lake instead? Answer: the grant does not qualify for dredging the lake.

At this time, we would like to move forward with the survey and application of the grant to see if the community qualifies for the available funds. Your help is greatly appreciated.

The HOA will host a survey session May 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for all residents. The Board will come by and conduct a door to door survey for residents that are not able to attend the sessions. Again, we need all residents to participate.

Survey Sessions at City Hall (come by any time during the listed hours):

- May 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00PM
- May 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00PM
- May 29<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:00PM

Again to Everyone, there is no guarantee we will be awarded the grant, however your participation is greatly appreciated.

Venetians Gardens HOA Board

# Houston Lake Fishing Tournament and Cookout Hosted by Venetian Gardens Homeowners Association

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Registration time: 6AM-6:45AM

Start time: 7:00AM End: 3:00PM

Registration of event is at Mayor's park, day of event.

All Venetian Gardens members in good standing and one guest can participate in tournament.

## Registration Fee:

- \$20 for Adult – 16 years and Over
- \$5 for Children

## Rules:

- Missouri State rules will apply (for both boating and legal fishing).
  - Bass 8-12" may be kept. Bass 12-15" should be returned to the lake. Catfish under 12" should be returned.
  - Rough minnows, such as carp, shad or goldfish are not allowed as bait.
  - No trot lines, jug lines or unattended fishing lines (for extended amount of time).
- No Motor boats.
- Bank fishing is allowed (HOA property or personal property of contestant.)
- Must have Missouri Fishing license.
- Must have **2021** Venetian Gardens wristband. **(If you don't have your wristband contact HOA, via email).**
- Boat must be registered with HOA. (Registration form on HOA website.)
- No boats from outside of Houston Lake are allowed on the lake.
- Fish must be a live when brought to registration table.

## Adult Categories:

- ❖ Largest Fish.

## Children's Categories:

- ❖ Largest Fish.

## Prizes:

- Adult Prize - \$50 gift card
- Children's Prize - \$20 Gift Card

Cookout to take place after the tournament at the Beach.

- Hamburgers and Hot Dogs to be provide.
- Sides are welcomed. A form will be emailed out to residents to note dish to be provided. Or just come with a dish.

# Venetian Gardens Homes Association Watercraft Registration

**Boaters**: ALL watercraft including kayaks must be registered with the Venetian Gardens Homes Association. To do so, please visit [www.venetiangardens.houstonlake.net](http://www.venetiangardens.houstonlake.net) . Select the downloadable form called “Watercraft Registration”. Completed forms can be emailed to [hoacommunications@houstonlake.net](mailto:hoacommunications@houstonlake.net) or put it in the HOA mail box at City Hall. Once registered, you will be assigned a number which is to be permanently affixed to the stern of the boat along with an annual registration sticker similar to what is used on vehicle license plates. Each year, a new registration sticker will be distributed to watercraft owners when annual Homes Association dues are paid.

***Please wear your 2021 wristband while enjoying the lake.***

Maximum Horsepower permissible on the lake will be 7 ½ HP. It is recommended that 3 ½ or 5 HP be used. The maximum speed permissible on the lake by outboards will be FIVE (5) miles per HOUR. NO WAKE.



**PLEASE NOTE**: Houston Lake is dedicated to preventing the spread of Zebra Mussels. The Boat ramp is closed.

No watercraft will be allowed in the lake without being inspected. This process will take 10 days so please plan accordingly. If you want to launch your watercraft (boats,

Kayaks, canoes, pontoons, etc.) into our lake you must contact Jeff Lister at [hoacommunications@houstonlake.net](mailto:hoacommunications@houstonlake.net).

Even if you have lake front property to put your watercraft in you must have it inspected and registered. Now if the watercraft has not left Houston Lake, it does not need to be inspected but it does have to be registered.

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**VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION  
APPLICATION FOR WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION**

**OWNERS NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOT NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**BOAT TYPE** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE** \_\_\_\_\_

**MODEL NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**HORSEPOWER** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sign and Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:**

**Complete application then submit it to the Board of Directors. Application can be emailed to [hoacommunications@houstonlake.net](mailto:hoacommunications@houstonlake.net) or put in the HOA mail box at City Hall, 5417 N.W. Adrian, Houston Lake, Mo. 64151.**

# Venetian Gardens Homes Association

## Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake "2021 Wristband"!!



Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2021 Wristband in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2021 Wristband.

### **ABSOLUTELY NO FISHING IN THE BEACH AREA.**

To get your 2021 Wristbands call Homes Association Treasurer, Susan Hodges @ 816.786.2377.

The Wristbands are FREE if your Homes Association dues are paid.

Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2021 Wristband with them when they are on or around the lake and on Homes Association property.

***ATTENTION Your Lake Dues must be paid to use the lake facilities for swimming, fishing, boating or other recreational purposes even if you have lake front property. Non-paying members may not picnic on Homes Association property (for example, the beach, Mayor's park or the peninsula) you must have your 2021 Lake wristband with you when using the lake***



# Homes Association Rules and Regulations

1. Lake tags will be issued to lot owners who have paid their HOA dues in full. Lot owners will be responsible for the wristbands issued to their property.
2. Lake Wristband must be worn and visible for everyone on Venetian Gardens HOA property at all times.
3. Private property. No trespassing. Residents, lot owners and guests only. Violators will be prosecuted.
4. Property owners are responsible for the conduct and actions of their guest at all times.
5. No DIVING or FISHING from the Swimming Docks.
6. No swimming after 9:00p.m.
7. Alcohol will not be allowed in the beach area.
8. Animals will not be allowed in the beach area.
9. Fishing will NOT be allowed ANYWHERE beyond the gate at the swim beach.
10. No disorderly conduct.
11. All Rules and Regulations of the Missouri State Conservation Commission will apply.
12. No trot lines, jug lines or unattended fishing lines are permitted.
13. All Terrain Vehicles, motor bikes, motor cycles and motor scooters are prohibited from operating on Homes Association property.

***PLEASE NOTE: Houston Lake is dedicated to preventing the spreading of Zebra Mussels. If you want to use any watercraft on Houston Lake, it must be registered with the HOA and tagged (even if it has been in the water for years). If you wish to launch any NEW watercraft on the lake, it MUST be inspected and approved by the HOA.***

*Please contact Joe at*

***[hoacommunications@houstonlake.net](mailto:hoacommunications@houstonlake.net). This process will take at least 10 days, so plan accordingly. You must also have 2021 lake wristband, watercraft safety equipment (life vest) and adhere to lake rules.***

***This applies to NEW boaters. However, safety equipment applies to ALL boaters.***

## ARTICLE II. PERMITS

### SECTION 500.100: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED

All persons desiring to construct, erect, alter or add to any building, boat dock, fences, road or drive or any structure in the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, must first obtain a building permit for such construction, alteration or addition from the Board of Aldermen of said City. (Ord. No. 282 §2, 10-14-02)

### SECTION 500.110: PERMIT APPLICATIONS

All persons desiring to obtain such a permit shall submit an application with the complete plans and specifications and plot plan for such construction showing sizes, estimated cost and details of such proposed construction and the location of such construction upon the plot of land. No new dwelling construction or property line fence construction will be permitted until after certified surveys have been filed with the Board of Aldermen. Certified surveys will be required on all additions to old dwellings where the new construction will be closer to the property line than the old dwelling. (Ord. No. 282 §3, 10-14-02) Applications for a building permit may be obtained by leaving a message at City Hall 816-741-0644 or contacting your Alderman.

**Dumpster Permit:** is required for all homes in our City. (Ord. no. 359 Section 235.060).

**Note:** Please submit all applications for burn permit or building permit to City Hall 10 days prior to the meeting for consideration. Those applications not received 10 days prior to a meeting will not be considered until the following months City Council Meeting. Applications can be deposited in the mail box at the front of the building. Thank you for your consideration.

### **“To All Residents of Houston Lake”:**

If any resident needs a trash container or a recycling container, call City Hall 816-741-0644 and leave your name, address, phone number and the containers will be delivered to your home.

**Parking:** No vehicle shall be parked on any street within the city limits of Houston Lake, MO. (Chapter 300 - Schedule II, Municipal Code)

**All-Terrain Vehicles:** No person shall operate an All-Terrain Vehicle upon the streets of this city.(Section 340.110 Municipal Code)

### **Open Burning Permit for Recreational Purposes**

All residents of Houston Lake wishing to apply for an open burning permit can do so by downloading the application on our website Houstonlake.net or you may call city hall and leave your name and phone number. After you have filled out the form, please slip it through the mail slot on the door at City Hall for review and approval by the City Council. (Ordinance 334, Section 230.025)

**Fire Danger:** Over the years, Kansas City has issued several Red Flag Warnings to alert residents against starting fires. Please pay attention to the local news and refrain from starting any fires.

**Fishing:** It shall be unlawful for any person to pursue, take, transport, ship, buy, sell, possess or use any fish from any body of water within the City without possessing a valid fishing permit issued by the Missouri Department of Conservation. This section shall not apply to any person 65 years of age or older or is 15 years of age or younger. (Section 210.690 Municipal Code)

**DISCHARGING AIR GUN, ETC.**Any person within the limits of this City who shall discharge any BB gun, spring gun, paint gun or air gun or shall shoot any pebble, bullet, slug, arrow or other hard substance by means of a sling, crossbow, rubber band or bow or any other means shall be deemed guilty of an ordinance violation; provided however, that this Section shall not apply to any person or organization authorized by the City of Houston Lake to possess and discharge such devices for the purpose of waterfowl pest control. (Ord. No. 303, 9-12-05) (Section 210.285)

**Dear Houston Lake Residents,** its Spring Cleaning time! After this long cold winter and we all come outside and enjoy this beautiful weather this is a really good time to take a good hard look at the outside our homes.

Some of the Code Violations that get written up the most often in the spring and summer include, rubbish, garbage and junk, untagged vehicles, trash cans and grass and weeds.

**Basically**, the rubbish, garbage and junk ordinance entails is that anything that is stored outside needs to be outdoor items, including grills, outdoor furniture, toys, bicycles and other items that are deemed for outdoor use. These items should be stored in a neat and orderly manner.

What should **NOT** be stored outside, including in open car ports, are cardboard boxes, plastic totes, upholstered furniture, items that can be blown around by the wind, exercise equipment and any other items that are deemed to be for indoor use.

The Rubbish, Garbage and Junk ordinance also includes brush, firewood not being stored properly, and tree branches.

**The City** of Houston Lake does not allow any vehicles to be parked within city limits without a legal tag. The City also requests that you not completely dismantle your car and rebuild it unless it is in an enclosed garage. This also applies to having car repair business on your property without proper authorization.

Yes, of course, you can change your oil, do minor repairs, and general maintenance on your vehicle.

**The City** requests that you pull your trash cans back to the house no later than 8: 00 PM the evening that your trash is collected. Not only does leaving your trash can(s) along the street look bad, it can cause a serious traffic issue. So please, be respectful of your neighbors and get those trash can pulled back from the street as early as you can.

**And of course**, we have to cover tall grass and weeds. Please make sure you are not allowing your grass to grow 18 inches or higher. This includes areas along the streets and culverts. This does not only include grass and weeds, this also includes tree starts, bushes, over growth, invasive plants and noxious weeds. We don't want to lose the natural look of our community we just want to make sure that the yards are well maintained and that vehicles can drive along the streets without damage.

#### **Section 235.80. Rubbish Garbage and Junk.**

**All Exterior property and premises and the interior of every structure shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage or junk.**

#### **Section 235.060 G: Motor Vehicles:**

**Except as provided for in other regulations, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept, or stored on any premises and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair or in the process of being stripped or dismantled.**

## Section 230.030. Collection of Solid Waste.

- C. **Solid waste containers as required by this Chapter for the storage of residential solid waste shall be placed at curbside for collection but shall not be so placed until after 6:00 P.M. on the day next preceding the regularly scheduled collection day. Containers shall be removed from curbside no later than 8:00 P.M. on the day of collection. No alley service shall be allowed under the terms of this Chapter, except as approved by the Board of Aldermen.**

## Section 215.110. Weeds, High Grass or Other Vegetation.

- A. **Failure To Keep Weeds, High Grass And Other Vegetation Cut And Removed, A Nuisance. All persons owning or occupying any lot or tract of land in the City shall keep the weeds, high grass and other vegetation growing on such property cut and removed. Whenever such weeds, high grass or other vegetation shall attain the height of eighteen (18) inches, it shall be deemed a public nuisance. After the City has proceeded once with notice and abatement procedures under Subsections (D) through (F) of this Section with respect to a particular lot or tract of land, weeds, high grass or other vegetation exceeding six (6) inches may be deemed a public nuisance.**

**The Code Enforcement officer of other City Official as designated by the City shall give a hearing after ten (10) days' notice thereof either personally or by United States mail to the owner or owners, or his/her or their agents, or by posting such notice on the premises; thereupon, the Code Enforcement officer may declare the weeds, high grass or other vegetation to be a nuisance and order the same to be abated within five (5) days.**

Please make sure you have **house numbers** on your house. This makes it easier for emergency services to find you if you need them. The response from fire and police when asked how they find the proper address when they get a call out for an emergency, "They just have to search for the correct address" Please don't take a chance on them having to search for you when you need them as fast as possible. City Ordinance requires that the house numbers be no less than four inches in height, more if they cannot be seen from the street.

## Section 235.070 Exterior Structure

- A. **Premises Identification. Buildings shall have address numbers assigned by the City placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of four (4) inches high with a minimum stroke width of one-half (0.5) inch.**

We all have a responsibility to the community and our neighbors to follow these ordinances. Not only does it improve the look of the community, they keep the community safer, keep vermin like snakes and mice away from your home, and it can raise property values.

As always, please feel free to contact your local Code Enforcement Officer, Cathy Grove, with any questions, comments, complaints or suggestions. This is a team effort and we can't do this alone.

Contact information for Code Enforcement is:

913-701-7142

codesenforcement@houstonlake.net

## CITY NEWS

Sometime in May, residents can expect to see Adrian Avenue reduced to one lane due to a planned paving and grading job. It will be approximately 100 feet from where Adrian intersects with NW Edgewood Trail, down that hill in front of city hall to the City Hall parking lot entrance.

Recently we've had water main breaks in three locations in our city. Missouri American Water is seeking easements on city land to install new junctions to help prevent future ruptures. I'll be presenting more details at the city council meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

I've recently met with Northmoor Mayor, Lynda Wilson, to discuss having Northmoor provide our primary police patrol. The Platte County Sheriff's Dept is who we use now, but last fall, they reported that they will be substantially raising their hourly rates. Our current contract with Platte County expires in July. The talks with Northmoor are too early to discuss rates because they pay Riverside for their dispatching. So, a lot depends on whether Riverside dispatch will incur any extra cost involved with the added workloads. At the next City Council meeting, our board will have to weigh the possibility of reducing hours with Platte County Sheriff, absorbing the rate increase, or considering another option like the Northmoor PD.

I encourage residents to email their local Alderman and Me with suggestions, comments, and complaints about these and any other matters affecting our community.

Chuck Stone

Mayor, Houston Lake

City Council Meeting  
March 08, 2021  
Held Via Zoom due to Covid-19 Restrictions

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on March 08, 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom

**Opening Session: Mayor Freese called the meeting to order at 7:30pm**

The following members were present: Alderman Evonne Briones, Alderman Sarah Farsace, Alderman Chuck Stone, Mayor Pam Freese

**Public Discussion – None**

**Minutes 02.08.2021-** Motion to approve minutes to 02.08.2021 with edits and approve tonight’s amended agenda made by Alderman Stone, Second by Alderman Farsace. Yes: Farsace, Stone, Briones No: None Motion carries.

**Burning Permits – 5352 Wagon Trail – ER Permit on February 22<sup>nd</sup>** – was approved via email, check and permit submitted by Alderman Farsace

**Building Permit - None**

**Note: Please submit all applications for burn permit or building permit to City Hall 10 days prior to the meeting for consideration. Those applications not received 10 days prior to a meeting will not be considered until the following months City Council Meeting. Applications can be deposited in the mailbox at the front of the building.**

**Treasurer’s Report :** Motion to accept treasurer’s report for March 8, 2021 made by Alderman Stone, second by Alderman Briones. Yes: Briones, Stone, Farsace No: None Motion carries

**Collectors Report:** City Collectors report is included with the official packet.

**Paybills – Resolution 03.08.2021:** Motion to approve Resolution 03.08.2021 made by Alderman Farsace, second by Alderman Stone Yes: Stone, Farsace, Briones Motion carries

**Emergency Management**

**Fire Department – Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Taylor** – Report included with the packet; representative not available

**Sheriff’s Department** – Deputy not present- report included with packet.

**Codes Report – February 2020** – Report is included with packet, report given by codes officer.

**Venetian Garden Homes Association Report** – Meeting March 17<sup>th</sup> via Zoom

**Old Business –**

**a. Short Term Rentals – None**

**b. Kulman, Reddock & Sullivan** – Resolution read in full by City Clerk

- a. Resolution – 03082021 – RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE, MO AFFIRMING THE HIRING OF THE LAW FIRM of Kulman, Reddock and Sullivan PC as Special Counsel for the City made by Alderman Stone, second by Alderman Farsace

Roll Call:

- i. Alderman Stone: Yes
- ii. Alderman Briones: Yes
- iii. Alderman Farsace: Yes

**c. Elimination North and South Ward** – Continued discussion

**d. Planning and Zoning Commission** – Still need citizen representatives for the commission, please reach out to Alderman Briones with questions or to join the Commission

**e. Staffing – City Collection and Web Administrator positions remain vacant as Jean Anderson will be moving in the coming months. Please reach out to city hall if you have interest in these positions.**

City Council Meeting  
March 08, 2021  
Held Via Zoom due to Covid-19 Restrictions

**New Business –**

- **Watershed Grant** – Presentation by Alderman Stone. A copy of the grant will be left at City Hall for the Alderman to sign
- **City Pathways Signage** – Presentation by Alderman Farsace. Alderman Farsace will price out signs and options to present

**Alderman Reports**

**Alderman Stone** – Condolences to Mayor Freese for the loss of her brother-in-law.

Thoughts to Charlie Burgess for his health, thank you for his time spent plowing the roads for Houston Lake.

Alderman Otte – visited and is looking well.

Horseshoe Bridge \$260 total to replace the boards, pressure treated wood. Also got a second quote for double that amount and a \$100 delivery fee.

Stimulus bill – Houston Lake is slotted for \$45,000, which will not be funneled through the county. The applications are expected as soon as the bill is signed. Too early to tell if there is a directive on what it will need to be spent on.

Had a resident enquire about moving our poling place.

Ice rescue held by the fire department on the lake, for the Riverside Fire Department and two other departments. Learned that they have a new, smaller truck for Houston Lake.

**Alderman Farsace** – Thank you to the community for joining Alderman Farsace for the walks around the lake.

Thank you to Alderman Briones for the work on the Planning and Zoning Commission

Set up a community walk around the lake, Mondays at 5, all are welcome. Meet at City Hall at 5pm to join.

On Monday they will be working on the 56<sup>th</sup> street bridge, keep an eye out.

Go Vote in the upcoming election in April

Found the original advertising sign for Houston Lake from the original realtor – will be putting up at City Hall

**Alderman Briones** – Thoughts and prayers to Burgess and Mayor Freese

Revisiting the city directory

Thank you to Mayor Freese for seeing to the pothole fill

Go Vote in the upcoming election

**Mayors Report –**

- Last full meeting as Mayor
- Voting – Levy Renew – Please vote Yes for this, it pays for our Fire Protection Services.
- Thank you to Chuck for the support these last few weeks.

**Adjournment -**

Alderman Briones motioned to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Stone second.

Yes: Farsace, Briones, Stone

Motion Carries.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm by Mayor Freese.**

**Next Meeting will be held Monday April 12, 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom unless posted otherwise**

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Best wishes to you,  
Marlene