

City Approves Budget for 2023-24

Submitted by Sarah Schofield

At the June City Council meeting, Mayor Chuck Stone presented a budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The board of Alderwomen approved the budget that will begin on July 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2023. Questions and clarifications of the budget can be directed to the Mayor and Council.

2024 General Fund Budget

Expenses

- Attorney/Accounting Fees/Codifying (\$ 9,500.00)
- Building Inspections (\$ 500.00)
- City Hall Utility: Electric (\$ 1,600.00)
- City Hall Utility: Gas (\$ 1,700.00)
- City Hall Utility: Internet/phone (\$ 1,560.00)
- City Hall Utility: Water (\$ 375.00)
- Copier Maintenance (\$ 400.00)
- Court Expense: Domestic Shelter (\$ 165.00)
- Court Expense: Law Enforcement Trng (\$ 165.00)
- Election Expenses (\$ 800.00)
- Equipment/Fuel (\$ 2,300.00)
- Houston Laker (\$ 500.00)
- Insurance (\$ 6,000.00)
- KC Sewer Maintenance Charge (\$ 86,000.00)
- Law Enforcement Services (\$ 17,000.00)
- Miscellaneous (\$ 200.00)
- MML/Professional Development (\$ 550.00)
- Newspaper Advertisements (\$ 400.00)
- Safe Deposit Box (\$ 30.00)
- Office Supplies: Bookkeeper (\$ 200.00)
- Office Supplies: City Clerk (\$ 250.00)
- Office Supplies: Codes Enforcement (\$ 200.00)
- Mayor (\$ 200.00)
- Google (\$ 650.00)
- Payroll Taxes (\$ 2,500.00)
- Property/Park Maintenance/Bursh P-U (\$ 7,205.00)
- Snow Removal (\$ 8,500.00)
- Special Events (\$ 300.00)
- Trash Disposal (\$ 41,000.00)
- Mileage: Alderpersons (\$ 50.00)
- Mileage: Code Admin (\$ 150.00)
- Mileage: Mayor (\$ 250.00)
- Wages: Alderpersons (\$ 2,400.00)
- Wages: Bookkeeper (\$ 3,600.00)
- Wages: City Clerk (\$ 2,400.00)

**July Dates
to Remember**



Open Access Listening Sessions are held at City Hall on Saturdays from 10am to 11am.

July 10th - City Council Meeting at City Hall and Virtually, begins at 7:30pm. Contact cityclerk@houstonlake.gov for info.

July 19th - Venetian Gardens HOA Meeting at City Hall and virtual begins at 6:00pm. Contact Pam Freese for the virtual link

City Budget cont'd

- Wages: Collector (\$ 600.00)
- Wages: Cleaning (\$ 600.00)
- Wages: Code Amin (\$ 3,500.00)
- Wages: Grounds Keeper (\$ 3,000.00)
- Wages: Mayor (\$ 1,200.00)
- Web/Host Email (\$ 300.00)
- Total General Fund Expenses (\$ 208,800.00)

Income

- Interst Earned \$ 50.00
- Builing Permits \$ 500.00
- HOA Reimbursement \$ 2,000.00
- KC Sewer/Trash (HLST) \$ 127,000.00
- Misc \$ 250.00
- Municipal Court Fees \$ 7,000.00
- Personal Property Tax \$ 12,000.00
- Railroad and Utility Tax \$ 2,000.00
- Real Estate Tax \$ 22,000.00
- Utility Franchise Tax \$ 36,000.00
- Total General Fund Income \$ 208,800.00

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

submitted by Mary Head

Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake "2023 Wristband"!!

Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2023 Wristband in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2023 Wristband.

ABSOLUTELY NO FISHING IN THE BEACH AREA.

To get your 2023 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 2023 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 2023 Lake wristband with you when using the lake

HOMES ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

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. Lake Wristband must be worn and visible for everyone on Venetian Gardens HOA property at all times.

Private property. No trespassing. Residents, lot owners and guests only. Violators will be prosecuted.



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 President Pam Freese @ 816.726.4455 or Vice-President Wendy Thompson @ 816.225.1018

This process will take at least 10 days, so plan accordingly. You must also have 2023 lake wristband, watercraft safety equipment (life vest) and adhere to lake rules.

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



Water Test Results

The Swim Beach is Open!

Water Test was taken June 20, 2023 and came back as a detection limit of 1 with a result of 12 MPN/100ml for E.coli

Results will be posted at City Hall and at the gate for the swim beach

**VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF CITY HALL MEETING – 04/19/2023**

Minutes submitted by: Katherine Stockbauer, Secretary

Call to Order: Pam Freese Meeting called to Order at 6:15 pm

Roll Call: Present: Pam Freese – President, Wendy Thompson – Vice President, Katherine Stockbauer –Secretary, Sue Hodges – Treasurer – and Mary Head – Member

Treasurer’s Report – Sue Hodges – Went over Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet. The new CACU accounts are now generating interest monies, (to March \$166.87) which is an improvement from Bank of the West. Sue is working on past due invoices and intent to file liens. There are 7 past due accounts that have been past due over 3 years. Liens have been filed on those. Collection actions last year were beneficial. HOA taxes were filed.

Pam reminded all that we did not hold a public meeting in March due to the mold issue. The mold has since been remediated. Thank you, Mayor Stone and City. HOA will move into old codes office.

Business –Status Update from each of the 5 Committee Representatives

Communications – Mary - Beach light working, boards moved.

Financial – Sue – Started outline for processes of billing and collections.

Grant Committee – Katherine – Met with Engineer, previous unanimous approval to spend \$570 for a written Engineer Assessment Report so that Katherine can send a certified letter in an attempt to make MODOT do the right thing in repairing flume and concrete below flume.

Bylaws and CCR Committee - Wendy – This committee held no meeting in April. Next meeting will be May 11. The voted in By-Laws and Regulations have been incorporated and are ready for signature. Katherine and Pam will meet to have signatures notarized once review of the same is completed.

Lake Steering Committee- Pam – The lake looked great this past year. Using the same chemicals to control certain weeds like coon tail, would be wise. Unanimous vote to purchase discs from Brendon (discount as prices have now increased) making sure that he has a receipt and the product is not expired, also unanimous vote for buying them from the provider if we are unable to buy from Brendon. Sue asked for a written presentation of the long-term goal for the Lake Management Plan. No monies will be spent without a Board Vote. A written plan will be provided. At a question from a member, it was clarified that every expenditure must be approved by Board vote, unless it is an ongoing regular expenditure such as utilities.

Kerry Hallowell reminded all that the 100 grass carp that were put in a couple years ago are just now reaching the age where they are able to consume these weeds at a high rate now and for a couple more years. She recommended that the Board consider buying 50-100 more grass carp so that they will be effective in the next couple of years. They live 7-9 years.

Pam has spoken to Sean who will only come out one more time regarding dredging from bridge to peninsula. The cost will be approx. \$75-100k for that small area. The board intends to be more proactive about clearing watershed tributaries. What can we do about Kat Nursery run off?

Land Clearing Southside of 56th St between Adrian and roundabout – Pam has been in touch with the owner that cleared land. She intends to contact the City and County regarding the same.

Spring Lake Clean Up – Pam - Scheduled for April 29 th . 9:00 a.m. start. Proposes 2 shifts. Pizza party at noon. Katherine and Laura will be on Pontoon picking up trash from the lake while volunteers remove trash and debris from the perimeter of the lake and tributaries. Lana Lee offered to contact a company for a walk-in dumpster. She and Sue will coordinate. Lana offered to pay for the dumpster. Make sure we have a dumpster on April 29.

Pam will provide documentation of JC’s license and insurance. It may be wise to hire Mirakian to provide a “Hold Harmless” agreement for all contractors re: liability. Katherine to get a bid from Reyes for annual clearing at peninsula and spillway.

Mowing - Cost Sharing with City – Pam – Chuck has hired a groundskeeper for \$17/hr. Training has happened. He has begun mowing. JC cleared brush at spillway for \$2,700 Grant was submitted. Grass seed has not been put down. We should use the grass seed at Brendon’s. Peninsula needs a different kind of grass seed than we have.

Fallen Tree on HOA property near Charles’ status update – Pam is in contact with Urban Tree. We are on his list to begin. Another tree fell. Pam will ask to identify unhealthy trees. Huge Limb in Lake behind Harris’ property, other limbs removal – Katherine to get bid for removal.

VGHA MINUTES – 04/19/2023 cont'd

HOA Docks – Was in budget previous Board Katherine - Pam asked Katherine to get bids for the repair of 2 small HOA docks. Katherine will get bids. Sue reiterates that we need to pay attention to monies within the budget to make sure we do not go over. Sue is working on spreadsheets. Felled tree comes from the Lake maintenance Budget.

Compliments from Lana Lee with regard to Board functionality.

Mayors' Park & Beach – Clean up, Grass, Retain edge for Sand – Katherine Because of current expenses we should table this until next year.

VGHA Watercraft Registration – Wendy will do inspections. Katherine will do forms. Previous registration needs to be stickered.

Discuss online due payment option – Pam/Sue – Tabled Sue to research further.

Ice Cream Social – Pam - Wendy and Pam paying for this. This Sunday at 2:30.

Next Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 5/17/23 at 6:00 pm Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION RECAP OF WORKING MEETING LOCATED AT CITY HALL – 06/09/2023

Present were all 5 Board members.

Brief discussion regarding training another person on Quick Books, making sure financials are accessible to at least 2 other board members.

Amended (10/12/22) By Laws were signed by Pam Freese, President and thereto attested and sealed by Katherine Stockbauer, Secretary. Also submitted for the record were Amended (10/12/22) Regulations

The 2022-2023 budget of \$15k has remaining funds of apx \$11k

Current proposals and issues voted on this day

Clearing of Peninsula by Reyes Services - \$2,750 – Unanimous affirmative vote

Removal of 2 huge limbs embedded in lake bottom by Reyes Services \$300 (price dependent on Harris' allowing Reyes to use their back driveway and yard. Harris and Reyes will discuss in person before use of their property occurs) - Unanimous affirmative vote

Tilling of sand, raking and removal of weeds (from sidewalk to ramp) by Reyes Services \$200 (if Katherine's friend loans Reyes his tiller - \$250 if tiller must be rented) - Unanimous affirmative vote

Installation of refurbished dock 10x12, 14' ramp with 2 rails and removal of old dock by boat ramp by Steve Goeden 's Dock Services \$4,000 - Unanimous affirmative vote (Goeden will not be able to install until after 4 th of July, but will provide as soon as possible.

The other old HOA dock currently moored behind Dissinger property may be replaced next year (Goeden will do all that he can to keep price at \$4k)

Board Members allowance of voting by zoom and/or teleconference with voice recognition shall always be considered valid and legitimate - Unanimous affirmative vote

Wendy is working with the By Law committee to amend the old "in person" mandate.

After above detailed expenditures there remains apx \$4k to be left in budget for unforeseen costs - Unanimous affirmative vote

Another working meeting will be held June 13 to begin the budget plan for 2023-2024.

**Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Minutes of Working Meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. Pam Freese, Wendy Thompson, and Susan Hodges were in attendance. The purpose of the meeting is to review the current budget and make plans for the next year's budget.

Sue provided a Profit and Loss Budget Overview report, as well as, a Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual report. Sue then explained current receivables and current cash.

Pam asked questions about allocating funds for large undertakings in maintaining the lake.

Adjustments were noted regarding current projects and the actual cost vs the estimated costs currently in the budget.

Wendy asked if we had received the bill from our lawyer. Sue replied that we hadn't. Legal costs need to be estimated.

Pam asked if anyone had an update on the status of the dam inspection. That report is not available yet. Other projects that were discussed as part of next year's budget were the beach area as far as sand & vegetation, the shelter houses at Mayor's Park and the beach, measuring and analyzing the water, the depth of the lake, and the lake floor and whether smaller dredging projects might be possible. The cost of smaller repair/maintenance projects that may require contract labor was discussed, as well.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

**VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION -Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 8, 2023 – 6:00 PM Central Time Houston Lake, MO City Hall or Via Zoom**

The meeting of the Venetian Gardens Homes Association (VGHA) Oversight Committee was called to order by Bobbi Baker-Hughes at 6:08 PM.

Bobbi welcomed all to the meeting. Those in attendance were Bobbi Baker-Hughes, Chair; Wendy Thompson, VGHA Board Representative; Mike Hallauer, Kay Honeycutt, and Lisa Shepard.

The minutes from the May 11, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

Our focus is still on revising the current Bylaws into language that is easier for everyone to read and understand. We are meticulously checking each Article and Section to complete this task. The finalization of this project is getting closer, but we just aren't quite there yet.

The next meeting of the committee will be held the second Thursday evening in July 2023, at 6:00 PM. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Minutes submitted by Kay Honeycutt

City of Houston Lake - City Council Meeting Minutes- May 8, 2023 at 7:30pm

Mayor Stone opened the meeting at 7:32 PM Roll Call: Present: Alderwoman Sarah Farsace, Alderwoman Teena Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Annemarie Murphy; Alderwoman Ashley Fuglestad, Virtually Absent: None

Alderwoman Teena Walker-Robin sworn in for second 2 year term

Motion to approve the Agenda for 05/08/2023

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Farsace; Vote: Aye - Walker-Robin, Murphy, Fuglestad, Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Motion Passes

Motion to approve the Minutes for 04/10/2023

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Farsace, Fuglestad, Murphy, Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Motion Passes

Vote for Mayor Pro-Tempore Ashley Fuglestad

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Walker-Robin, Murphy, Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - Fuglestad
Motion Passes

Emergency Management

Fire Department Keith Payne - April 2 calls medical emergency and a brush fire

Sheriff Report - Deputy Painter - 5 calls in April

Mayor Stone presented a Gun Violence Awareness Proclamation - Introduced Stephanie Godfroy Northland KC Moms Demand Action June 2nd will be the Wear Orange Weekend

Motion to Approve Proclamation

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Fuglestad, Farsace, Walker-Robin, Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Motion Passes Proclamation Signed

Codes Report - April 2023 Report Presented by Cathy Grove, Codes Enforcement Officer - 0 violations for March, March follow up 2 carryovers, staff is taking the next step to bring into compliance. 5516 Venetian has made great improvements.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association Report - Meeting on May 17th 6pm

Guest Speaker Jeffery Williams, Kansas City Planning and Zoning - Invited by resident Bobbie Baker Hughes Jeffery Williams and Gerald Williams Presentation on how Kansas City conducts community inquiry for planning and zoning.

Planning and Zoning Comprehensive Plan Report - Next meeting hasn't been scheduled

Public Discussion -

Sharron Delafuente - Called Dept of Conservation they do not remove dead carcasses, can call them 7 days a week may not be able to come out immediately but will come out to work with wildlife. Lake Clean up was HOA but the city was also cleaned up and 11 volunteers came out to clean up. Call Platte County non-emergency to report anyone dumping. Picking up trash doesn't have to be 1 day a year. Jake Strobbe cut up the fallen tree from Mayors Park and will haul it off.

Permits

Burn Permits for 5416 NW Venetian (renewal), 5408 NW Houston Drive (renewal), 5404 NW Venetian (renewal)

1st Motion Farsace, 2nd Motion Murphy; Vote: Aye - Walker-Robin, Murphy, Farsace, Fuglestad; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Permits Approved

Burn Permit for 5331 NW Edgewood Circle (renewal-held over from April meeting)

1st Motion Farsace, 2nd Motion Murphy; Vote: Aye - Walker-Robin, Murphy, Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - Fuglestad
Permit Approved

Building Permit - None

Motion to Accept Treasurer's Report

1st Motion Farsace, 2nd motion Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Murphy, Farsace, Fuglestad, Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Motion Passes

Motion to Approve Resolution Number 05.08.2023

1st Motion Murphy; 2nd Motion Farsace; Vote: Aye - Fuglestad, Walker-Robin, Murphy, Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - None
Motion Passes

City Council Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2023 cont'd

Old Business

Motion to approve having a Right of Way Excavation Fees and Performance Bond 500.105 Bldg Permit Codes

1st Motion Murphy; 2nd Motion Farsace; Vote: Aye - Fuglestad, Farsace, Murphy, Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None Motion Approved

Motion to approve Fees for the Right of Way

1st Motion Farsace, 2nd Motion Murphy; Vote: Aye - Walker-Robin, Fuglestad, Farsace, Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - None Motion Passes

New Business

Motion to appoint Bobbi Baker to Planning and Zoning Board, Teena Walker-Robin, Lisa Shephard, and Chuck Stone

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Farsace; Vote: Aye - Fuglestad, Farsace, Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - Walker-Robin Motion Passes

Discussion from Alderwoman Walker-Robin appeal to spend city legal funds to facilitate road repair outside of her ward.

Motion to Adjourn

1st Motion Murphy, 2nd Motion Farsace; Vote: Aye - Fuglestad, Farsace, Murphy, Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None Motion Passes

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 PM

Final Minutes approved 06/12/2023

Sarah Schofield, City Clerk

From Editor Mary Head

Notes from the June VGHA Meeting

Katherine Stockbauer, HOA Board member/Secretary was able to find a dock company for a new dock at the boat ramp. The new dock will be larger, 10 ft x 12ft with a 14 ft ramp having rails on both side of ramp. This dock will be installed this year sometime after July 4 th .

Pam applied for and received a watershed grant to pay 80% of the cost of clearing brush on both sides of spillway. She received a check for \$2,200.00. The cost for clearing the spillway was \$2,700.00. Sue moved our bank accounts. We are now receiving interest on our bank monies.

Katherine found a service company that has begun clearing the brush at the peninsula. They will continue working on this until it is completed all the way behind the garage. What they have accomplished so far looks great! The same company will be removing the 2 huge limbs that are stuck in the lake bottom.

Katherine is working with the engineer on the report regarding the pooling of water causing the scouring underneath the bottom of our spillway. Resolution of this issue is of great importance and she is working on it.

Katherine took a water test from the Beach and then took it to the lab on June 20 th , 2023. Results are good the E-Coli is 12 it is safe to swim at the beach.

Katherine and her group cannot do a goose scare away at this time, as the geese are molting and cannot fly away. If another scare away is needed this fall, she will make sure that happens.

Pam and the Board are working hard to complete a proposed Budget for next year. These additional meeting are working meetings and will not be noticed to the public. However, the public is welcome to attend.

Swim Beach Cleanup

submitted by Mary Head

Thank you Katherine Stockbauer for volunteering taking on this task of cleaning up around the fence at the beach when you walk into the beach area. Her and her brother Tim worked on this one morning. It is much better looking and beautiful to look at when you go into the beach. They weed-eated and cut down little trees that was growing up around the fence and in the fence. Chain sawed the clumps of weed trees and then put product drops to kill to the root. Katherine also cleaned the dock at the beach and she is doing her best to keep it cleaned from goose droppings for the families that come to the beach to swim and play. She also got her Friend to till and Rake the sand at the beach at a low cost, which the VGHA unanimously approved.

Before



After



welcome to our new Houston Lake Neighbors!

**THE LAST CITY COUNCIL AND VGHA MEETINGS HAVE
HAD SOME NEW FACES.
TAKE TIME TO MEET AND WELCOME THE NEWEST
RESIDENTS OF HOUSTON LAKE.**

The flower beds at City Hall are looking wonderful! Thank you to Kathryn Kreider for all your hard work and vision.

The flower bed on the South side (next to the parking area) is planted with Missouri Native Wildflowers.

If you are interested to learn more about the flowers and help with the garden, contact Kathryn or the editor.houstonlaker@gmail.com

Immediate Opening for Houston Lake City Clerk City Clerk Job Description

- Attend all sessions of the board of Aldermen.
- Write and keep the minutes of the board of aldermen.
- Write the agenda and post proper public notice of the board of Aldermen sessions.
- Keep other records required by law and occasionally ordered by the board of aldermen.
- Custodian of all:
 - Contracts and other written documents
 - Maps
 - Plats
 - Surveys of public improvement work
- Conduct all correspondence unless it is part of the duties of other city officials.
- Keep a copy of all correspondence carried out by him/her.
- Dispatch contractors to do grinder pump repairs.
- Give the oath of office to elected officials.
- Administer candidate filings for elected office.
- Perform office management duties involved with the distribution of documents before the board of aldermen meetings.
-

Compensation: \$200 a month

Please send resumes to: cityclerk@houstonlake.gov

Questions: Call Chuck Stone at 816 305-3196

Applications can be sent also be sent to
5417 N. Adrian Ave. Houston Lake, MO 64151

THE HOUSTON LAKER IS LOOKING FOR RESIDENTS TO SUBMIT ARTICLES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Articles, photographs, advertisements, letters to the editor, etc. can be submitted anytime to editor.houstonlaker@gmail.com

The Houston Laker is published monthly and is a community paper. Our effort is to bring an unbiased communication, promoting open dialogue for community officials, VGHA board members and residents. If you are interested in submitting to the Houston Laker, contact Mary Head or Sarah Schofield.

Leave No Trace

Submitted by Sarah Schofield

Leave No Trace is an organization that I have known of for more than 20 years; as an outdoors person, mom of Boy Scouts, hiker and well, just a human who respects nature and wants to leave it as it is for everyone to enjoy. Leave No Trace, is exactly what it says it is and more. The organization believes that we are all the solution to conserving nature and they are pioneering the way with great training classes, simple guidelines and proven science that helps us explore the outdoors in a sustainable way to leave it for others to explore and experience.

The 7 principles of LeaveNoTrace.org are something that each of us can follow right here at Houston Lake so that we all can enjoy living in the most wonderful city in the metro.

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare – if you are going on a walk plan ahead and prepare for what you will need. There are codes and rules that apply to lake use, walking dogs, and using public access points to get around the lake.
2. Travel on Durable Surfaces – if it's been raining stick to the streets and bridges so that you are not using the pathways and trails that can become ruined and impassable after a rain. Avoid using personal property as a pass through.
3. Dispose of Waste Properly – Brendan Brousseau graciously purchased and installed dog waste stands in the public use area for all the residents. Make sure you have a waste bag with you and you use it, whether your dog does his dooty on the streets, park grass, neighbor's lawn, etc. If you have trash to dispose of plan on taking it back home with you. EVEN better if you have trash, see trash and pick it up, use the next closest trash can that does not require you to go on to personal property. Some of us keep our trash and recycling in the driveways near the street, please don't be upset if a neighbor uses yours. It really is to everyone's benefit!
4. Leave What You Find – no not the trash, pick that stuff up! This means the flowers, turtles, rocks, etc. Leave nature in the nature for everyone to enjoy.
5. Minimize Campfire (Fire Pit) Impacts – If you have not acquired a burn permit for your fire pit, please see the city website at houstonlake.gov for the codes and permit. Fire pits are a great addition to anyone's evening and should be used and enjoyed responsibly.
6. Respect Wildlife – It's called "Wild" life for a reason. These creatures that we share Houston Lake with are not domesticated and should not be fed. Let wildlife forage and take care of themselves. They innately know how to survive and don't need humans to intervene often if at all. Be cautious, that cute deer or racoon does not speak our language and they may interpret your approach to them as a need to defend themselves.
7. Be Considerate of Others – Share the trail, join neighbors for hike, walk, swim, boating or floating on the lake. Be kind when you unwind and wear earbuds/headphones when you are listening to music on a walk. Keep the volume low if you are doing yard work, entertaining at home, on the lake or driving around with the windows or top down. Pass on the left if you come across a group that is using a slower pace than you. There is a 15mph speed limit in Houston Lake, PLEASE make sure to drive slow on our streets on both sides of the lake.

Neighbor is a Verb

Visit LeaveNoTrace.org for more information

UN-CLASSIFIED ADS

Full Page	\$20.00
Half Page	\$10.00
Quarter Page	\$5.00
1/8 Page	\$2.50

Pricing is per month & includes a listing on the city website houstonlake.gov
To place an ad email editor.houstonlaker@gmail.com

Houston Lake Cookbook

2nd Edition of the City Cookbook is available for \$3. Limited number of copies, contact Mary Jewel at maryjewel40@gmail.com

Can You Do Odd Jobs Around the House for a Neighbor?

Contact cityclerk@houstonlake.gov and we will find a neighbor that could use some help.

Free Book Library

Do you have books you would like to donate to the Library at City Hall? The Library is in need of repair or replacement. If you're handy at fixing things and want to give it a go...contact cityclerk@houstonlake.gov

Do You Have Odd Jobs Around the House?

Contact cityclerk@houstonlake.gov and we will find a neighbor that can help you out.

2023 Trash & Recycling Dates

City trash and recycling services are handled by Republic Services. For assistance with your receptacles, issues with pick-up or questions about large items contact customer service at 816-254-1470 or RepublicServices.com.

Trash is picked up every Wednesday. Receptacles need to be at the curb/edge of street by 6am. Leave room for the arm of the truck to pick up and return the receptacles without causing damage to vehicles, fences, etc.

Remaining 2023 Holidays for Trash Pick-up:

July 4th Independence Day - Pick up changed to Thursday July 6th

September 4th Labor Day - Pick up changed to Thursday September 7th

November 23rd Thanksgiving - No Change pick up will be on Wednesday November 22nd

December 25th Christmas - Pick up changed to Thursday December 28th

Remaining 2023 Recycling Dates

(2nd Wednesday):

- July 12
- August 9
- September 13
- October 11
- November 8
- December 13

EMERGENCY -

- IN CASE OF A POLICE, FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY - DIAL 911
- Platte County Sheriff Non-Emergency & Animal Control 816-858-3521
- Riverside Fire Department Non-Emergency 816-372-9024
- Grinder Pump Alarm or Backup
Text 816-394-8828 with Name & Address

HOA OFFICERS -

- President Pam Freese 816-726-4455
venetian.gardens.homes.assoc@gmail.com
- Vice President Wendy Thompson 816-225-1018
- Secretary Katherine Stockbauer 816-520-3931
kakstockbauer@yahoo.com
- Treasurer/Lake Tags Susan Hodges 816-786-2377
hodges.susan@outlook.com
- Board Member at Large Mary Head 816-741-5639
maryjewel40@gmail.com

CITY OFFICIALS -

- Mayor Chuck Stone 816-305-3196
Mayor@houstonlake.gov
- City Clerk Sarah Schofield 816-394-8828
cityclerk@houstonake.gov

South Ward Alderwomen

- Ashley Fuglestad
sw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov
- Sarah Farsace 816-863-2412
sw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov

North Ward Alderwomen

- Teena Walker-Robin 816-769-6082
nw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov
- Annemarie Murphy 913-222-4705
nw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov
- Codes Enforcement Cathy Grove
913-701-7142
codesenforcement@houstonlake.gov

As most of the HOA Officers and City Officials have full-time jobs as well, phone calls may not be answered or returned as quickly as a text or email.

City Hall is open during meetings, Listening Sessions, events and by appointment.

THE WORKS by MARLENE

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Best wishes to you,
Marlene

Inserts



**Independence Day
Houston Lake
Celebration**

Saturday, July 1, 2023

10:30am Bike Parade at the Mayor's Park

Houston Lake residents and guests, big and small, ride their decorated bikes, trikes, scooters and wagons from the Mayor's park to the beach and back. Ice Cream treats for all will be served afterwards at the Mayor's Park.

10:45am Pet Show at the Mayor's Park

Bring your pets! Certificates awarded for:

*★Largest, ★Smallest, ★Best costume and ★ Mayor's Choice
Mayor Chuck Stone will pick the winners.*

**12:30pm Potluck Lunch and Garage Sale Bingo at
City Hall**

We encourage people to bring a covered dish to the picnic. It will be indoors: both upstairs and downstairs. The city will have barbequed burgers, hot dogs, and brats. A supply of soft drinks will also be in coolers. This year Garage Sale Bingo will start about an hour after the picnic starts.

On any Saturday morning in June, people can bring purchased or gently used items to city hall to be given away as prizes for "Garage Sale Bingo." Bingo will start about an hour after the picnic starts.

"Picnic is hosted by the City of Houston Lake."

ARTICLE XIII

Fireworks

Section 210.680. Fireworks. [Ord. No. 178 §§2 — 5, 6-30-1988; Ord. No. 309, 8-14-2006]

A. Fireworks Defined. Explosive devices designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, including aerial devices and ground devices, all of which are classified as Division 1.4 by regulation of the United States Department of Transportation, as amended from time to time, and which were formerly classified as Class C common fireworks by regulation of the United States Department of Transportation. The term "fireworks" shall not include toy pistols, toy cannons, toy guns or other devices in which are used paper caps containing twenty-five hundredths (.25) grains or less of explosive mixture.

B. Bottle Rocket Defined. A type of firework that is attached to a stick and is designed to ascend into the air with a casing size of less than three-eighths ($\frac{3}{8}$) of an inch for the outside diameter and less than two and one-half ($2\frac{1}{2}$) inches in length and an overall length, including stick, of less than twelve (12) inches.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to use, ignite or discharge any "bottle rockets".

D. It shall be unlawful for any person to use, ignite or discharge any fireworks within the public right-of-way of any public street.

E. Fireworks may only be used, ignited or discharged at the following times and dates:

1. From 10:00 P.M. on December thirty-first (31st) until 1:00 A.M. on January first (1st); and
2. From 10:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. each day during the period of June twenty-sixth (26th) until July second (2nd) and on July fifth (5th); and
3. From 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 A.M. (Midnight) each day on July third (3rd) and July fourth (4th).

F. The Mayor of the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, may, by written order, ban any and all display of fireworks if the weather conditions present an unreasonable danger of fire from the use and/or display of fireworks.

G. The Mayor may authorize City-sponsored fireworks events and displays to include the possession, use and display of fireworks classified as Division 1.3 (formerly Class B) by regulation of the United States Department of Transportation.

H. Unless otherwise provided in this Section, no person shall have in his/her possession any fireworks within the City limits of the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, except during the periods herein provided and except fireworks classified as Division 1.4 (formerly Class C) by regulation of the United States Department of Transportation.

Arts Circle Call to Artists



Registration Dates: thru July (drop off in the mail slot at city hall)
Art Delivery Date: August 5, 2 - 4pm
Exhibit: August 6, 1 - 4pm

The **Arts Circle** is honored to announce a call for entries to our 9th Annual Art Show

This is a call to residents for their handmade creations in any medium. Lets see works from new participants and those we haven't seen for a while. So get out your paints, brushers, clay, ink or print out some of those great sunrise/sunset photos from your phone!

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.

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.

2023 Arts Circle Registration Form (due 7/31/2023)

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

2023 Arts Circle 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