



Houston Laker



April 2010



City

Events

April 6 – General Municipal election
Wexford Place – 6500 N Cosby
Please vote and be counted!!

April 12 – City Council Meeting
7:30 pm – City Hall

April 14 - Recycling Day

April 22 – Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Semi Annual Membership Meeting
Dinner 6:00pm – Meeting 7:00 pm
Guest Speaker from the Missouri Department of Conservation
Pot Luck Dinner – Brisket and Ham provided
Please Bring a Covered Dish to Share



Thanks a Bunch!!!

Kathy Anchors and Mary Head would like to

THANK Nick Jackalone, for helping us take down the
Christmas Ornaments on Edgewood Trail and
Edgewood Circle.

And also THANK Loren Head for helping us take down
the Christmas Ornaments on Houston Dr., Venetian
Dr. and Wagon Trail.



THANKS GUYS for helping - we really appreciate it a lot.



**CITY OFFICIALS
CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE**

Mayor

Michael Hallauer
215-9138
(mayor@houstonlake.net)

City Clerk

Marsha Duncan
419-5051
(cityclerk@houstonlake.net)

City Collector

Joyce Kullman
547-8173

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Perry Davis
587-8614

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Rick Cowan
741-2730

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Phil Otte
741-5477

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Dan Coronado
584-2667

Municipal Judge

Greg Dorsey
785-4284

Court Clerk

Sharon Brandt
785-4284

Codes Enforcement Officer

Mitch Kelly
584-9361

**VENETIAN GARDENS
HOMES ASSOCIATION**

President

Gil Hughes
283-3980

Vice President

Evadene Judge
726-4456

Treasurer

Kerry Hallowell
695-4100
(Lake Tags)

Secretary

Pam Freese
505-2151

Board Member

Bill Gay
584-9548

**Houston Lake
Watershed Management
Committee**

Michael Hallauer
215-9138

Registrar

Editor – Houston Laker
Mary Head
741-5639
(editor@houstonlake.net)

Sewer Grinder Pumps

Marsha Duncan
419-5051

For more City and Homes Association Info go to
Houstonlake.net



The Houston Lake Municipal Code:

SECTION 230.025: OPEN BURNING

No person shall dispose of trash, refuse or leaves by open burning or cause, allow or permit open burning of trash, refuse or leaves unless the same is authorized by Federal or State permit. (Ord. No. 176 §1, 5-9-88)

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)



Greetings Fellow Houston Lakers!

I'd like to take just a moment of your time to thank everybody for the many kind words of support I've received since deciding to seek the job of South Ward Alderman.

Feeling that I have the trust of so many enables me to approach the task with the confidence that, while we may not always see "eye to eye" on every little issue, together we can always work toward the things that best serve our community.

Since Cindy, Jake and I moved here in 1999 it's been our good fortune to meet and be around so many wonderful people and to watch (and be a part of) the growth of our city. Having served on the board of our Homes Association as well as pitching in on some of our city maintenance projects, I've had the opportunity to see first hand some of the things that many of the people who just pass through here might not notice.

While there's always work to be done, we're fortunate in that, as a community, so many have the "Can Do" spirit and are willing to give of their time and talents for the benefit of others.

I'm looking forward to our continued success and please feel free to contact me with any concerns.

Best Wishes,

Perry D.

Perry Davis

587-8614

percinjake@aol.com

April 12, 2010
Council Meeting Agenda
City of Houston Lake– City Hall 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Session

- a. Oath of Office

2. Public Discussion

3. Minutes

4. Building Permit

5. Treasurer's report

6. Paybills – Resolution No 04-12-10

7. Collector's Report

8. Police Report/Codes Report

9. Reports from Aldermen

Mr. Cowan

Mr. Otte

Mr. Coronado

Mr. Davis

10. Old Business

- a. Time Warner Cable
- b. 2010 Grant Applications
- c. Proposal for existing parking lot
- d. Proposal for Entry Signs

11. New Business

- a. Bill No. 04-12-10 (Sale of Lot 80)
- b. Resolution of Thanks (Alderman Nick Jackalone)

12. Mayors Report

13. Closed Session

- a. A motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal issues, RSMo 610.021(2) for Real Estate (purchasing or selling) and RSMo 610.021(3) for Personnel issues.

14. Re-enter Open Session

15. Adjournment

City of Houston Lake
Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting
March 8, 2010

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on March 8, 2010 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Rick Cowan, Nick Jackalone, Phil Otte , Dan Coronado and City Collector Joyce Kullman.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

Public Discussion

No public discussion

Minutes February 8, 2010

The minutes were read and approved by general consent.

Building Permits

No building permits

Treasurers Report

Alderman Jackalone moved to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Alderman Cowan.

Motion passed

Resolution 02-08-10 (paybills)

Alderman Cowan moved that we accept Resolution 03-08-10, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Motion passed.

Collectors Report

City Collector Joyce Kullman's presented the collectors report to the Council. The total deposits for the city of \$6874.12 were made for the period ending 2-28-10.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

A Code Enforcement Report was submitted to the Council by Mitch Kelly for the months of February/March 2010. Also presented to the Council was the Platte County Sheriff's report for the month of February 2010.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – No report

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte expressed his thanks to Charlie Burgess for the snow removal. He mentioned that the City should send a "Thanks You" to the City of Riverside for the new truck. He also said that we should consider resurfacing the front parking area in front of City Hall at the same time the streets are being done. The Council agreed.

Alderman Coronado – No report

Alderman Jackalone –Alderman Jackalone brought up the question of asking the Homes Association to build a dog park on the peninsula.

Old Business

a. Mayor Hallauer gave the council a map of all the streets in the city. Each street has been measured for their amount of square footage. He also presented a budget number from Gann Asphalt at a \$1.00 per sq. foot. The map shows how far the budgeted \$100,000.00 for resurfacing the streets will extend. He suggested that \$10,000.0 of the budgeted money be put aside for unforeseen problems. Part of the \$10,000.00 will be used to pave over the green space on Edgewood Circle and Wagon Trail Circle making it easier to plow snow. The Mayor will get bids for this project. He also received a bid from Whitley Tree Service to remove the 3 trees and stumps at Wagon Trail Circle for \$350.00. The Council agreed to remove the trees.

b. Mayor Hallauer informed the Council that the 2010 Grant applications, for the playground mulch and a replacement bridge on Venetian have been submitted. The City of Houston Lake has been recommended to receive both grants.

New Business

a. Mayor Hallauer presented the Council with Bill No. 030810-1, an ordinance appointing Keith W. Hicklin as the City Attorney. Alderman Otte made a motion to place this bill on its first reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Cowan.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 030810-1 by title only.

Alderman Coronado made a motion to place this bill on its second reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Jackalone.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 030810-1 by title only.

Alderman Jackalone made a motion to place this bill on its final passage, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Roll call:

Jackalone – Aye

Cowan – Aye

Coronado – Aye

Otte – Aye

Bill No. 030810-1, Ordinance 328 was passed.

b. Mayor Hallauer presented the Council with Bill No. 030810-2, an ordinance appointing Jennifer M. Duncan as the Assistant City Attorney. Alderman Coronado made a motion to place this bill on its first reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Cowan. The City Clerk read Bill No. 030810-2 by title only.

Alderman Cowan made a motion to place this bill on its second reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Otte.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 030810-2 by title only.

Alderman Coronado made a motion to place this bill on its final passage, seconded by Alderman Jackalone.

Roll call:

Jackalone – Aye

Cowan – Aye

Coronado – Aye

Otte – Aye

Bill No. 030810-2, Ordinance 329 was passed.

c. Mayor Hallauer gave the Council a copy of the Time Warner Cable bill. Since the “hot spot” for the Platte County Sheriff’s Department will not be needed he asked the Council to decide whether they wanted to continue with the internet connection for the computer at City Hall. A downgrade to a basic connection will cost \$55.00 per month. The Council agreed to continue the service.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer gave the council the updated ordinances from Sullivan publications for their code books.

b. The Mayor told the Council that Jake Davis, the son of Perry and Cindy Davis, came to him and asked if there was a project he could do for his Eagle Scout rank. The Mayor told the council that last spring the drain in the basement plugged up causing water damage to the Police Department’s office and that this may be a good project for Jake to do. This would require the repainting and some possible minor repairs to the walls. Jake is requesting that the city pay for the supplies. The Mayor estimates the cost to be approximately \$100.00. The Council unanimously agreed to pay for this cost.

* The Mayor noted that Jake Davis will be the youngest Eagle Scout in his troop and noted that this year is the 100 anniversary of Boy Scouts. Jake is 12 years old.

c. The proposal for the repair of Johnson Trail is an estimate and that it could be a little more or less.

d. Mayor Hallauer gave the Council an e-mail from City Attorney Bob Black. This e-mail is in response to a resident’s question on the legality of the City’s money being used for donations or contributions to people who have volunteered their service around the City. Attorney Black stated that if it’s a service that the City would have had to pay for, the City may make contributions. Also the City may make donations to various programs, such as the Shop with a Deputy program, because this may benefit someone in our own community. Another question concerning the legal use of the City’s CD’s for road repair without voter approval was addressed in a letter the Mayor received from City Attorney Bob Black. According to Mr. Black under Missouri State Statutes governing a city, the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen do have the authority to expend those funds to resurface the roads in the City of Houston Lake.

e. Mayor Hallauer read a letter from Alderman Nick Jackalone informing the Council that he would not be seeking his re-election. The Mayor and the Council “thanked” Alderman Jackalone for his many years of service to our community. There will be a reception with refreshments in honor of Alderman Jackalone at the April meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

From the Desk

Of the City Clerk:

Since we have launched our website, Houstonlake.net, there have been some really great things added. You now can check the monthly Houston Laker and even the back issues on this site.

And Houston Lake is on Facebook now!!! Please go to the website and become a Fan of Houston Lake. If you're not a member of Facebook, you can sign up right on the website.

The Houston Lake Facebook page will be updated every time there is a change to our website. Becoming a Houston Lake Facebook Fan means you will receive e-mail notices of interesting news, relevant facts, any changes on meeting dates or trash pick-up dates and even emergency information.

Also, the "classified section" is now open and at "no charge" to all residents who wish to place ads regarding any "services" you may have to offer, "for sale" items and even "lost & found". Please contact Jean Anderson (our administrator of the website) at administrator@houstonlake.net or 816-326-8562 to find out how you can place an ad.

We are all proud and excited about having our own website. If you haven't been on our site, please try to visit as soon as you can.

Houstonlake.net

**Marsha Duncan
City Clerk**

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF WAGON TRAIL

FROM RICK COWAN

As your city government looks at improving road conditions around the lake and are assessing how those expenditures should be allotted, we are also considering methods and practices that might increase their longevity.

Our discussions turned to your street and the possibility of creating one way traffic through it. The road is narrow and not much room is available for expansion. I know I personally have met oncoming vehicles at points in the road where it is difficult for both parties to navigate their way around each other. I would imagine it is even more treacherous in some of the weather conditions we've experienced over the past few months.

Another advantage to this concept would be that it would control the direction in which large vehicles (we've all seen that poor Nebraska Furniture Mart guy) gain entry to your homes. This would help control the damage done to the edge of the asphalt at various places.

As one of your alderman, I wish to know your thoughts on the matter so that I might share it with the council. Would you contact me (flmwarrior@cs.com or 816.741.2730) and let me know if you feel this would be advantageous to your household or, at least, something you would support?

I look forward to hearing from you on this or any other matter you feel the city needs to address.

Respectfully,

Rick Cowan

Venetian Garden Homes Association

Board Meeting

March 18, 2010

Correction to February's minutes, Marlin Bates from University of Missouri Extension (not Dept. of Conservation) was who advised the board on the different grass types and best seeding options on the peninsula.

The semi-annual VGHOA meeting will be held Thursday April 22. Pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, at 7:00 a guest speaker from Missouri Department of Conservation on maintaining wild animal balance at a lake of our size. He will speak for about 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the semi-annual meeting. Wrist bands will be available for pick up at the meeting.

President Gil Hughes informed the board that the IRS filing is complete and taxes were paid.

Treasurer Kerry Hallowell reported that 2 residents who were many years past due have been collected. A lien is being filed against 1 home going into foreclosure.

The board unanimously approved an estimate of \$1016.50 of which the HOA would be responsible for \$508.25 for restoring City Hall's parking lot that was damaged by the rock placement on the peninsula.

President Hughes and Board Member Bill Gay reported that the turbidity curtain that was purchased for use in the silt pond, won't actually work for this purpose. It is not recommended for perpendicular to the moving water. They are researching options, perhaps exchanging, or seeing if one of the coves would benefit from the curtain.

The board would like to thank Janette Boehm and Stephanie Stevick for continuing the goose egg shaking this year.

The board would like to thank Jan Smith-Jackalone for taking over the welcome baskets.

Next meeting is the Semi-Annual meeting scheduled April 22, 2010 with pot-luck dinner at 6:00pm with meeting to follow at 7:00 pm.

Respectively Submitted
Pam Freese
Secretary

Thursday,
April 22
Friday,
April 23
Saturday,
April 24

8 AM—4:30 PM

For more information
or questions:

Contact the
Department of
Public Works
(816) 858-2223
Or

publicworks@co.platte.mo.us

Located at

**PLATTE COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS**

Exit 20 off I-29

15955 Hwy 273
Platte City, MO



2010 SPRING COUNTY CLEAN UP

Standard Load Entry Fee:

- Car, Truck, Trailer, SUV, Van \$5.00
- Vehicle & Trailer \$15.00

All loads are subject to inspection & any item may be denied.

Other Additional Fees:

- Passenger Tires \$1.00/ea
- Truck/Tractor Tires \$5.00/ea
- Electronics/Appliances* \$10.00
- Loads over 12' \$20.00

**Appliances are items with motors or compressors*

All appliances must be empty

NON-BULKY ITEMS MUST BE BAGGED OR BUNDLED

**PROHIBITED ITEMS: Hazardous Waste, Liquid Paint,
Chemicals, Electronics Smaller than 32"**

Directions:

I-29 to Exit #20

(Tracy/Weston)

West on Hwy 273

Entrance is 1/4 mile

South on left hand side.

15955 Hwy 273

Platte City, MO

Watch For Signs!

Re·think



Re·do



Re·new



Mid-America Regional Council
Solid Waste Management District



Certificate of Appreciation

for

The City of Houston Lake

*In appreciation for your commitment to reduce waste in the workplace
as a participant in the 2009 Recycling Challenge for Local Governments*

*Michael Shaw, Chair,
MARC Solid Waste Management District*

*Kathy Rose, Mayor,
City of Riverside, Missouri*

Thought You Should Know:

When our City first started the recycling program we were under no illusions that this would be an easy task. The average participation rate for any community entering into a recycling program is around 29%. Well, guess what? A big "hats off" to our small community because we are now over 52%!!! Thank you Houston Lakers!!!

We have a goal in mind, however, and that is to get to 75%. So here are some more facts to keep in mind, and maybe we can change yours to join in on recycling. Believe it not, it really makes you feel good.

Fact: Aluminum from recycled materials saves 95 percent of the energy.

One year of aluminum production from recycled aluminum saves enough energy to power 18 million households for a year. OK all you pop and beer drinkers, we want your cans!!

Fact: Newspapers from [recycled paper](#) saves 40 percent of the energy.

A ton of paper manufactured from recycled paper can save about 4,000 kilowatt hours of energy. This would be a good "first step" for you beginners!!

Fact: Glass from recycled glass saves 40 percent of the energy. One glass bottle or jar manufactured from recycled glass saves enough energy to power a 100 watt light bulb for four hours.

Fact: Americans throw away enough aluminum to rebuild our entire fleet of airplanes every 3 months. (source: Environmental Defense Fund) Amazing, isn't it?

Fact: This is a goody. Recycling creates 6 times as many jobs as landfilling. (source: Colorado Recycles)

I know that recycling may seem difficult to you but I suggest that if you are considering it, just start out with one item at a time. Make it simple for you. Newspapers or cans. You'll be surprised how easy it is and what a great satisfaction you get when you do because you will be making a difference. Call me for a blue tub today.

City Clerk
Marsha Duncan
816-419-5051



Community Garden Update

Hopefully by the time everyone reads this we will have the fertilizer in the garden and are ready to plant. The weather has not been too kind, however. But, hey, we got through the worst and we are getting fired up to plant some veggies.

Because of the wonderful support at the Chili Fund Raiser, we have all the funds we need to fertilize and purchase the seeds and plants.

Angela Gay and I are going to Planters this next week to purchase some seeds. Spinach, lettuce, onions and radishes will be planted in the first bed (left side). If you have any suggestions or you would like to help us plant, please let us know.

Jeff Hunter, the guest speaker at the Chili supper told me that he has started some tomato plants and we will be able to purchase these at a very good price. Thanks Jeff!!

And again this year, we would like to invite all children in our community to participate. It was very exciting to me to watch the smiles on the small faces as they planted, watered and harvested the garden last year.

This is your garden, so let's make the second year even better than the first!!

Contact Angela Gay at 584-9548 or Marsha Duncan at 419-5051



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Specials" and see what is on sale for that month. Click on "Recipes" and you
will get over 524 delicious recipes.*

HOUSTON LAKE RESIDENTS

Cast Your Official Ballot of the
“General Municipal Election”

Tuesday, April 6th, 2010

at

WEXFORD PLACE

6500 N. Cosby Ave.

From I-29: west on Hwy 45 (64th St.) to N. Cosby Ave. Turn right on N. Cosby Ave., then left into the entrance to Wexford Place. The poll site will be set up in the Stafford Room, just past the reception desk.

Time 6:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.

Platte County Board of Election (816) 858-4400

Any Questions please call:

City Clerk – Marsha Duncan = (816) 419-5051

Editor – Mary Head = (816) 741-5639



April Garden Tips

Harden off summer bedding plants. They must be slowly acclimatized to outside conditions. Do not place outside if there is risk of frost.

Plant water plants now. Water lilies grow well in full sun.

Garden Centers are filled with more perennials in April than any other month of the year. Be sure to get the plants you want by going now

Plant snapdragons, violas and dianthus now.

Apply bone meal to crocuses as flowers fade.

Pick faded tulip blooms but allow greenery to die off naturally before picking. Braid leaves to keep them tidy.

Watch out for thrips on your Daffodils. Thrips are insects that will cause the leaves and flowers to turn pale silver, then brown and eventually die. If you find an infestation; remove and destroy the infested part and use lace wings soap or green lace wings to eliminate thrips.

Add bone meal and well rotted compost to Asiatic Lilies when the foliage is several inches tall.

To keep deer away from Asiatic Lilies, mix a concoction containing: Hot Peppers, Garlic cloves, liquid soap and water. Spray the lilies with this mixture to fend off deer.

Divide over grown winter iris and order later flowering varieties for mid - summer planting.

Plant new lily-of-the-valley pips. Mulch well with compost to protect against unforeseen cold spells.

If you've purchased or received an Easter Lily this year; ensure a long lasting, healthy plant by placing your plant in indirect sunlight, away from drafts and don't overwater it. When the flowers open up, pinch off the yellow anthers for longer life. Fertilize your lily once the flowers have finished.

Once all danger of frost has past, you can move your Easter Lily plant out into a sunny spot in your garden. Be sure to mulch the roots of the plant over winter and remove the mulch again in spring. You'll enjoy your Easter Lilies for years to come.

Remember, once Easter Lilies have established in your garden they will bloom in mid-summer, rather than spring. If you want Easter Lilies to bloom at Easter, you will need to force the bulbs.

Rotate vegetable crops to help control pests, disease and to keep the soil in good condition.

Plant warm season vegetables indoors now for transplanting outdoors in May.

If you haven't done so already set out onion seedlings and perennial vegetables such as horseradish, asparagus and artichokes. Cool weather vegetables such as peas, lettuce and radishes can be started now.

Put small felt collars around young cabbage plants to protect the roots from being attacked by root flies.

Sow main crop potatoes approximately 2 feet apart; to ensure room for development later.

May all your weeds be wild flowers?

Happy Easter!
from
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by appointment only

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*Best Wishes,
Marlene*