

Happy Mother's Day



Houston Laker
May 2015



May 1st & 2nd - 2015 Platte County Clean Up
7:30am - 4:30pm

May 6th - Recycling Day

May 10th - Happy
Mother's Day!

May 11th - City Council Meeting
7:30pm - City Hall

May 16th - Houston Lake Arts Circle
10:00am - City Hall

May 16th - Annual City Wide Spring Clean-Up Day

May 25th - Memorial Day

May 28th - Thursday, Trash Pick-up

June 3rd - Recycling Day



VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION



President, Larry Haines = 816-506-1564, Vice President, Keith Carey = 816-746-4472,
Treasurer, Gary Halterman = 660-723-9356, Secretary, Jan Jackalone = 816-587-0028,
Board Member, Ron Haines = 816-699-5906

Venetian Gardens Homes Association is looking for volunteers to help with projects around the lake. Please call President Larry Haines or one of the Board Members to give your name and phone number to.

Thank You

May 16th will be the
City Clean Up Day.
Please be considerate
and not place items
that can normally be
picked up by our trash
services as these items
will not be picked up.
**Items must be placed
at curb no later than
8:00am**
Thank You
Homes Association
Board Members.



The Boat
ramp is closed and a
chain is across it. If
you want to put your
watercraft in the lake
at the boat ramp, call
Larry Haines or Ron
Haines. Thank You

CITY OFFICIALS CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE

Mayor

Michael Hallauer
816-365-6469
(mayor@houstonlake.net)

City Clerk

Marsha Duncan
816-419-5051
(cityclerk@houstonlake.net)

City Collector

Joyce Kullman
816-547-8173

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Jean Anderson
816-645-1529
(Sw1-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Rick Cowan
816-741-3199
(Sw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Phil Otte
816-741-5477
(Nw1-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Dan Coronado
816-584-2667
(Nw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Municipal Judge

Greg Dorsey
816-785-4284

Court Clerk

Sharon Brandt
816-785-4284

Codes Enforcement Officer

Mitch Kelly
816-651-6295
(mkelly@houstonlake.net)

VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION

President

Larry Haines
816-506-1564

Vice President

Keith Carey
816-746-4472

Treasurer

Gary Halterman
660-723-9366

Secretary

Jan Jackalone
816-587-0028
(Lake Tags)

Board Member

Ron Haines
816-699-5906

Houston Lake Watershed Management Committee

Michael Hallauer
816-215-9138

Registrar

Editor – Houston Laker

Mary Head
816-741-5639

Sewer Grinder Pumps

Marsha Duncan
816-419-5051

**For more City and Homes Association Info
go to**

Houstonlake.net

F Y I

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, contacting your Alderman or calling City Clerk at 816-419-5051.

From the desk of the City Clerk:

“To All Residents of Houston Lake”

1. If any resident needs a trash container or a recycling contact the following people for a timely response and to avoid any confusion. Please leave your name, address and a phone number and the containers will be delivered to your home.

**Mayor Mike Hallauer –
816.365.6469**

Or

**City Clerk Marsha Duncan –
816.419.5051**

2. According to Ordinance 334, Section 230.025

Open Burning 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 365.6469. 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.

ANNUAL CITY WIDE **SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**

MAY 16, 2015

The accumulation of discarded material, damaged and inoperable merchandise is in violation of Section 215.010 of the Houston Lake Municipal code. To avoid a citation and/or court appearance, the City Council is providing a free opportunity again this year for residents to dispose of such items.

Allied Waste will be placing a 30 cubic yard, roll off dumpster at City Hall on May 16th. Residents that are not able to bring their items to City Hall should place such items curbside. Our City truck will collect these items for you.

Please do not block the access to mailboxes or fire hydrants.

Appliances such as washers, dryers, refrigerators etc. will not be allowed in the dumpster. These items require a separate pick up. Please call to arrange this at 816-254-1470.

No hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, batteries, tires etc.)
No yard waste please!!

Taking advantage of this opportunity will prevent future problems. If you have any questions, please call:

City Clerk Marsha Duncan
419-5051

2015 PLATTE COUNTY CLEAN UP

Standard Load Entry Fee:

- Car, Truck, SUV, Van \$5.00
- Vehicle & Trailer \$15.00
- Loads over 12' \$20.00

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

NON-BULKY ITEMS MUST BE BAGGED OR BUNDLED

Subject to additional charges if pertinent.

Additional Fees:

- Passenger Tires \$1.00/ea
- Truck/Tractor Tires \$5.00/ea
- Appliances/Electronics* \$20.00/ea

*Appliances are items with motors or compressors.
All appliances must be empty.

Acceptable Electronics: console TV's and
Monitors over 32"

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

**Hazardous Waste,
Liquid Paint, Chemicals, and
NO WASTE FROM BUSINESSES**

Helping Beautify Platte County



Friday, May 1st

Saturday, May 2nd

7:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Located at
**PLATTE COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS**

Exit 20 off I-29
15955 Hwy 273
Platte City, MO 64079

Contact the
Department of Public Works
(816) 858-2223
publicworks@co.platte.mo.us

PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED



Mary Ann Parsons December 5, 1916 - January 1, 2015

Mary Ann was born Mary Ann Wah on December 5, 1916 in Cleveland, OH. She was the oldest child of Chang (Charles) Wah and Mary Weskabinil Wah having six sisters and one brother. She, along with two sisters, was placed in a Catholic Convent when she was about eight years old due to her mother's poor health. (The younger siblings were placed in a Catholic orphanage.) She spent the remainder of her childhood there where she learned music, sewing, knitting and other "fitting" activities. After leaving the convent in the early '30s she played tenor saxophone in an all women's band while holding various daytime jobs.

She married in her early twenties and gave birth to one son, Richard (Rick), in 1940. She divorced during WWII and never shared memories of her first marriage. During the war she got a job at a ship building plant and continued to work factory jobs the rest of her employed years.

After the war she and Rick moved to the Kansas City area where she worked at the Fall's Spring plant in North Kansas City then the Lake City Arsenal in the '50s.

Mary Ann met and married Everett Parsons in 1956 and she and Everett moved to 'San Francisco in 1962. They shared a love for animals of all kinds but especially Weimaraner dogs, training and showing quite successfully a beautiful dog named Bruno. She also showed her dogs at the Madison Square Garden's in New York City, New York.

In the mid '60s she and Everett moved to the Middle East. Everett's job took him to Saigon but because of the Vietnam Conflict, Mary Ann lived in Okinawa and Thailand for short periods then in Singapore for about six years. While in Singapore, because of his interest in Bruno, she met and became friends with "The Royal Highness The Sultan of Johore". They remained friends corresponding via mail until his death.

After returning from Singapore to San Francisco, Mary Ann went to a trade school and learned to weld. Her first welding job was at an automobile manufacturing plant welding fenders onto new cars. She eventually got a position welding circuit boards at Quantel Computer Company where she remained until retiring in 1987. She was 71 years old.

In May of 1987 she moved back to the Kansas City area to spend her retirement years near Rick and his family. She bought her house here at Houston Lake and never thought of leaving it. She loved living here making many friends around the lake over the years. She loved gardening, knitting, crocheting and baking. She even taught knitting and crocheting. She made cherry cream pies sharing them with friends and neighbors. Sometimes to say "welcome", sometimes to say "thanks" and always to say she cared.

Mary Ann was able to remain in her beloved home at Houston Lake until her death. She died peacefully in her sleep after a very brief illness.

She leaves one son Richard (Rick) Miller, her daughter-in-law Jackie, three granddaughters with spouses and six great-grandchildren. Rick and I would like to thank the entire Houston Lake community for making Mom's retirement years happy and content. Your kindness and love can never be repaid. May God bless you all for being such "GOOD NEIGHBORS".



Betty & Mary Ann



Mary Ann & Marie



Iris & Mary Ann

Rick & Jackie Miller



Amelia Joanne (Stewart) Hankins, 65, Houston Lake, Mo., died March 10, 2015 at North Care Hospice. She was born November 24, 1949, in St. Joseph, Mo., the family moved to the Northland in 1960. She is survived by her children, Kate Allyn (Hankins) Alnutt and Andrew Blair Hankins; her son-in-law, Mark Alnutt, and daughter-in-law, Alicia Hankins; and her grandchildren, Jaren Michael Alnutt, Kinleigh Allyn Alnutt, Mason Craig Alnutt, Aidan Miller Alnutt, Riley Scott McCracken, and Gracelynn Marie Hankins. She is also survived by her mother, Joanne L. Stewart; her siblings, Martha Robertson, Sarah Morrison and Robert Guy Stewart.

Amy graduated from Oak Park High School in 1968 and received her bachelor's degree in education from Southwest Missouri State University in 1972. She began her distinguished career in public education in 1972 as a classroom teacher in the Strafford R-VI (Mo.) School District, and later taught in the Kearney R-I (Mo.) and Park Hill (Mo.) School Districts. She also earned graduate degrees in education from Webster University, and the University of Kansas. In 1998, she joined the Olathe (Kan.) Unified School District 233 and was assistant principal of Olathe South High School until her retirement in 2013. She was a devoted daughter, sister, mother, Grandy, aunt and cousin to her family, and a trusted companion and advisor to countless friends she made throughout her life. Funeral services will be 11 AM Saturday March 14, 2015 at North Oak Christian Church, Kansas City, Mo., with burial in Fillmore Cemetery in St Andrews County, Missouri. Visitation with the family will be from 6-8 PM Friday at the Church. In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to North Care Hospice House or North Oak Christian Church.

John D. McHenry known as Jack McHenry, 78, Houston Lake Mo., was called home to Heaven on April 8, 2015. Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 17, at Northland Christian Church, 6120 NE 48th St., Kansas City, MO 64119, where Jack has been a member for many years. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Burial at Johnson County Memorial Gardens. Jack was born November 21, 1936, to Harvey and Ruth McHenry of Merriam, Kansas. He is survived by three brothers, William, James and Darrel McHenry. Jack was a veteran of the Air Force and received a good conduct medal in 1961. Jack was an inductee of the Elder Statesmen of Kansas City Jazz in 1999. Jack owned McHenry's Piano Tuning and Restoration. He has tuned and restored 3000 pianos over his 30 year career in the Kansas City metro. A local Jazz Pianist Jack was featured regularly at the Skies, EBT's and Piropos restaurants. Jack was a member of the Ed Smith Trio for over 20 years and played for many local ballroom clubs. Jack is preceded in death by his wife, Malinda L. McHenry in 1970. Jack is survived by five children, Timothy, Jewel, Stacy, Malinda and Jennifer. Jack has 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild between them. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Eddie Baker School of Music in Jack McHenry's name.



Charles Duncan, 64, Houston Lake MO., died April 16, 2015. Visitation 3pm Service 4pm Tue. April 21, 2015, at Highland Park Funeral Home and Crematory, 4101 State Ave. KC KS 66102. (913)371-0699.



Gertrude Irene Mendenhall, 86, of Houston Lake, Mo., passed away Tuesday April 14, 2015, in Springfield.

She had spent the past two months under medical care in Springfield after living in Kansas City for 40 years. Earlier she had lived in Springfield, where she was a co-founder of Carnahan Fence Co. and Springfield Aluminum Co.

Born in 1928 in Macks Creek, MO to Ethan and Pearl Morris, Gertrude grew up as the oldest of seven children on 400 acres of wooded farm where she learned to love all of nature, but birds and flowers in particular.

Gertrude was predeceased by husband Victor Mendenhall, to whom she was married for 37 years. Earlier she was married to Garnett Carnahan for 25 years.

She is survived by four children and four step-children. Children: Kathryn Munzinger (Jeff); Kenneth Carnahan; Gerald Carnahan (Alecia); and Cindy Byrd (John). Stepchildren: Jan Parker; Shelia Williamson (Gary); Brad Mendenhall; and Marsha Lyle (Ron).

Other survivors include brothers Tom Morris (Linnie), Pleasant Hope, and Stanley Morris (Helen), Springfield; and sister Joyce Kennedy (Joe), Laquey. She was predeceased by brothers Franklin, Carl and Ross Morris. Gertrude was grandmother to 14 and great-grandmother to 24.

Gertrude had a big heart, with special concern for developmentally handicapped children, including her adopted daughter and a stepson, who she raised with love and special care. She and her husband, Vic, helped start a Kansas City thrift store to benefit people with special needs.

In lieu of flowers, Gertrude asked that donations be made in her name to [Special Olympics Missouri](#), 1001 Diamond Ridge, Suite 800 Jefferson City, MO 65109

Gertie lived here for close to 35 years. In those years she planted her yard with flowers. Gertie always loved her flowers. In the spring seeing the first little flower was always a big event. She loved to share her flowers with friend or stranger that would admire them, always giving them a start. She would spend hours in her yard with her flowers and many types of birds that would come for seeds she would put out for them. If she didn't recognize one she would get her book and find out what it was.

Her husband, Vic was in the nursing home, his last two years. She took care of him until her health gave out and she couldn't do it anymore. Every day she would go to help him and the other people that lived there. She was there so much she knew a lot of them by name. After Vic's death she continued that as long as her health held out. She loved helping those that couldn't help themselves. She was also active in causes for the developmentally handicapped children.

Gertie enjoyed having the kids, grandkids and great grandkids come to spend a few days with her. She had so much company that as a gag gift she received a sign saying "Gertie's Bed and Breakfast". That sign would show up hanging on her front door now and then.

Gertie made a home for a feral cat that decided it wanted to live at her house. In due time it got tame enough to "help" her with her gardening. She would complain that she couldn't get her work done because she had to stop and pet the cat. She was a real "softie" for anything in need.

She was a great trusted friend and neighbor and will be missed.

Gertie also was on the Venetian Gardens Homes Association Board for two years and of the two years, one year she was president.





Gertie Mendenhall: Family, Friends and Neighbors always enjoyed her Chocolate Mayonnaise Cake. This is in our Houston Lake Cookbook. She has many recipes in our 2nd Edition Houston Lake Cookbook.

CHOCOLATE MAYONNAISE CAKE

Mix this first:

1 1/3 c. sugar
2 c. sifted flour

3 heaping Tbsp. cocoa
2 tsp. baking soda

Add:

1 c. Kraft Miracle Whip
1 c. warm water

1 tsp. vanilla

Butter and flour pan. Add ingredients. Heat 30 to 35 minutes on 350°.

Icing: Chocolate - use your own recipe.

Gertie Mendenhall

Mary Ann Parsons: When a new neighbor moved here on Houston Lake, Mary Ann would make a Cherry Cream pie and take it to them to Welcome them to Houston Lake. This is in our Houston Lake Cookbook.

CHERRY OR BLUEBERRY PIE

1 baked pie crust
1 can of berries (Comstock or Wilderness)

Cream 3 ounces cream cheese with 3/4 cup of sifted powdered sugar and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Whip very stiff 1/2 pint of whipping cream. Fold into cream cheese mixture. Place on bottom of pie shell. Top with cherry mixture.

Mary Ann Parsons



Houston Lake Cookbook

This Cookbook would make a wonderful gift for someone special.

Prices for the 2nd Edition Cookbooks are:

3 = Cookbooks for \$10.00

2 = Cookbooks for \$8.00

1 = Cookbook for \$5.00



To purchase your Cookbooks please call Chuck Stone 816-305-3196 or

email = stoneredbone@aol.com.

Also you can call Mary Head 816-741-5639.

All the proceed will go to the Houston Lake Arts Circle.



A Folk Art piece displayed at April Open House

Arts

Houston Lake Arts Circle

April 18 Meeting

Paper Maché Workshop

Friday and Saturday June
12 & 13, 12:00 - 2:00pm at
City Hall.

We will sculpt animals
that might be seen around
our lake or in one's
dreams. Adults and
children 9 and older will
enjoy! Guests are
welcome, accompanied by
a lake resident. Please
Register before June 6.

Minutes

Reviewed and approved March minutes.

Treasurers Report

No activity; the balance is still \$44.10.

Old Business

Decorating City Hall - We talked to Todd about designing a mantle for the fireplace, he asked us to select the wood and a design. Cherry wood was suggested and all agreed.

Quilt - Kathryn Kreider delivered the quilt. She removed it from its mounting pole, spot cleaned where needed and vacuumed off the years of dust. She commented on how the quilt tells a story of the residents at the time—how many people included little pieces of their life, like a TWA logo, lake tags, flowers, and the year they moved to Houston Lake in their beautiful embroidery. We thought it would be nice to record some stories about making the quilt and include them inside the box like a time capsule. Big thanks to Kathryn for her time and talent!

Paper Maché Sculpture Workshop - Signup sheet for the workshop is complete and is published in this addition of the Houston Laker.

Open House - We're working out the details and looking forward to the open house tomorrow with our 85 year old Folk Art Artist.

Call to Artists, "Looking Out My Back Door" - Several have mentioned they are working on their pieces. If you have questions or want to show us your work before hand come to the next meeting on May 16.

New Business

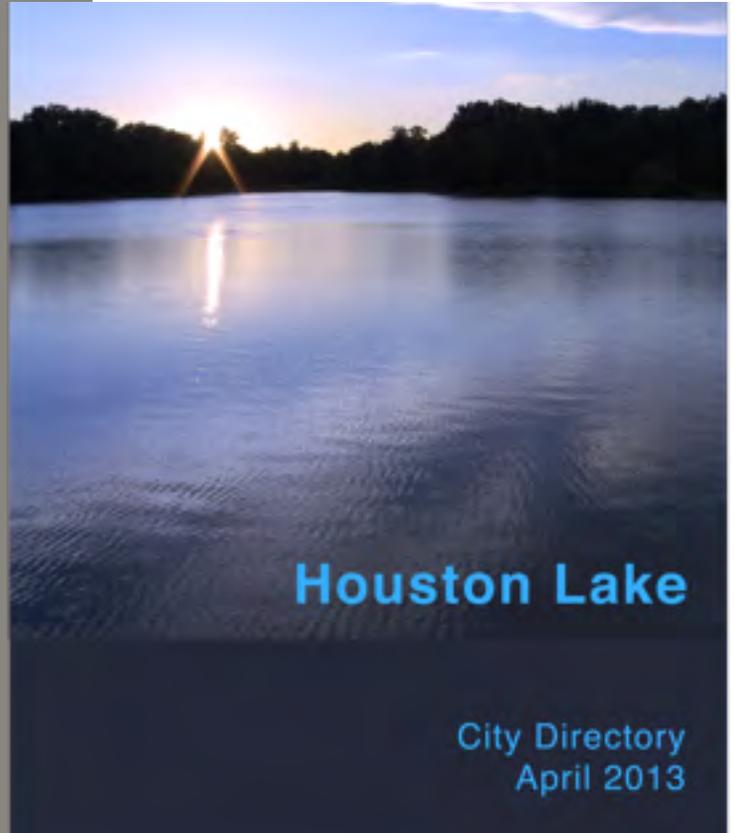
Facebook Page - Houston Lake Arts Circle has a Facebook page. Please like us so you can stay connected with our activities and get notifications.

Adjourned

If you have been thinking about attending, join us for our next meeting
May 16 10:00 a.m. City Hall.

Please let us know if you would like to be added to our e-mail address list.

City Directory Update



We're Updating the Directory

Help us keep our directory up-to-date. If you've changed phone numbers, added a cell phone or dropped your house phone please update your information.

New to the community? Please let us know if you are not in the 2013 Directory so we can add you.

- ▶ Send your information via e-mail to Jean Anderson, sw1-alderman@houstonlake.net
- ▶ Or drop this completed form in the door mail slot at City Hall.

Last Name(s): _____

First Name(s): _____

Address: _____

House Phone: _____

Cell Phone & Name : _____

Cell Phone & Name: _____



Important Notice

Trash Pick-up Day



Blue Lid Trash Cart

Your recycling day will also be on a Wednesday once a month.

Trash carts must be curbside by 7:00 am the day of pick up.
Be respectful and remove your cart from curbside when finished.
Items must be inside the cart (Not on the ground, not on top – INSIDE).
If you need an extra cart, please notify Mike Hallauer - 816-365-6469 or
Marsha Duncan - 816-419-5051.

The holidays that Allied Waste observe are New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. When any of these holidays fall on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, your trash pick up will be on Thursday of that week.

2015 Holiday Schedule:

Pick-up Day

New Years (Thursday 1-1-15)

Wednesday 12-31-14

Memorial Day (Monday 5-25-15)

Thursday 5-28-15

Independence Day (Saturday 7-4-15)

Wednesday 7-1-15

Labor Day (Monday 9-7-15)

Thursday 9-10-15

Thanksgiving (Thursday 11-26-15)

Wednesday 11-25-15

Christmas (Friday 12-25-15)

Wednesday 12-23-15

New Years (Friday 1-1-16)

Wednesday 12-30-15

2015 Recycle Schedule



**Yellow & Green Lid
Recycling Cart**

January 14
February 11
March 11
April 8
May 6
June 3
July 1
July 29
August 26
September 23
October 21
November 18
December 16



Items must be inside the cart (**Not on the ground, not on top – inside**). Recycle carts must be curbside by 7:00 am the day of pick up. Be respectful and remove your cart from curbside when finished. If you need an extra cart or would like to recycle, please notify Mike Hallauer - 816-365-6469 or Marsha Duncan 816-419-5051.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Semi-Annual Meeting
April 15, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Larry Haines. Board members Keith Carey, Gary Halterman and Jan Jackalone were present. Ron Haines was excused. There were ten members attending.

The minutes from the Annual Meeting held in October, 2014 were approved.

Gary Halterman, Treasurer, reviewed the Balance Sheet for the period of October 2014 through March 31, 2015. It was suggested by a member that there should be a breakdown of how much money is set aside for silt pond and dredging. Another member suggested that there should be an estimate of the costs for work on the silt pond and dredging. President Haines said he would work on getting those estimates.

Gary also stated there were 18 members who were past due and a late notice was sent out.

President Haines covered a few items. The play set at the beach will be removed as there is a concern about the wood splintering. There is a water pump that was used when the lake was last dredged and that will be put up for sale as well as the rubber curtain that is stored at City Hall.

Joe Chepren, who handled the spillway project, gave the President a report on the condition of the spillway and what maintenance work needs to be done at this time.

Vice President, Keith Carey, said that someone was trying to launch a boat around 4 AM and they did not live on the lake. He asked them to leave and they did. President Haines said that there will be a sign put at the boat ramp to call Board Members to have access to the ramp. Keith said that he had a stranger knocking on his door during the night pleading to get in. He said all Houston Lakers should be weary of this and use caution in situations like this.

May 16th will be the City Clean Up Day. Please be considerate and not place items that can normally be picked up by our trash service as these items will not be picked up.
Items must be placed at curb no later than 8:00AM.

Sharron DeLaFluente will again be taking water samples this year starting just before Memorial Day weekend.

Next Association Meeting will be held Wednesday, June 17th, at 6:30 PM.



Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2015 Green Wristband!!

Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2015 Green Wristband in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2015 wristband.

To get your 2015 Lake Wristbands call Homes Association Treasurer, Gary Halterman 660-723-9356.

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

Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2015 Green Wristband with them when they are on or around the lake and Homes Association property.

NO trout lines, jug lines, seine net, gillnetting or unattended fishing lines.

NO FISHING IN THE BEACH AREA.



City of Houston Lake
Official Minutes of the Council Meeting
March 9, 2015

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on March 9, 2015 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Dan Coronado ,Phil Otte, Rick Cowan and Jean Anderson.

Opening Session

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

Public Discussion

Resident Chuck Stone asked about the amount of interest paid on the General Funds CD. It is a 16 month CD at .3%. He also asked the cost of the gates on the dam and the time it took to get them. Mayor Hallauer said they were \$1200 and it took 3 or 4 months to make as they were custom made during the shops down time.

Minutes February, 2015

The February, 2015 minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

No permits

Treasurers Report

The treasurers' report was approved by the Council.

The Treasurers report shows a grand total balance of \$374,349.24.

Resolution 03-09-15 (paybills)

The City Council approved Resolution 03-09-15 unanimously.

New Business

a. Mayor Hallauer presented the Council with Bill No. 030915-1, Amending Section 215.010 of the Houston Lake City code, Parking. After much discussion the Council voted to table this Bill for further research.

b. Mayor Hallauer submitted to the Council a Co-Op Agreement with Platte County to collect the City taxes. Alderman Cowan made a motion to sign the agreement, seconded by Alderman Anderson. All were in favor.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

The Platte County Sheriff's Department submitted a report for the month of January, 2015.

No Codes Enforcement report.

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Director Dan Coronado told the Council that on the 25th he attended the Platte County Regional Disaster Exercise. He also gave the Council and Larry Haynes, the President of the Homes Association, an Action Plan for Disaster, and asked for any input that they might have.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – Alderman Cowan brought attention to a State Senate Bill. No. 323, that would make it possible for a person that owns property, but does not reside there, could be nominated to become an elected official. He advised anyone that is against this to contact their representative. He also mentioned that he had a few complaints on the last snow removal and perhaps it was a little lax or that the blades were set too high. But he complimented the City on their excellent job of snow removal and reminded the citizens that it is their duty to remove the snow around their mailboxes.

Alderman Cowan also wanted to address and correct some statements that have been made during the Mayoral election. There was discussion about the City hiring a City Maintenance Manager. The City Council indeed voted to have a Maintenance Manager. Mr. Cowan contacted that person and that person told Mr. Cowan that he had declined the position.

He addressed another issue regarding a letter written stating that Mitch Kelly, Codes Enforcement Officer, would not enforce city ordinances unless he had a directive from Mayor Hallauer. That is not the case as Mr. Kelly told the Council before he took the job, that his position would be “complaint driven only” and he would not actively “seek out” violations and the Council agreed to that.

Another misstatement involved the 10 planks for the spillway bridge that are in the basement. The value of \$5,500 is not true. Each plank is valued at \$105.00 for a total of \$1,050.00. As far as the statement of “only having 2 bids” for a project, Alderman Cowan said that the Council prefers to work with people that have worked with us in the past.

And lastly, the City Council cannot pass an ordinance to put a sign regarding the use of “Jake brakes” since Houston Lake’s property does not adjoin the highway. MoDot would have to be contacted and asked to place such signs.

Summing up, Alderman Cowan said “I am proud of what we have accomplished in the last few years”.

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte had a resident ask why the minutes of the last meeting did not reflect what was said in a letter regarding the planks. Again, the planks are being held in case of an emergency since the planks could take 4 to 8 weeks for delivery. He also addressed the issue of the pot holes not being repaired and reiterated what Mayor Hallauer said. Companies will go for the larger bids first.

Alderman Coronado – Alderman Coronado said that everything he wants to say will be published in various newspapers.

Alderman Anderson – Alderman Anderson said that City Hall looks great and was looking forward to decorating it. She also said that the quilt was given to Kathryn Kreider for restoration. There will be a “Meet and Greet” meeting in April on Sunday the 19th at 2 pm.

The walls at City Hall will remain bare for a while but a “Call to Artists” has been initiated but most likely there will not be any wall hangings until August.

She also asked the Council for permission to put up a mantel above the fireplace.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer told the Council about a call he received several years ago regarding kids out on the Lake spilling gasoline and lighting it. He asked them if they had called the police and they said they did not. Later on he received many more calls on the vandalism that took place that early morning. They could have easily started the bridge on fire. This is a reminder of why the City keeps extra planks on hand in case of emergencies.

b. Mayor Hallauer said that he had gone back through the Community minutes, back when they were written in pencil in 1939 and back through all the history. He asked Mitch Kelly, who has lived on the lake for 50 years, how many “witch hunts” did he recall? Mitch answered it was too many to count. Mayor Hallauer remembered some of the first City Meetings he had attended. He recalled listening to the Mayor and Aldermen discussing residents by their name and their addresses and how the City was going bring lawsuits against them and the charges they would file, leaving the resident with no representation. The City had gone so far off track that they forgot about the people they represented. The City is not the judge and jury. That’s the reason we have a court system. Does anyone really want to go back to the days of “witch hunts”?

Closed Session

Mayor Hallauer made a motion to go into a closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal Issues, seconded by Alderman Cowan.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Free Dock



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