

What's Happening in Toquerville?

New City Officials

Administration changes from the November 2017 elections took effect January 1st and Lynn Chamberlain assumed the position of Mayor while Justin Sip and Mike Ruesch stepped into City Council seats. Former mayor Darrin Lefevre had been in a city seat beginning in November 1999 as a Planning Commissioner until November 2005, then served on the City Council from November 2005 to July 2009, and finally serving as mayor from July 2009 to December 2017. Retiring City Councilmembers were Brad Langston who served on the Council from January 2010 until December 2017, and Mark Fahrenkamp who served from July 2009 to December 2017.

A big thanks goes out to these wonderful men who have sacrificed their years in service to the community. Staff misses working with the former officials but is happy to report that Toquerville is lucky to have new officers who care about the city and its residents and we look forward to working with them.

City Welcome Signs

Have you seen the City welcome sign at the north end of town? Keen Ellsworth, City Councilman over Economic Development, worked with Smith's Steelworks to design and create this beautiful and unique sign – drawing attention to Toquerville and putting an identifying brand to our wonderful community. Lighting on the sign should be complete by summertime. Works are in the way to install a second sign at the south end of town during the next fiscal year.

Tree City Grant –Trees on Toquerville Blvd

The City received and recently completed the requirements for a Tree City Grant to remove some overgrown/diseased trees along Toquerville Blvd in the historic town area. Toquerville has always been known for its beautiful trees along the Blvd but there comes a time to remove and replace those that have served their time for so long. The grant scope also included planting 16 trees. There were 12 new trees on the west side of Toquerville Blvd near the post office, 2 trees on Shangri-La into Toquerville Heights, 1 at the City Hall, and 1 in Trail Ridge Estates. This project started early in 2017 with the removal of 4 flowering pears on the Blvd. The final tree on the Blvd was planted the end of March. As

those trees grow and flower, they will add so much to that area of town. Thanks to former Councilmember Langston and the tree board for the grant application, and Lance Gubler and crew for their work!

Park Improvements

Parks are a big focus with the City Council. Some of the projects for parks take time to implement because of budgetary restrictions, but Council is committed to moving ahead. Watering improvements at the Center Street Park were done in 2017 using a rebate program sponsored by the Water Conservancy District.

The Trail Ridge Estates Park finally has a restroom! Final improvements were completed in March. Thanks to former Councilmember Fahrenkamp for this wonderful, necessary improvement. This project was funded by impact fees.

There are a lot of other park improvements items slated during the 2019 budget year. With the completion of the Almond Heights Subdivision, the Almond Heights Park takes a step forward to improvement. Hope is that drainage issues within the subdivision and on the park ground will be contained, parking installed, and some grass planted at the very least. At the Center Street Park, Council expects to install a walking path and an important retaining wall.

Miss Toquerville Pageant

The 2017 Princess pageant will be held April 27, @ 7:00 pm at the Hurricane Fine Arts Center. Five lovely Toquerville young ladies will be vying for the title of Miss Toquerville. The outgoing 2017 royalty is: Princess- Kennedy Kleinman, 1st Attendant – Cheyenne Jaggi, 2nd Attendant – Haley LeFevre, and Miss Congeniality – Madalynn Butterfield. The City appreciates the service the royalty gives every year and expresses gratitude to Missy Kleinman and the royalty moms who have done a wonderful job.

Reservoir

The Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) announced last year that the Toquer Reservoir would be moving forward after completion of years of Federal and environmental studies and reports. This reservoir is to be located south of the Interstate 15 and Anderson Junction

intersection. The project will increase water availability while promoting conservation and the beneficial use of water. Construction was delayed from its expected start in 2017 and should begin in 2018. Staging preliminaries including transportation of basalt out of nearby locations have been discussed. The project will not only preserve water, but includes plans for recreational uses like fishing and camping - something the City is hopes to work with the District to provide. Maps showing the location and plans for the reservoir are available at the City Office. Water source for the reservoir comes from Pine Valley drainage and the New Harmony reservoir near Black Ridge.

Dumpster Days

The next City Clean-up dumpster days will be April 27-30. Dumpsters will be placed at the Center Street City Park, Toquerville Heights subdivision, Trail Ridge Park, and the intersection of Sunset Ave. and Westfield Road. Please do not dispose any hazardous materials including motor oil, tires, or batteries.

Recycling

Any questions regarding the BluCan? What is the pick-up schedule? What can I recycle? Questions are readily answered by going to the webpage www.blucan.org Thanks for keeping Toquerville clean!

LED Lighting

Studies regarding LED lighting have shown benefits including health, insect detraction and lower cost. During 2017, the City was able to install LED street lighting throughout the City. Street lights that use LED can be adjustable in their focus, as well as the amount and color of light they emit. With this installation, the City should be able show savings to the cost of street lighting.

City Website

Our new website has been up and running for 2 years now. It is a great place to get forms, and other information about the city. If you haven't been there, check it out and while there, sign up to get city news and community activity updates. www.toquerville.org

Large Item Pick-up

It is not well-known but the Washington County Solid Waste District, working through Allied Waste, provides a curb-side pick-up of large household items free of charge. Call Allied at 435-

628-2821 to make arrangements to pick up these large appliances or furniture items.

Toquerville Roads

The Council has plans to chip seal several roads in the city during the next budget year. Road repair is very costly and the City's budget is limited. North Ash Creek, Creekside, Berry, Pioneer, Mountain Charm, and Shangri-La off SR17 are expected to get a face lift. We appreciate support from Washington County in making this a reality.

Bypass Information

We used to hear the question, "What is the bypass?" in the City office frequently. The question now is "When is that going to happen?" As the City grows, the current Toquerville Blvd is limited in the amount of traffic it will be able to handle. There is a lot of sentiment regarding this quaint, historic section of the City, and widening the Blvd is just not part of the answer. The bypass is a proposed road that will divert traffic from State Road 17 at the south end of town at what has been termed the "Hog's Back", out through the undeveloped area to the west, and reconnect to 17 at the north. The answer to the "when" has always been, "That is up to UDOT, and is probably out 20-30 years." In 2016, the City contracted with Jones and DeMille Engineering to do a traffic study and plan using State CIB funds in the hopes of moving the project to a closer time frame.

During 2017, another important purpose for the immediate installation of the Bypass Road came to a head. City and Fire officials have worked together through the years as population in Almond Heights Park Subdivision has increased. Requests for new subdivisions of large parcels in the Westfield area brought about questions regarding safety in emergency conditions. City officials have been able to work with landowners in the area to temporarily take the pressure while the Bypass Road is made a reality - providing safe zones where the population could settle in, in the event of an emergency. (See the following discussion of Safe Zones in this newsletter) The expectation is that this route will be a reality sooner than later. We look forward to that time when this improvement can take place.

Water Department

Cross connections/backflow concerns happen when culinary and irrigation lines are not connected properly. Such connections are illegal. It is important to know about the hazards of cross

connection and backflow. A cross connection happens when an irrigation water line has direct contact with a culinary water line. It is **PROHIBITED** to install any type of “swing” valve to use the same water line for irrigation water and culinary water. Many residents use culinary water to irrigate their outside landscape. It is important to install a backflow device to prevent bacteria from coming back into the culinary water system. These devices should be tested annually to make sure they are working properly. If backflow occurs it will affect your family first. For the safety of your family and the families in your neighborhood, we urge all residents to comply with water regulations. If you have questions regarding your water connections, please contact Lance Gubler, public works director at 435-216-6465.

TSWS

Just a reminder - that Toquerville City has nothing to do with the secondary water system. The City manages the culinary water, and the Washington County Water Conservancy District administers all actions that involve irrigation water. Questions regarding TSWS connections should be directed to the District at 435-673-3617. Water turns are in place until the District notifies differently. Outside watering whether by culinary or irrigation water should follow the water schedule as set forth:

Agriculture:

- Zone 1: Wednesday and Saturday 5 a.m. - noon.
- Zone 2: Monday and Thursday 5 a.m. - noon.
- Zone 3: Tuesday and Friday 5 a.m. – noon.

Residential:

- Odd home addresses: M, W, F – 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Even home addresses: T, Th, Sa – 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Cemetery Improvements

The City has worked for several years to provide a gazebo with information about the cemetery. The structure was installed in 2017; the informational part is still to come forth. The public works crew continues to work to make the cemetery a lovely place. Future activity will include leveling and straightening of headstones and installing a better shop structure.

Safe Zones

As stated in the article regarding the Bypass Road, the City and the Fire District are working to create temporary safe zones while the Bypass is constructed. As resolutions, easements and accesses are still being drawn up, it isn’t possible as yet to provide final designations. Below are maps showing the proposals as they currently sit. These maps will be sent in larger format with this mailing and will be hung on City information Kiosks at the post office, city office, in the Westfield area, and on the city website www.toquerville.org for your information. Updates will be made when final plans are adopted.

