

News from City Hall



CONGRATULATIONS G-R BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPS!!

GLEO MCCOMMONS ESTATE

The City sends a special “thank-you” to the family of Gleo McCommons. Gleo generously gifted a portion of her farm land, 27.8%, to the City of Reinbeck. After the sale of the estate and closing costs, the City received \$486,071.75 to be used as follows: 11.10% (\$181,530) to the Reinbeck Board of Library Trustees to be used for the addition of a room to the Reinbeck Public Library to be named the “Gleo McComons Room”; 8.9% (\$146,122) to the volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of emergency ambulance equipment; and 7.8% (\$128,419.75) to the Reinbeck Park Board to be used in the expansion of Elmwood Park.

CITY FINANCES

The City’s finances are getting back on track. At this time last year the City had seven (7) funds in the deficit. In July of 2014 the City had to borrow \$150,000 to pay outstanding and upcoming obligations. Although the City is still a long way from being financially sound, there currently are no funds in the deficit, and the \$150,000 loan has been repaid. For the past several years, the Sewer Fund has had a shortfall after making the bond interest and principal payments, leaving a deficit in the Sewer Fund at fiscal yearend. This year the Sewer Fund should have appropriate funds available for the bond payments and still be in the black at fiscal yearend.

PARK BOARD

The city council has amended Chapter 24 of the City Code as follows: The Chapter is now called Park/Rec Board. Chapter 24.01 now reads: A Park Board is hereby established to make plans for the development and use of park and recreational facilities in the City. The Park Board consists of five (5) members, all residents of the City, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council, for staggered two-year terms. The Board shall, at the first meeting of the year following each regular municipal election, organize by naming a Chairperson and a Secretary from its membership. Public hearings, for the purpose of citizen input, were held on February 11, 2015, February 23, 2015 and March 2, 2015. The general consensus of those hearings was that an appointed board would be more beneficial to ensure that the members truly want to serve and support the park and recreation departments and activities.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

The City has purchased a used, but in good shape, 6-wheeler that will be used for spraying weeds and a new welder for the shop. The 6-wheeler was purchased using funds budgeted out of the equipment accounts from the street, park, cemetery, water and sewer departments. The welder was purchased from the equipment fund from the street department.

ALLIANT ENERGY UPDATE

Work continues with Alliant Energy’s update. Fred Laythem reported that the new substation is up and going, and Alliant is currently feeding customers off both substations. They will have a work stoppage for a few months before completing phase 1 this year. The project will resume again sometime in 2016.

CITY ORDINANCES TO REMEMBER AS WE ENTER SPRING

GOLF CARTS - Golf carts may be operated upon the streets of the City by persons possessing a valid driver's license and a city permit. The annual fee for a permit is \$30.00 and is payable at the time the permit is granted. Permits are valid from January 1 through December 31. Golf carts may be operated on city streets only between sunrise and sunset and shall be equipped with a slow moving vehicle sign, a bicycle safety flag and a rearview mirror at all times during operation and shall be equipped with adequate brakes. No golf cart shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped. Please operate your golf cart safely.

GRASS AND WEEDS - Please remember to maintain your lawn not to exceed six inches (6"). This includes the rear yard as well as the front yard. To avoid additional expense to clean the storm sewers, please do not blow your grass clippings into the street. Any violations will be remedied by the city at the owner's expense. Any nuisance mowing not paid will be assessed to the county auditor and collected as property taxes. The purpose of keeping yards maintained at a uniform height is to beautify and preserve the appearance of the city in order to prevent unsightly, offensive or nuisance conditions. This shows visitors the pride we have in our city.

JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES - Any vehicle that is unlicensed, lacks an engine or two or more wheels or other structural parts, or has a broken windshield is considered a "junk vehicle", and this includes unlicensed trailers. Any old scrap, batteries, trash, debris, dismantled vehicles, mattresses, discarded household goods, or dismantled appliances are considered "junk". Please be considerate of your neighbors and other citizens or visitors, and help make our city more attractive.

TREES - Property owners shall keep trees trimmed so that all branches will be at least twelve (12) feet above the surface of the street and eight (8) feet above the sidewalks. These requirements allow residents to utilize the sidewalks safely and allow for garbage trucks and other service vehicles to utilize the streets without damage to their vehicles or injury to their employees.

Again, you, the citizens of Reinbeck, are a vital part of making this a GREAT city and a GREAT place to live. If we all work together we can make it even better! Keep up the good work!

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

City of Reinbeck
414 Main Street
Reinbeck, IA 50669

SNOW REMOVAL

The City would like to thank everyone for clearing their sidewalks from snow and ice in a timely manner and also for not parking on the streets during snow. The city workers had very few issues with plowing around parked vehicles on the street. We believe the city workers did an excellent job of clearing the streets from snow and getting the piles off the streets in a timely manner. When you see these guys please tell them you appreciate their efforts. Also, a special thank you to Cooley Pumping on the clearing of Main Street during the heavy snows and Folkert & Son Trucking and PCI for helping to haul away snow piles after the 10" we received.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt
April 5, 2015
@ Elmwood Park

City Wide Clean Up
April 11, 2015

Clean the Park Day
May 2, 2015
@Elmwood Park

City Wide Garage Sales
May 15th & 16th, 2015

Movie at the Pool
June 20, 2015
Showing: Up!
Reinbeck Aquatic Center
Activities @ 8:00
Movie @ 8:30

****NEW FOR 2015****

CITY WIDE SPRING CLEANUP

The city council has set Saturday, April 11, 2015 for a city wide spring cleanup day. A rain date has been set for April 18, 2015. All junk items can be disposed of, free of charge, by taking it to Cooley Sanitation on Main Street from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. No tires, liquids, yard waste, garbage, batteries or construction project materials will be accepted. White goods, such as washers, dryers, A.C., stoves, refrigerators, freezers, water heaters, water softeners, dehumidifiers, furnaces, dish washers, light ballasts, microwaves, and humidifiers will require a disposal fee of \$10 per unit. Monitors, printers, and copiers will require a \$1 disposal fee. If you are unable to get your junk items to Cooley's, they will pick your items up for a \$20 fee as long as they are placed outside of the house. This is a great time to get rid of unsightly junk that may have accumulated around our homes or back yards. To contact Cooley Sanitation call 319-232-8511.