

September 11, 2020

Dear community,

To write a roll up today is difficult as this is the day for 19 years since 911 happened. The attack on our American soil which terrorism hit home and killed 3000 people in just a short span of time. Everyone got up that morning, we were in Germany and were completing a day in our mission set for the Army. I will bend my knee and seek His face for all those that lost their lives and all the families and who lost loved ones that day friends, neighbors, co-workers, fathers, mothers, sons, daughters. I want to thank all those patriots that day that went in and did all they could to save as many people in the aftermath and recovery of all those lost and buried in that rubble. They will not be forgotten, not on my watch. I pray not yours as well. History shouldn't be forgotten nor repeat the horrors or inhumane acts of violence and barbaric behaviors. Non diplomatic or harassment. I am proud to have served and been part of that mission set. I am proud and thankful for all the emergency services, police, fire department and all the Worlds efforts to help and stand next to us as a nation that dark day. That day showed in America that all lives matter. We must not forget that. If you want or would like to take a moment of silence for those.

These past weeks Gwyn and city staff and all department leads have been working hard on the city's budget. This takes time and effort. Numbers start to blur but it has to be done. This is teamwork. Gwyn and her team really worked hard to finish up the fourth Audit for our city. There were many improvements in comparisons to the first two. Great BIG SHOUT OUT TO THEM FOR THIS SUCCESS. Again, this is team work. Thanks Susan and her team as well as Eddie and his team for working alongside us.

Brandon and his team worked hard this week with the thunderstorms and rain. They have been working on keeping the rainwater moving and keeping our infrastructure up and in operation. We had a well get hit with lightning but Brandon and his team are working hard to keep the water pressure up. I received a note from a gentleman on a drainage relief at his house. This was a team effort for Brandon and all that he works with.

Our Fire department came in on Labor Day to conduct training and remind us of that wonderful siren. They have been working on matters in town and training of keeping him and his team ready. We have recently received some upgraded radios

Chief Scott has been working on a few things these past weeks. He completed the NIBRS Report. They have been working on increasing the knowledge through training for all officers to Advanced Level Peace Officer License. Chief has also scheduled training in other areas for Canine Encounters and Interacting with Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Tips for citizens from Chief Scott: There has been a recent photograph circulating on social media with a caption that speaks about quotas.

First, I would like to address the photograph and thank Mayor Jamie Lawrence. The photograph was taken on Labor Day by Sarah Beth Owen, who saw the Mayor pull up beside me from her front steps and took the photograph with her cell phone. The Mayor observed me parked on the side of the road working traffic. He stopped to tell me thanks for working on the holiday and keeping the City safe. Mayor Lawrence, thank you for always taking the time to tell the employees of the City that you appreciate what we do.

Second, setting quotas for the number of citations written by Police Officers is not legal and is not done in the City of Whitewright. I encourage my officers to increase patrol and traffic stops but leave the decision up to them whether they write a citation or not. This said, there have been a few times when I have told one of my officers to write a citation for a violation that has taken place in the officer's and my presence. This is not a violation or a quota. There was a time when I told my officers to address at least three City Ordinance Violations per week. This is also not a violation because I didn't tell them that they had to write a citation to handle the violation. A City Ordinance Violation could be handled by knocking on a door and giving a friendly request for compliance, writing a letter, making a phone call, or writing a citation summoning a person to court to answer for the violation. The way the officer handles the violation is their choice and no quota has been set for citations. The current police department writes less traffic citations than the department that was here a year and a half ago.

Municipal Court scheduled for 09/24/2020, 4:00 P.M.

Jeff, our EMS Captain and his team have been working on a SOP manual. It is now complete. COVID-19: Hot spots continue to rise. Continue wearing a mask in public and near frail family members with underlying conditions. Continue frequent hand washing practices. Utilize TeleDoc type phone conferences for Dr. appointments and consultations for non-emergent events. It is recommended that emergency departments are reserved for true life emergencies only. Contact your PCP for non-emergent care when possible.

If you don't want to pray, don't believe, you are your own god, believe the same way, you can in your own way or if not, I will not ask you. It's not up to me if you do or not it's your call.

I am on praying on my behalf for the burdens that lay on my mind for the city I live in.

Dear Lord, I kneel before you as your servant for your forgiveness for our nation, state, our county, community, the whole world, I pray that we will humble ourselves before you, I ask discovery of those selling or harming children, I pray you expose to the sex trade and abuse, I pray over all the farmers, ranchers, and fisherman that have worked so hard to feed our nation. I pray for our Police, EMS, Fire, Game Wardens protecting us, State park staff for providing safe

clean areas to relax, I pray for the oil drillers road construction crews those building our nation, military men and women and also those who fought and died for our nation, pray for teachers and staff and their leadership, pray for our magistrates lawyers prosecutors district of attorneys being always challenged or questioned on morals and ethics and values, pray for our churches and pastors and Sunday school leaders and all those attending, pray for those that have lost loved ones through this COVID virus, I pray for healing and courage, I pray for all those that have been sick or in the hospital for various surgery's and needing healing, I pray for healing from suicide ideations or those who lost from it, drug or alcohol addictions child abuse, foster families, child protective services, I Pray for Israel and all their daily battles and for protection, I pray for those being martyred for you daily, we graciously thank you for all your mercies and protection on our nation, we ask you to be with us guide us with all your leadership and wisdom, I pray for the guardian angels that go and rescue abducted children and adults around the world, I thank you Lord for our many blessing we have received in the past and current, pray for those preying on children and those abusing women, I pray for our upcoming elections for our nation state and county and town, I pray that they serve you with a penitent heart, I pray for the safety and wellbeing of our city employees and families, I pray for all the missionaries and nations who don't have your peace in Your mighty name Jesus we pray, Amen.

Serving you respectfully,

Jamie Lawrence
Mayor

Office
903-364-2219

"Dream to Keep the Down-Home Feeling" "Keep Whitewright Moving forward"

"House Divided Cannot Stand" The Bible and Abraham Lincoln