

City of Winfield E-Newsletter



NEW WASTEWATER PLANT UPDATE

Dear Winfield Residents,

Our City Council meeting scheduled for September 12 at 6:00 p.m. will have a presentation from our new sanitary design engineer, The Thrasher Group. You are probably asking, “why after all this time has the city hired a new design engineer after working with Chapman Technical on the new plant for over three years?” A few months back, Chapman Technical came to the Sanitary Board and reported that their estimate for construction of the new plant had to be increased \$3.1 million dollars! They had given us an estimate of \$ 5.2 million for the new plant, and now they said it would be \$ 8.1 million—a 61% increase! The Sanitary Board, City Council and I worked in conjunction to quickly decide on a plan of action. We were advised that we were going to have to increase sewer rates again to cover this cost increase, which was Chapman’s mistake. That was just unacceptable. I then fired Chapman Technical with the unanimous backing of the Sanitary Board and City Council and began the process of hiring a new engineering firm, and also met with the WV Department of Environmental Protection and explained our situation. I knew that this was going to cost us time, and possibly money, but we had a responsibility to our citizens get this plant built correctly and at a reasonable price. Your presence at our September 12th Council meeting will give you an opportunity to hear The Thrasher Group’s presentation of their construction timeline and have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have regarding the construction of the new plant.

Thank you,
Mayor Barrett

WINFIELD BOAT RAMP

As most of you know, we thought this project was going to be completed some time ago, but government-funded projects progress very slowly. The WV Department of Natural Resources has finally began work on the new boat ramp located to the west of the Winfield Community Center. The core drilling, archeological survey and the mussel study of the Kanawha River has been completed. Due to the lateness of this construction season and the DNR bidding process, we don’t expect the project to be completed this year. The State has already expended close to \$ 500,000 on property and design, so we have little doubt that this project will completed in 2018. The State engineers have come up with a plan of entering and exiting the Boat Ramp that should make it safe for boaters and residents alike. Their plan is to have boaters enter the Boat Ramp from Route 817 and turn down Main Street and then turn on to Second Street. When exiting, they will leave on Garfield Street to Route 817. The main reason for this route would be to avoid boaters coming from across the river and attempting to turn on to Garfield Street with a boat and trailer across Route 817, which would be a very dangerous intersection. We are very excited that this project is finally underway for our citizens to enjoy and we feel that it will be a great asset to our community. ☺



From the West Virginia Municipal League Press Release—August 15, 2017:

Mayor Randy Barrett Named Mayor of the Year

During the West Virginia Municipal League's 48th Annual Conference, municipal leaders from around the state recognized Mayor Randy Barrett from Winfield, WV, as the Mayor of the Year for 2017. Mayor Barrett has been a member of the Municipal League since his election as Mayor for Winfield. His nomination for the award was submitted and reviewed by a select panel of Mayors representing all cities from across the state. The award is considered one of the highest awards presented to Mayors participating in the League.

"I am humbled by being recognized and honored by my peers who understand the challenges facing municipal leaders in our state," said Mayor Barrett. "This award reflects more than just my leadership, but also the many great things happening in Winfield, where people feel empowered to explore every idea toward making our city a better place to live, visit, and invest."

The award was presented during the Municipal League's Annual Awards Presentation on August 3, 2017. Members also elected the following officers for the 2017-18 term; President-Councilor Robert Greer from Bridgeport, Vice President-Mayor Steve Williams of Huntington, Secretary-Mayor Serafino Nolletti from Logan and Treasurer-Councilor Kevin Knowles of Martinsburg. The League meeting was held in Morgantown this year and was attended by more than 375 municipal officials and guests. Guests included speakers from West Virginia and Pennsylvania, covering a wide variety of municipal interest topics.

(For further information contact Lisa Dooley, Executive Director of the WV Municipal League at (304) 342- 5564.)

WV DRAG RACERS' HALL OF FAME OPENS AT CITY HALL

In May, the City Council approved the use of the City Municipal lobby for the WV Drag Racers' Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame has been searching for over two years for a venue to display their memorabilia. Since the very first drag strip in West Virginia was located south of Winfield's city limits, everyone felt that this was a great place to house the tribute to WV drag racing. On August 5th, the city hosted a large car show at the Municipal Building and the Putnam Chamber of Commerce was present to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the WV Drag Racers Hall of Fame. The Hall is a work in progress, with folks bringing in drag racing memorabilia and allowing it to be displayed for all to enjoy. The Hall is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday and is located in the City Municipal Building at 12448 Winfield Road, Winfield, West Virginia 25213.



NEW CITY PARK AT COMMUNITY CENTER

Construction has finally started for the new City Park beside of the Community Center. The first phase should be completed sometime in September. The City actually had to advertise for bids twice in order to get one that was under budget and it still did not include any of our three options. The three options were two different types of structures and a basketball court. The City obtained a Land & Water Conservation Fund 50/50 matching grant for a total project cost of \$ 160,000. The City's 50% match came from monies earmarked when we sold a piece of property that will be used to put in a lumber yard next year. Also, the city was awarded two Putnam County Enhancement grants from the County Commission that will pay 80% of the cost of two wooden play structures for the park that will be installed the first week of September. The city will be applying for another grant later this year to help fund the completion of this project. We hope our citizens truly enjoy their new park!