



City of Chickasha Operational Update Week of June 27, 2016

Public Works

Public Works crews have had another busy week. Crews have been removing trees on the west side of the Airport Industrial Park in preparation of establishing the ROW for the electrical service to the park. Line Maintenance crews performed smoke testing in the sanitary sewer line from 4th to 6th Street along the north side of Chickasha Avenue.

Tree removal at the AIP



Crews using the smoke testing equipment



Crews identified at least six stormwater drains that were improperly hooked up to the sanitary sewer system. The owners will be notified that they will have to make the repairs to the system and properly hook them up to the stormwater system.

Public Works crews swarmed around Lake Chickasha on Thursday and Friday addressing several of the issues identified by the Lake Committee. Brush was removed, the yard around the maintenance building was tidied up and several of the roads had grave put down and were graded. Additional work still needs completed but much was accomplished just prior to the 4th of July.

We were informed by the Stillwater Railroad line that the repairs to the railroad crossing at 16th Street and Chickasha Avenue will be delayed for two weeks.

Originally scheduled to start after the 4th, it is now scheduled to start the week of July 21. We will update this as we receive information.

Police

The PD had a new light pole placed outside in front of the building.



The PD completed the final training session of ALERRT yesterday. This session also included officers from other agencies as far away as Lawton and Cushing. In this session FD also participated in scenarios working with PD in active shooter situations. This training is an investment into the protection of our citizens.

I forwarded you the article about the dog from West Palm Beach that was reunited with its owner here in Chickasha.

Officer Daniel Ramirez graduates from CLEET today at 2:00 pm.

This is a great story! You might call them a pet, a family member, a friend or fur-baby. However, whatever you call them if you don't think chipping your animals is important, read this:

June 23rd, 2016 was just about like any other day. Except, this day when Gerald Anderson was traveling Highway 62 he pulled over to close the hatch on his vehicle. When he did, it changed his day and would later change the lives of several others.

Near the river bridge, Gerald pulled over to close the hatch on his vehicle, and in doing so saw a small dog lying on its side in the grass. The dog had gashes in its upper torso and legs, some fairly severe road rash and was obviously tired and worn out. He and his daughter, Stephenie, brought the dog to the Chickasha Animal Shelter for assistance.

ACO Nicole Manuel scanned the dog for a microchip and would later learn the dog, Marlin, had been reported missing and / or stolen from West Palm Beach, Florida.

After numerous phone calls and text messages with photos, Marlin was positively identified as belonging to Lisa Kugelmann of West Palm Beach, Florida.

ACO Nicole Manuel and ACO Layce Graham coordinated with Chickasha Animal Shelter Volunteer, Anne Steninger, and were able to get medical treatment for Marlin at the Verden Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Kim cared for Marlin, but sadly he had suffered a broken foot, along with the other trauma to his body.

Ms. Kugelmann boarded a plane and arrived in Chickasha to be reunited with Marlin this past Saturday, June 25th. Ms. Kugelmann explained Marlin was reported missing / stolen on June 8th, and even though she remained hopeful, after almost three full weeks, she was beginning to wonder if she would ever see Marlin again. She later continued and told us Marlin was located 1,500 miles from home. The two were formally reunited and greeted by ACO Nicole Manuel and ACO Layce Graham along with numerous Chickasha Animal Shelter volunteers and members of the Chickasha Animal Rescue Transport (C.A.R.T.). So Ms. Kugelmann wouldn't get turned around, Chickasha Animal Shelter Volunteer, Joann Chamberlain, escorted her to the Verden Veterinarian Clinic. While in Chickasha, Ms. Kuglemann donated \$200.00 to C.A.R.T.



Lisa Kugelmann with Kelly McGill, co-founder of C.A.R.T., at the Rock Island Depot

Dr. Kim from the Verden Veterinarian Clinic told Ms. Kugelmann Marlin is expected to make a complete recovery. Both Lisa and Marlin got on a plane early Sunday morning, headed back home to West Palm Beach. A special thanks to Gerald Anderson and his daughter, Stephenie, for doing the right thing.

From Sergeant Kori Brewer - On 06/09/2016 about 00:24 hours all night shift officers along with Fire Department responded to a structure fire at the apartment complex located at 827 West Chickasha Avenue. This is an older building brick building with a metal roof. This type of construction allows for heat and smoke to build up in the building easily without proper ventilation. Officer Clayton Hobbs was already inside of the building and without hesitation Officer Andrew Peck went in to assist Officer Hobbs on the second floor.

Both officers were in an apartment complex that housed 8 separate units that had an active fire burning in it. Being on scene I only heard 2 fire alarms sounding and they were not real loud in the chaotic scene. Knowing that smoke alarms are life saving devices in times of fire emergencies it crossed my mind with the amount of smoke "why are only two alarms are sounding?" Peck was assisting in yelling out to possible victims that may still be in the building. The video footage also showed that Peck was in the dark when he was upstairs. Although this is what the video footage shows this is further from the case. The hallway had 4 separate 5 foot long double florescent lamps in it and only one had burned in the fire. All the other lights were activated and on but the emitted light was blocked by the extremely hot thick toxic smoke. After making attempts to wake any other occupants up both officers retreated from the building. If either officer had waited any more length of time to escape I feel that the atmosphere of that portion of the building could have not sustained life due to the heat and toxic smoke. Officer Peck was almost instantly coughing in a heavy manner when he exited the building.

In addition to the two Chickasha officers, two Grady County deputies also participated in the rescue at the apartments. The officers and the deputies will be recognized at Tuesday night's Council meeting with Life Saving Awards and proclamations.

Chickasha Police Department and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Chickasha, July 25-26, 2016. This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals.

Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend. Multi-enrollment discounts and discounts for Grant Writing USA returning alumni are available. Tuition payment is not required at the time of enrollment. We are excited to offer Oklahoma Association of Chief of Police a special tuition

rate of \$425 which includes everything: two days of terrific instruction, workbook, and access to our Alumni Forum that's packed full of tools, helpful discussions and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Please use discount code "OKASSN" to receive this \$30 discount off full price at registration. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary.

Library



Summer Reading was all about water this week. On June 30th the 6 – 12 year old group had a special guest reader Chief Steele from the Chickasha Police Department. Chief Steele did an amazing job; the children loved hearing him read the story “Elizabeth Queen of the Seas” by Lynne Cox. He really brought this true elephant seal tale alive for the children. There were 33 children participating in this

program and we ended the program with water relay races. The games were a splash! 😊

The landscaping at the Library continues this week. Drive by and see the transformation. Thank you City Council for supporting this important beautification project.

Also attached is the July Library newsletter.

Administration

Saturday, June 25 the City will be hosted Railroad Roots Live! at the Rock Island Depot celebrating our railroad and transportation heritage. Although we did not have the size of crowd we had hoped for, all who came had a great time. The Kid’s Station included bounce houses, art stations and a slip and slide to help cool off. The Union Pacific line provided a locomotive for display and folks wandered in and out of the depot to check out its history. The Sugar Free All Stars were a big

hit with the kids and all three bands on the main stage did a great job. Staff has already started to debrief the event and make adjustments for next year.

Parks and Recreation

Repairs have finally been completed at the swimming pool and the pool has been turned back over to the YMCA. They have informed us that it will be open starting next Tuesday.

Crews have been working hard at Shannon Springs Park to get ready for the traditional 4th of July fireworks show, which will be enhanced with food trucks and bands starting at 3:00 in the afternoon and playing until dusk. There will also be a rock climbing wall, water slide and we will be rolling out the giant Adirondack chair. Come and have your picture taken in the latest addition to our parks. The chair can be moved from park to park, so look for it at all of our special events.

On July 7, Chickasha High School will be the host of the Drum and Bugle Corp competition with some of the premier drum and bugle corps teams in America presenting their shows in a judged performance. This is a ticketed event with all the proceeds going to local band programs. You can purchase tickets on line, at Ross Home Health Care or at City Hall. General admission tickets are \$10 and 50-yard line seats are \$15. This is a tremendous value for some of the best bands in the country.



Special thanks to Parks and Recreation crews who spent two days assisting with the Community Garden. They did a great job removing grass and rototilling between the rows. Much appreciated! There will be a work day at the garden this Saturday morning. Come and join the fun and you, too, can share in the harvest.

Community Development

There are a number of developments at various stages of the process. The color coded stages are represented by: Green – completed; Red – Halted; Yellow – In process; and Gray – Incomplete. The stages of the development are above the identified project.



Chickasha Travel Plaza – 2200 W Highway 62 – Dirt work continues. Holes being prepared for stormwater retention areas.



Grady County Fairgrounds Indoor Arena – The main steel beams continue to be erected. West wall beginning to take shape.



Bordwine Development @ 4322 S. 4th Street – Painting underway.



Teague Body Shop – 1305 E. Choctaw –Certificate of Occupancy issued.



Fairfield Inn – 2816 S. 4th Street – No movement. City manager has reached out to the owner. Awaiting a response.



Chisholm Trail Phase 1 retail area 200 E. Grand – Erecting steel. Stormwater drainage system partially installed.



Reese Home Sales Office – 1105 W. Choctaw – Basically complete except the parking lot and landscaping. Contractor back from vacation.



Xpress Urgent Care Facility – 411 W. Grand Avenue – Brick work continues.



Subway – 1525 S. 4th Street – Curbing and approach poured.



New restaurant (Legends) – 3525 S. 4th Street- Bids being taken for the parking lot.



New Life Christian Church – 1828 S. 13th Street - Permit picked up.



Billy Sims Restaurant – 1820 S. 4th Street – Certificate of Occupancy issued.



Grady Memorial Hospital – 2200 W. Iowa Avenue – Fire sprinkler inspection completed. Above ceiling inspection completed.



Canadian Valley Technology Center – 1401 Michigan Avenue - Permit issued.



Bank of Commerce – 2401 Ponderosa Drive – Permit issued.



First Baptist Church – 324 W. Colorado Avenue – Plumbers on site to start new restrooms.



Bouncin' Around – 2409 Ponderosa – Permit issued.



Best Western Plus – 400 S. Grand – Site plan submitted. Plat process started.

You may be aware that the City has been enforcing its updated code enforcement regulations that include codes related to the exterior of houses. As a result, we issued more than 500 letters to residents and landlords giving them 180 days to bring such issues into compliance. As part of this cleanup efforts we have offered income-eligible home owners to apply for assistance. If they are eligible we can offer them paint and supplies and volunteer assistance in bringing the property up to code. We have received more than 20 applications so far and we are in the process of evaluating each one.

We have several volunteer groups signed up and a number of solo volunteers as well. We are designating the following Saturdays as Paint Days: July 16, July 23, August 13 and August 20. The City will supply all the paint and supplies. If you would like to volunteer and you have some carpentry skills, please let me know because we have a few houses that need a little more than paint. We also need

for you to bring ladders to the event. You may also invite family members or friends to assist, too.

Please contact the City Manager's office or Community Development if you are interested in participating. Let us know if you are signing up as an individual or as a team. Finally, let us know which date works best for you (and your team) and we will get you set up with the right project.

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