

# CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

September 17, 2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 17<sup>th</sup> – Kilgore Area Chamber Golf Classic
- September 18<sup>th</sup> – Christ Fest at Kilgore City Park
- September 25<sup>th</sup> – Kilgore Cruise Night Downtown
- **September 28<sup>th</sup> – City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.**
- Oktober 16<sup>th</sup> – KILGORE OKTOBERFEST!!! 1 – 9 P.M. in Historic Downtown Kilgore

## PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- The City's Water Utilities Superintendent, Kevin Olson, was offered a career opportunity as the Public Works Director of Palestine. He will be greatly missed, but we are proud of him and this great accomplishment!
- Over the weekend, BigHead Trail volunteers performed final clearing of the future Pump Track site which is located between the Dog Park and the Dudley Trailhead on Creekside Trail. This week the Street Department used the two rain days to clear the green waste and begin dirt work.
- Public Works is forming and pouring a large concrete slab in the city yard to use as a permanent site for materials storage. Jersey barriers will separate the various materials.
- Water Field crew repaired two water main breaks on Harris St. There have been four main breaks on this line over the last few months.
- Brush trucks and mowing are back on track after being slowed down due to illness.
- Mowing and clean up has begun at the Hwy 135 Soccer and Softball fields in preparation for the upcoming soccer season.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

- Members of the Rescue Unit completed over 20 hours of hands-on training in vehicle extrication, landing zone set up, and hazardous materials in August and September.
- KPD Detectives received a call from Texas Rangers who were working a double abduction. They asked our staff to check cameras at Walmart to confirm the possible sighting from the night before. Detectives knew checkout time was nearing at hotels, and decided to quickly to check hotels. They caught the suspect loading his car with the children at Motel 6. A few more minutes, and he would have driven away.
- KPD recently worked a murder on Miles St. Within the first 30 minutes, a suspect profile was developed and part of our staff began looking for the possible suspect. He was found and arrested in Tyler that morning. The investigation revealed a second suspect, who was arrested in Tyler that afternoon.
- KPD cooked hamburgers at the Homecoming Tailgate party and donated the proceeds to the Football boosters.
- KPD had been provided a crime alert on some suspects who were engaged in multiple vehicle burglaries in Bullard. Officer Greener observed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle and stopped them. Arrests were made and Bullard PD came to our department to interview the suspects and were able to clear multiple cases.
- KPD is currently down three officers in Patrol and we have an upcoming retirement. Another staff member has applied for DPS and if successful will start their academy in February.
- The Fire Department was honored by various groups on 9/11, including an event at Harris Street Park.

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- The Planning and Zoning Board met on September 15<sup>th</sup> for a zoning change at 404 N. Henderson Blvd. The item was tabled and will be placed on the agenda again for the October board meeting.
- The Planning Department is beginning to analyze population data from the 2020 census.
- The Planning and Zoning Board is still in need of 3 members. You can apply [here](#).
- Certificates of Occupancy for Murphy Oil USA and CEFCO were both issued and both are open for business.

## LIBRARY

- The Kilgore Public Library is collecting local ghost stories for a spooky [event](#) in October.
- Calling all adults interested in a book club- please fill out our short survey [here](#).
- Bilingual Story Time began last week: Thursdays at 4pm for ages 2-5.
- Avatar Academy was this week. Click [here](#) for the video.

## QUALITY OF LIFE/TOURISM

- Visit Kilgore attended and promoted Kilgore to attendees of the Dallas Travel & Adventure Show last weekend. Visit Kilgore, along with other destinations from Texas, shared a large exhibit booth under Team Texas.
- We updated the Historic Downtown Kilgore guide showcasing places to eat, shop, visit, and other services.

### KPD Homecoming Tailgate Party



### Pump Track Progress

