

July 22, 2018

Good afternoon all...

The next Council meeting is Tuesday, July 24, 1:30 p.m., at city hall. [Click here to see the agenda](#)

- (1) [4D Resolution to create a pilot program to incent up to ten downtown housing units](#)
- (2) [4E Resolution amending FY18 budget to appropriate funding to \(a\) Create the Biloxi Coding Academy, \(b\) Downtown Housing Incentive Pilot Program, \(c\) Downtown Façade and Redevelopment Program Administration, \(d\) appropriate funds for Biloxi's Waterfront at Point Cadet: planning, engineering, and development project pursuant to a tidelands grant awarded for this purpose, and \(e\) provide for City's Economic Development Security Fund to make inter-fund loans for initial funding for certain parts of these programs](#)

#### Other meetings...

The Development Review Committee (DRC)	<a href="#">See agenda</a>	(Wednesdays, as necessary)
The Architectural & Historical Review Commission (AHRC)	<a href="#">See agenda</a>	(Second and fourth Thursdays)
The Planning Commission	No meeting	(First and third Thursdays)

#### Building the budget for FY19...

The city's fiscal year runs from October 1 – September 30. The mayor and his administrative team typically begin the budgeting process during April or May, prepare a draft budget for Council review/comment in late July, schedule a budget workshop or two, or three... present it for Council review/comment to iron out differences or significant concerns, then set the date for and conduct a Public Hearing on the Budget in late August or early September. That Public Hearing is for your comments *before* the Council votes to approve the budget. You can, of course, mail your comments to City Hall, P.O. Box 429, Biloxi, MS 39533.

Spreadsheets that help me, to some extent, put budget figures in perspective: [Budget, by Department](#)  
[Energy Costs](#) [Mills Levied](#) [Legal Debt Margin](#) [FY17 CAFR/Audit](#) [Previous CAFRs/Audits](#)

#### From your Fire Department... and, it's FREE...

Were you aware that the Biloxi Fire Department will install smoke detectors/alarms in your home for **FREE**?  
Contact Deputy Chief Vincent Payne, 228.435.6200 or [vpayne@biloxi.ms.us](mailto:vpayne@biloxi.ms.us)  
[See/Print the Request Form](#) [Smoke Alarm Safety Tips](#)

#### Short Term Rentals...

The demand for short term rentals is a growing trend, particularly in tourist towns. You'll find listings online through [VRBO \(Vacation Rental by Owner\)](#), [Homes To Go](#), and similar websites. So, what is a short term rental? Biloxi's Land Development Ordinance defines a short term rental as *a dwelling unit that may or may not be in contained in a building with rooms or suites of rooms and may or may not contain kitchen facilities. Short term rentals are subject to a transient vacation rental agreement of less than 30 days.* They are permitted by right in some zones, permitted in some zones as a Conditional Use, and not permitted at all in other zones.

To operate lawfully in Biloxi, you must apply through the Community Development office; they'll be able to answer your questions and offer guidance. There are property owners operating unlawfully by renting out their property for less than 30 days, typically, as a vacation rental for a week or two. They don't have a city permit and they're not paying taxes... and that's a problem. Thinking about operating a short term rental? [Click here to read more](#)

#### Briarfield subdivision, behind the Surf Style store on Highway 90...

- The blue and green "mark up" paint behind the Surf Style store are utility reference marks for Centerpoint Gas. Centerpoint has applied for a city permit to repair non-emergency gas line leaks.
- The process to install speed bumps, possibly a speed table, on Mercury Lane is moving forward in an effort to slow traffic from Maison d'Orleans through the subdivision to Highway 90. Bids were received at the end of last week... I'll keep you posted as more information becomes available.

#### Mississippi Power and tree trimming...

Mississippi Power has a contractor out trimming trees, as is done every few years, in west Biloxi. I've seen the comments on facebook by folks who are upset by the degree of trimming. I inquired... Mississippi Power Company & Coast Electric Power Association are not required to get permits to trim limbs necessary to provide safe clearance of their utility lines. Certain clearances of adjacent vegetation are mandatory depending on the size/capacity of the power lines. They are required by the Public Service Commission to provide dependable power to citizens.

**This week's podcast** [Listen](#) (Blues over Biloxi info with Jerry Taranto)

**Have a question? Send it to me...**

**Tired of receiving the Ward 5 eBlast? Let me know and I'll remove you from the distribution list.**

Hope you enjoyed the air show as much as I did!

Paul

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