

August 12, 2018

Good evening all...

A Budget Workshop (open to the public) is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14, 1:30 p.m., at city hall. Topics to be covered: Departmental budgets and, if time permits, proposed [Capital Projects, FY19](#).

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting is Tuesday, August 21, 1:30 p.m., at city hall. (The Council does not meet the second and fifth Tuesdays of the month.)

Other meetings/agendas...

[Development Review Committee \(DRC\)](#) (Wednesdays, as necessary)

Architectural & Historical Review Commission (Second and fourth Thursdays) No meeting

Planning Commission (First and third Thursdays) Meets Thursday, August 16, 2:00; agenda not posted Friday.

Sports Hall of Fame... (Bmail)

[Know any inductees in this year's Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame?](#) Eric Fortenberry, Glenn Lamas, Johnny "Red" Wetzel, Art Bressler, Marvin "Bubba" Dickey, and Mark Barhanovich join some of Biloxi's finest his year. Join us for their induction, Sunday, August 26, 5:00 p.m., at the Biloxi Civic Center; there's no charge to attend.

[See their pics of inductees \(facebook\)](#) [Read about past inductees](#)

Budget watch...

As the budget discussions progress, budget figures will change, both as a result of the discussions and because projections of revenue and expenditures for the last two months of FY18 (August and September) become a bit clearer.

If you're following the budget discussions, make note of what you feel strongly about, positive and/or negative, and share that with the administration and council during the Budget Public Hearing (date to be determined). Don't complain about the city's budget *after* it's been voted on... make your concerns known *before* the budget's voted on.

For budget links at my web site that may interest/inform you, [click here](#) and scroll down, left corner. I've recently added two budget documents to my web page, [Proposed Departmental Budget Summary, FY19](#) and [Combined Funds Statement \(General Fund only\)](#).

Howard Avenue infrastructure update...

Hemphill (contractor) continues placing sanitary sewer on Howard Ave at the Benachi intersection (in front of Burger Burger restaurant). Hemphill is beginning to head west with the sewer on Howard Ave towards the parking lot of the Public Safety Building.

While this is occurring, Hemphill will bring in a second (2nd) crew (at the City's request) to install a short run of sanitary sewer from Querens Ave. to Howard Ave, and then head east on Howard Ave. to meet up with first (1st) crew at the parking lot of the Public Safety Building.

After that, Hemphill will work east placing sanitary sewer on Howard Ave. until they reach Benachi Ave, south of Howard. *This work is expected to be through the end of September, weather permitting.*

Hemphill's work on Benachi Ave. and Howard Ave. was slowed significantly because AT&T was unaware of and/or did not inform the City of two (2) major duct banks with multiple fiber optic cables that intersect and interfere with placement of the sewer.

The work on Benachi Ave, south of Howard Ave., will be a major disruption as there will be no through traffic. This is deep sewer installation work that will effectively close the entire road width; there will be significant trimming of the trees on this street so heavy equipment can maneuver.

A special Public Meeting (date still to be determined) will be held for all residents, businesses, and school on Benachi Ave. within the next two (2) or three (3) weeks to detail the pending work. "Story boards" showing the work will be available for viewing by the public at that meeting.

Bits & Pieces...

- ♦ [Howard Ave. progress video \(45 seconds\), August 08/08/18 \(facebook, Bmail\)](#) Project completion date is October.
- ♦ Residents of **The Enclave and Audubon Place**: City engineers are pricing erosion control for the drainage swale between these subdivisions. A follow-up meeting with the representative committee for these subdivisions will be conducted once the engineers have a better idea of the possible costs.
- ♦ **Briarfield subdivision**: (A) The speed table (concrete) for Mercury Lane was approved; I'll share the installation timeline once it's determined.. (B) A short term rental has been approved on Briarfield Avenue.
- ♦ [Mississippi Power rates to increase 9%, starting in September.](#) (Sun Herald)
- ♦ In case you missed the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) report concerning the Tour Bus – Train collision in Biloxi 17 months ago... [NTSB: Failure to fix rail crossing led to fatal bus crash \(Sun Herald\)](#) [Read the City's statement regarding the NTSB findings](#)
- ♦ Interested in pickleball lessons? Contact Tom Linenberger, 228.596.4164. [What is pickleball?](#)

♦ The Biloxi Elite Swim Team will hold tryouts for its short course season on Monday, Aug. 20 , Wednesday, Aug. 22 and Thursday, Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. each day. Tryouts will be at the Biloxi Natatorium and swimmers must be able to swim 25 yards. To visit the team's website, [click here](#).

West Biloxi Boardwalk at night...



On the new West Biloxi Boardwalk, looking west; pretty as a picture. No date has been set yet for the ribbon cutting.

- ♦Traffic/Road closures for the week ahead [See the list](#)
- ♦This week's podcast [Listen](#) (Budget talk; other news and notes)

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.

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