

City Elections

Elections for the Fulton City Council are Tuesday, April 9, 2013. Elections will be held at the Fulton Presbyterian Church, 311 North 9th Street, from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Candidates:

Mayor

(unopposed)
Larry Russell

City Clerk

No Candidate

1st Ward Alderperson

(unopposed)
Gene Field

2nd Ward Alderperson

(2 seats open, unopposed)
Dan Nederhoff
Margaret Crosthwaite

3rd Ward Alderperson

(opposed)
Sue Van Kampen
Warren Juist

4th Ward Alderperson

(unopposed)
Howard Van Zuiden



City of Fulton
415 11th Avenue
Fulton, IL 61252

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2013

Issue 22

www.cityoffulton.us

815-589-2616 phone

815-589-4421 fax

Hours:

Monday - Friday

8am to 4pm

City Hall closes at 3pm
on the 20th of the month.

Payments can be made at anytime by using the small drop box on the west side of the building. Automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account is also available. Stop by City Hall for details.

From the Mayor's Desk....

CITY BUDGET PROJECTIONS

May 1 begins each budget year for the City. Budget workshops will begin soon. Here's a look ahead.

Operating Budget:

We are looking at a balanced budget for the current year. At the end of November which covers the first 8 months of the budget year, we can expect 73% of total annual tax levy income. With over \$1.2 million received, income is slightly ahead of projection. That means that we can expect a balanced budget based on a previous track record of staff doing a good job of keeping costs under budget.

Reserve Funds:

Rebuilding Tax Levy Reserves which were drawn down when the recession hit in 2009 remains a critical goal. Each of the past two years have allowed us to add \$75,000 to these Reserves. Another two years at that rate will fully restore these Reserves. We are on track to rebuild these Reserves.

Sales Tax

Sales tax could take a hit this upcoming year with two recent retail business closures with no replacements announced. This is coupled with a lack of new commercial development on other available sites. And the national economy and rising health care costs could easily draw us into a double-dip recession.

Continued 

Both our Fulton Retail Development Corporation and our Chamber of Commerce continue to do good jobs of promoting the City and funding improvements. The good news is that this year's sales tax receipts thus far are only slightly below last year's. Regarding growth from a potential prison opening, the key word there is potential and nothing more. We are just as likely to see another national recession.

Property Tax:

We will strive again this next year to keep the City share of property taxes under \$ 1 per day for a typical residence. Similarly, we will strive to keep water, sewer and garbage collection fees to less than those in neighboring communities, even while our staff and contractors complete major street and system upgrades this year and next.

We should credit Fulton's good fortunes to a number of stable local employers, a variety of successful retailers, a dedicated staff and sound planning over the years. Please show them your appreciation.

- Mayor Russell

Emergency Siren

The city hopes to have installed at the 10th Avenue Park a new emergency siren before spring. Through the efforts and findings of our Emergency Operations Plan committee a request was brought before the city council for action. The city unanimously voted to move forward with this new emergency notification. The new system will have a battery backup and will be tested monthly.

For Fulton, IL and Whiteside County
Election Information visit
www.whiteside.org

FULTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

We are proud of our community and we need your assistance in keeping it safe and free of vandalism. The program "See Something, Say Something" simply asks citizens to notify the police when they see something unusual, suspicious or if damage is occurring. Call the police immediately. Please continue to assist us in keeping Fulton a safe place to live, work and visit. Call (815)-589-3617 or Emergency 911.

Check out the City of Fulton's Webpage. The NIXLE registration link has now been added to assist you in signing up for this free service. NIXLE is a community notification system that allows your police department to send you alerts via an email or a text. The police can then notify the public of a water main break, gas leak, bridge closures or other emergency information that could affect public safety. Look for the NIXLE icon and sign up!

- Chief J. Rhoades



River Bend Senior Center

The Senior Center is located at the corner of 4th St. & 10th Ave. The Center is open Monday through Friday, 10am to 2pm. For a minimal fee, lunches are provided every Wednesday and Friday from 11:30am to 12:30pm. Transit services are available by calling 1-888-622-9230. **Lunches and transit services are provided to people of all ages.**

Building Permits

Building permits are required for all new construction and for remodeling work which changes the size, area, outline, location on lot, height of structure, yard requirements or use/occupancy of any building. No building permit is required for usual maintenance or repairs, including roofing and siding. There are several other instructions prior to construction to abide by such as locating underground utilities, locating property lines, providing a legal description of property, plus much more.

Building Permit Applications & Instructions are available at Fulton City Hall.

Permit Fees (based on value of project):

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>
\$25	\$0 - \$1,000
\$40	\$1,001 - \$5,000
\$55	\$5,001 - \$25,000
\$100	\$25,001 - \$50,000
\$250	\$50,001 - \$100,000
\$500	\$100,001 - \$250,000
\$750	\$250,001 - \$500,000
\$1,000	Over \$500,001

"Lincoln Highway Centennial: 1913-2013 Travel & Tribute"

The Lincoln Highway was the first transcontinental highway spanning from Times Square in New York City to San Francisco, California. The highway travels through Fulton via 15th Avenue and 4th Street.

Fulton Recycling Day

Saturday, April 20, 2013

River Bend Senior Center (old fire station)
8am to 11am

FREE - Fulton Residents Only (61252)

- * Electronic Waste
- * Appliances
- * Battery Disposal (cars, boats, golf carts)
- * Document Shredding
- * Newspapers
- * Tires (no farm tires) - 6 ton capacity
- * Medication Disposal

For a complete list of acceptable e-waste items please visit:

www.cityoffulton.us/fulton-events.html

Fulton Events: February 15 - May 15, 2013

- Feb. 17 Program @ Martin House Museum
 - Feb. 20 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Feb. 21 Kindergarten Round-up @ Unity Christian
 - Feb. 26 Book Discussion @ Schmaling Library
 - Feb. 27 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Mar. 6 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Mar. 8 Athletic Boosters Trivia Night @ Manny's Too
 - Mar. 8 Friends for Charity Spaghetti Supper @ Julie's Café
 - Mar. 13 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Mar. 14 Biz After 5 @ Community State Bank
 - Mar. 20 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Mar. 25 Program @ Windmill Cultural Center
 - Mar. 27 Wild Winter Wednesday Program @ WCC
 - Apr. 14 Program @ Windmill Cultural Center
 - Apr. 20 Fulton Recycling Day
 - Apr. 30 Program @ Windmill Cultural Center
 - May 3-4 Dutch Days Festival
 - May 3-5 Dutch Days @ Heritage Canyon
- For more details: visit www.cityoffulton.us

Capital Improvement Program Update

Rose Lane received a new water main. Numerous breaks had occurred in this area over the years and the city felt a complete replacement was necessary. Street asphalt overlay will occur in 2013 to complete the project.

Various streets, based on their condition, received an asphalt overlay in 2012.

Cleaning and videoing of sewers, specifically in the southern part of our community was started in 2012 and will be completed in 2013. This information will allow the city to repair only the areas that have deteriorated. Some of this work may be accomplished with a slip-lining process that can be done above ground.

New projects for 2013 will be voted upon in early March.

Well/Filter Upgrades: Well #4, a shallow well, and new well #5, a deep well, along with a new pressure filter will go online this spring. An open house will be advertised once the plant is activated. This will ensure the city excellent water capacity and quality for decades.