

CITY OF LENNOX
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CITY OF Lennox

Reminders:

- Asphalt repair and gravel street grading will continue throughout the spring and summer as the weather allows. Gravel grading in particular has been a challenge this spring due to soft conditions in the road base. The Streets Department will continue to work at making improvements to these conditions, and appreciates your patience in this matter.

Important Dates:

July 3 to July 4: Lennox Independence Day Celebration (Multiple Events)

July 8: Comprehensive Plan Task Force Meeting, 6:00 PM at City Hall

July 8: Regular City Council Meeting

July 9: Great Plains Zoo Zoomobile, 9:30 AM, Westerman Park

July 11: Sun Day in the Park, 10:30 AM, Westerman Park

July 16: Bug Day, 10:30 AM, Westerman Park

July 18: Harry Potter Days, 10:30 AM, Westerman Park

July 22: Regular City Council Meeting, 7:00 PM at City Hall

July 23: Archery Day, 9:30 AM, Westerman Park (must be at least 7 years old to participate)

June 25: Planning and Zoning Commission (Tentative), 7:00 PM at City Hall

Thursdays in Summer: Municipal Band Concert, 8:00 PM, Park Bandshell

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Summer Construction Update

As Lennox enters the summer season, two City projects were under way during the first week of June! The swimming pool construction team arrived on-site the last week of May, and was busy excavating the pool site the first week of June. This project will continue throughout the summer, and will lead to increased truck traffic near the pool on Main Street, 6th Avenue, and Park Drive. Residents, and children in particular, are reminded to keep a close eye out for truck and heavy equipment traffic as they enjoy the park amenities this summer.

The Lennox Pool Committee continues to seek additional donations for new pool amenities, such as slides, benches, and lifeguard

equipment. Anyone interested in donating to the Lennox Pool Fund can contact City Hall at (605) 647-2286 or Britney Mower at mower.britney@gmail.com.

The Central Basin 2 Project was also underway as of June 6, starting at the corner of 5th and Academy. Phase I of this project will continue through mid-August, with other work progressing along Elm, Cedar, and Juniper Streets and 4th and 3rd Avenues. Residents in these areas are encouraged to contact City Hall to provide an email address for bi-weekly updates on construction progress and important notices for mail, garbage service, and other access issues.

The Central Basin 2 Project will include new sewer, storm

sewer, and water lines in order to replace some of the oldest lines in Lennox. New streets will be constructed as well. Residents should note that sump pump collection lines will also be installed, giving residents a new, underground solution for sump pump discharge throughout the year.

Last but not least, the City is working to secure bids for repairs on many streets that were damaged in the spring thaw. The City Engineer estimates these repairs will cost approximately \$360,000. Once a bid is awarded, the City will work with the selected contractor to complete the repairs as soon as is practical.

Lennox Tax, Utility Rates Competitive with Region

At the May 28 Regular City Council Meeting, residents had an opportunity to view a comparative analysis of Lennox's water, sewer, and tax rates compared against other communities in the region.

When comparing taxes to other communities, the City analyzed both property and sales tax revenues along with property values and tax rates. One of the challenges facing Lennox continues to be commercial

business, as Lennox is significantly disadvantaged compared to similarly sized communities. As a result, the property tax rate tends to be higher than other communities. Unfortunately, Lennox also does not have many properties with above-average valuations, meaning even property tax receipts at a higher rate are lower than in other communities. This is a great reminder of the importance of buying local,

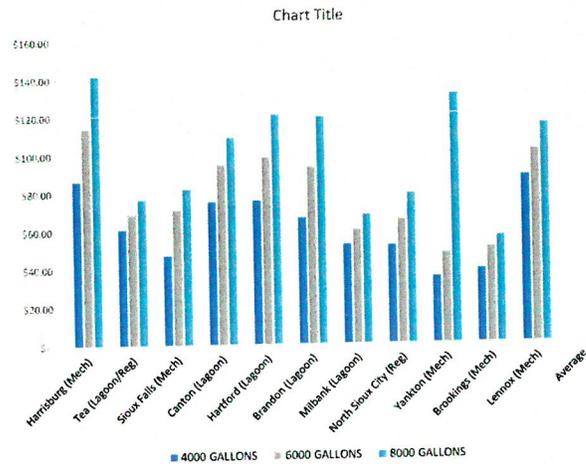
as those dollars support a number of important programs. In terms of water and sewer rates, rates in Lennox combined are generally competitive with neighboring towns as well as similar towns throughout the state. The notable exception to this is water rates, which are higher than many other communities. This is likely due to the amount of debt service on past

improvements and additions to our water distribution system. Sewer rates in particular are very competitive. Mechanical Wastewater plants such as we have in Lennox are traditionally

more expensive to operate than lagoon systems, yet Lennox's sewer rates are lower than many South Dakota towns with lagoon systems. This is a great benefit for

both residents and businesses in Lennox. As always, if you have any questions about how rates are established or any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall.

Water/Sewer Rates Combined



Taxes per Capita

