

City of Dallas Center Newsletter



March 1, 2010

by: Cindy Riesselman

City Information

City Hall
1502 Walnut St., PO Box 396
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM M-F
www.dallascenter.com

Library
1308 Walnut St., PO Box 521
Monday 9:00-5:00
Tuesday-Thursday 9:00-7:00
Friday 9:00-5:00
Saturday 9:00-12:00
www.dallascenter.lib.ia.us

Phone Numbers

City Hall 992-3725
Police Dept (non emergency) 992-3086
Fire Dept (non emergency) 992-4292
Library 992-3185

City Officials

Mitch Hambleton, Mayor 992-3159
mayor@dallascenter.com
Bill Ellerman 992-3005
bellerman@dallascenter.com
Mike Kidd 992-3648
mkidd@dallascenter.com
Alex MacConnell 992-3174
amacconnell@dallascenter.com
Gary Stevens 992-3912
gstevens@dallascenter.com
Dan Willrich 992-3891
dwillrich@dallascenter.com

*Next City Council Meeting
March 9th at 7:00 PM*

Open Burning is allowed from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (*the fire must be out by 8:00 PM!*) until April 30th. Please burn only when the wind is calm and do not burn wet debris that causes excess smoke. **Absolutely NO burning on the city streets and never leave a fire unattended.**

Time to trim those trees!

When trimming trees overhanging the street the branches must be at least 15' above the street and 8' above the sidewalk!

March 2010 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 ♦	3	4 ♪	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 ♪	12	13
14	15	16 ♦	17	18 ♪	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 ♪	26	27
28	29	30 ♦	31			

♪ Garbage Pick-Up

♦ Single Stream Recycling Pick-Up

March 14th - Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 17th - St. Patrick's Day

March 20th - First Day of Spring!!

Mayor's Message

Good news and bad news. First the good news - the City Council was able to lower our City tax levy from \$12.15 to \$11.98 for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The bad news is that the City received an overall valuation increase of 8%. What this means is that while our tax asking per thousand decreased, your overall taxes in dollars will be going up. As the Council worked through our budget, they really did a good job in holding and cutting expenses where possible knowing of the valuation increase and the impact it would have. There will be a public hearing at 7:00 PM on March 9th if you'd like to provide input before the Council votes on the matter.

We're in the initial stages of developing a capital improvement plan. That plan will provide for a prioritization of major capital improvements the City may consider as well as the timing and potential impact on future tax askings. All of our meetings are open to the public. If you have thoughts you'd like considered, please let me know.

By now you've seen the drilling rig on the south side of Highway 44 in western Dallas Center. The Iowa Stored Energy Park is drilling the first of two monitoring wells to test the feasibility of their air storage concept. The drilling on the first well is expected to be completed by the end of March.

I do have regular hours in City Hall Wednesday mornings from 7:00-8:00 AM. I'm there every Wednesday with the exception of the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Feel free to stop in and share your concerns, ideas or just to talk.

Mitch Hambleton
Dallas Center Mayor
mayor@dallascenter.com

Got a Spring Building Project? Don't forget to obtain your **building permit** before you start! Permits are required for additions, sheds, decks, sidewalks, drive-ways, fences, remodeling — *just about anything that requires tools and sweat!* Be sure to allow approximately five days for processing the permit. If you have any questions as to whether or not you need a building permit, call City Hall at 992-3725.

Don't forget Iowa One Call (1-800-292-8989).

Call before you dig!

Library News and Activities

- ✿ There are no planned Spring Break activities at the library but we will be open regular hours. Besides books, movies and magazines to check out there are board games you can use. Meet your friends here and enjoy some fun-we'll even put on the popcorn.
- ✿ Special activities the second Saturday of each month. For March - LIVE! Fabulous folk music from 10:00-11:00 AM, crafts for all ages, and knitting instruction.
- ✿ March 2, 10:00 AM - special Bird Buddies story by Dallas County Conservation
- ✿ March 9, 10:00 AM - story time
- ✿ March 13, - second Saturday Family Fun crafts for little kids, big kids and adults, plus a golden treat for all
- ✿ March 13, 10:00 AM - knitting instruction
- ✿ March 16, 10:00 AM - story time
- ✿ March 18, 7:30 PM - book club, Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Burns
- ✿ March 23, 10:00 AM - story time
- ✿ March 30, 10:00 AM - story time
- ✿ March 31, 1:30 PM - early out program - stories, movie, craft and a snack

Automatic bill pay is available for your City water, sewer and garbage bill. If you are interested, please fill out and return to City Hall the enclosed authorization for direct payment form.

Community News

- ✿ **Swimming Pool Pre-Season Family Pass Sale.** Special pricing for the month of March. Family passes for \$60 if bought at one of the local libraries (Dallas Center or Grimes) or at City Hall by March 31st. Family passes are for immediate family living at the same address.
- ✿ Tornado siren testing will resume on the first Saturday morning of each month beginning in March.
- ✿ **Spurgeon Manor Omelet Breakfast.** Made-to-order omelets will be prepared and served by volunteers at the annual Spurgeon Manor Omelet Breakfast on Saturday, March 27th from 7:30-9:30 AM. Also enjoyed with the omelets will be beverages, sweet rolls and fellowship. A free-will donation will be used by the Spurgeon Manor Guild for the benefit of the residents.
- ✿ **Applications for lifeguards** are being taken until March 31st. Applications are available at City Hall and on the website.
- ✿ **Applications for summer recreation director** are still being accepted. At this time we do not have any applications. If we don't get someone, we can not run the skating rink this year.
- ✿ **Grace Church Info-Sunday nights** at 7:00 PM Jr./Sr. "Channel Surfing" join us as we take a look at various pop culture news and society issues; Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Jr./Sr. High "LOL" groups; adult life groups Sunday 12:00 PM lunch and study "Enjoying Your Relationship"; Sunday 6:30 PM a study with John MacArthur, call 992-3235 for location & other information.
- ✿ **Harvest Moon-March 17th**-come celebrate our four year anniversary with Vick and Joe Price, Independent Music Award winners for best new blues CD 2009. No cover.

"Council Corner"

Notes from February 9th Council Meeting

- Council set March 9th as the Public Hearing date on the 2010/2011 budget.
- Council approved Ordinance 415-increasing the monthly residential solid waste collection fee from \$17.00 to \$18.50 effective April 1, 2010.

Complete copies of these minutes are on file at City Hall and on the website.

Change in check policy: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

City-Wide Garage Sale ~ It's spring cleaning time and that means *city-wide garage sale!* The sale date this year is May 15th. We will put together a map of the garage sale addresses at no charge. If you want your address on the map, please fill out the form below and return it to City Hall by April 16th.

City-Wide Garage Sale Application May 15, 2010

Name:
Address:
Partial List of Sale Items:

Please return to City Hall by April 16th