



City of Pacific
300 Hoven Drive
Pacific, MO 63069



Official Newsletter of the City of Pacific December, 2019 www.pacificmissouri.com

Board gives approval to Red Cedar concept plan



The above is an architect's rendering of the planned Red Cedar remodel / renovation work. Patterhn-Ives LCC presented the final concept plan to the Board of Aldermen at its Nov. 19 meeting.

The Board of Aldermen has given approval to a plan for the renovation of the Red Cedar Inn building that includes a Welcome Center and Historical Museum and Genealogy uses for the building. The Board took action after receiving a presentation in November from architect Patterhn-Ives LLC, which was hired in late 2018 to evaluate the building and site and make recommendations for improvements.

The final "Concept Plan" was presented to the Board at the Nov. 19 meeting, and the Board after discussion accepted the plan and directed staff to move forward with a contract for the next phase of the work. A copy of the plan is available on the City website, www.pacificmissouri.com.

The plan envisions renovations to the building which would include demolition of a rear addition to the building, and construction of a new addition that would house ADA accessible bathrooms as well as office and meeting space. The immediate restaurant and bar area would be preserved in its current condition. The main floor area would be ex-

panded to provide more space for the Welcome Center and Museum uses.

The plan also envisions a return to the white brick façade of the original building, and removal of the existing front door vestibule. An outdoor pavilion and other outside site features are also included.

The preliminary cost estimate ranges from \$1 million up to \$1.5 million for the total package. Patterhn-Ives cautioned that this is a preliminary "high level" estimate, with actual costs coming into clearer focus once the project gets into actual design. The City envisions seeking grants to fund much of the project, and Patterhn-Ives presented a listing of federal, state and local grant opportunities with the concept plan.

The City hopes to have the architect under contract for the Phase 2 work at least by January, 2020, with actual renovation / construction tentatively planned to begin in late 2020.

Mark your calendars!

- Dec. 24 & 25, City Hall closed
- Jan. 1, City Hall closed
- Park Board, First Monday, 6:30 p.m.
- Board of Aldermen meetings, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7p.m.
- Coffee with the Mayor, First Friday of each month from 7:30am—8:30am at Little Ireland

Please go to pacificmissouri.com for a Calendar with City meeting dates and other event information

Question / complaint / comment? Call us!

City Hall 636-271-500. Extensions: Code Enforcement 196; Accounts Payable / Park Rentals 211; City Administrator 213; City Collector 214; Utility Billing and Building 215; City Engineer 216; City Clerk 217; Court Clerk 218; Building Inspector 219; Deputy City Clerk 223.

County announces change in local polling places

The Franklin County Clerk's office recently announced changes in the polling places for area voting precincts.

Voters in City of Pacific Wards 1 and 2 will now both vote at the Pacific Eagles Hall, 707 W. Congress.

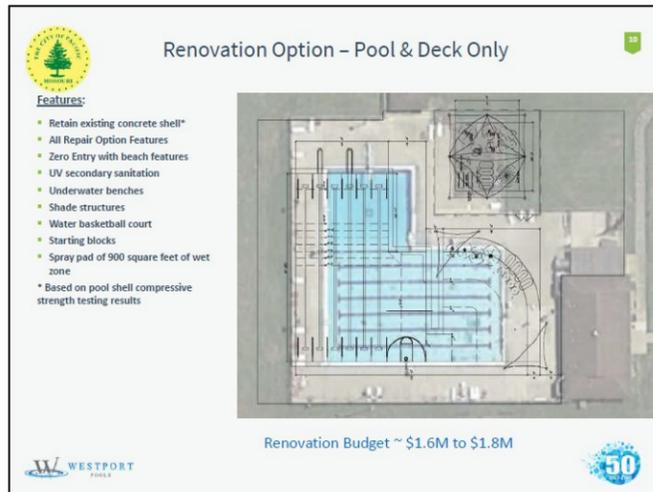
Voters in City of Pacific Ward 3 and Pacific Out-of-Town precinct will now both vote at the Tri-County Community Senior Center, 800 W Union.

Franklin County Clerk Tim Baker said the change was made to consolidate the polling places to save cost and wear and tear on equipment. Letters were mailed out from the Clerk's office in September to inform voters of the change.

If anyone has question about where they vote they can call the Clerk's Office at 636-583-6355.

City receives results of pool audit report

The City is moving forward with further inspections of the Municipal Pool, following the results of a pool audit recently conducted by Westport Pools. Westport was hired earlier this summer to evaluate the pool and make recommendations for repairs / upgrades needed for the 2020 season, as well as options for more significant future renovations and upgrades. The results of the audit were presented to the Park Board at a meeting December 2. Copies of the report are available online at www.pacificmissouri.com.



The above is an excerpt from the pool audit report conducted by Westport Pools. The full report is available at www.pacificmissouri.com.

making on the pool facility, according to the Westport report. If the concrete and underlying soil conditions are in good shape, significant renovations / upgrades to the existing pool shell may be feasible. Westport's report presents options for renovation which include construction of a new zero-entry area to the pool, additional pool swimming lanes, and addition of a new splash pad area.

If the pool shell and soil conditions are not suitable for renovation, then the best option for significant new investment in the pool facility likely would entail a complete re-build of the pool shell, according to the Westport report. The cost of an all-new pool

facility is estimated at around \$2.5 to \$2.8 million. Renovation of the existing pool is in the approximate \$1.5 to \$1.8 million range.

The City will be seeking public feedback on the pool issue and other park needs in early 2020 as part of a Parks Master Plan being conducted by Planning Design Studio. This study is discussed in a separate article elsewhere in this newsletter.

term park improvement priorities listed, with cost estimates and implementation plans.

Get Informed!

The City website allows citizens to receive notifications when certain new items are posted. For example, the full Board of Aldermen meeting packet is posted on the Friday before each meeting. Copies of proposed bills and resolutions, staff reports, and various other information is included in each packet. The City also posts Planning and Zoning Commission meeting packets, and agendas for other Boards and Commissions.

Can't find what you're looking for? Send an email to sroth@pacificmissouri.com and we will post it.

Parks Master Plan work to begin soon; feedback sought

The Board of Aldermen in November awarded a contract to Planning Design Studio, St. Louis, for Parks and Recreation Master Planning to be conducted in 2020.

Planning Design Studio (PDS) was selected from five firms that submitted qualifications for the work. Interviews were conducted by a City committee in early October; representatives of the Board of Aldermen, Park Board and City staff participated in the committee.

The PDS planning study will include a complete inventory / assessment of parks grounds, buildings and facilities. Public input will be sought at various points in the process. The end result will be a final plan with short and long-

Should the City have an appointed Police Chief?

Voters may decide this issue in April, 2020

Should the City of Pacific have an appointed Chief of Police, rather than an elected chief? This is a question that Pacific voters may decide at the April, 2020 polls. The Board of Aldermen is currently considering an ordinance to place this question on the April ballot. The ordinance was given a first reading at the Dec. 3 Board meeting, with final action scheduled for Dec. 17. If approved by the Board, voters will have the following question on the April 7, 2020 ballot:

Shall the City of Pacific, Missouri be permitted to appoint a chief of police, who shall perform all duties required of the marshal by law after April 5, 2022, or such earlier time as the currently elected marshal may resign or otherwise vacate the office?

The initiative has the support of current Chief Matt Mansell, who was last elected in April, 2018 and whose term expires April, 2022. Chief Mansell intends to serve out his current term and has announced plans for retirement. If approved by voters, the new appointed Chief of Police would take office following Chief Mansell's retirement in 2022.

Pacific is one of the few communities in the region that has an elected "marshal" or Chief of Police. If voters agree to make the Chief of Police an appointed position, the City would likely take applications and convene a committee to review applications and conduct interviews. The final selection would be subject to appointment by the Mayor, subject to consent of the Board of Aldermen.

Three homes in the Cedars win awards for Halloween decorations



The Cedars is one of many locations in town that were "spooked out" for Halloween this year, and the City's Beautification Committee recently recognized three Cedars homes in particular for their Halloween decorating efforts: Christy Uder, Aaron Moultrie and Eric Sitz. The residents each received a certificate and plaque for their efforts at a recent meeting of the Pacific Board of Aldermen. Angie Hardcastle, Beautification Committee chair, (at left) and Mayor Steve Myers (right) presented the awards.

Contractor completes Hawthorne paving project

The final phase of the City's 2019 asphalt paving project was completed in October, when Jokerst Paving completed the Hawthorne Subdivision overlay work.

Hawthorne was the final phase of the project, which also included resurfacing of Indian Warpath Drive and a section of W. Union Street. The total contract cost was \$424,195.62, which was slightly less than the original contract amount of \$427,321.02. Cochran Engineering has served as the project manager for the City.

Funding for the 2019 project came from existing Capital Improvements Sales Tax balances. The work was made possible in part by voter approval earlier this year of City "Prop S," a half-cent sales tax for streets and other transportation purposes. The City also received a \$75,000 grant from the Franklin County Transportation Grant program to help fund the work.

City officials thanked residents and business owners for their cooperation with the project. The Board of Aldermen is expected to decide the 2020 paving plan over the next few months. While final plans are not set, the City hopes to be able to bid the work in winter or early spring, with actual construction slated for summer or early fall, 2020.



Jokerst Paving crews are pictured above working on the Hawthorne Subdivision asphalt overlay project. The subdivision's asphalt streets were resurfaced as part of a \$424K contract that also included overlays of Indian Warpath Drive and a section of W. Union Street. The contractor used a technique called "echelon paving" which paves both sides of the street at essentially the same time, eliminating a joint or seam between the two sides of the street.

Residents should be careful with online utility bill payment vendors

The City is advising residents to be careful with using third party online bill payment services, following recent issues with certain online payment vendors not affiliated with the City.

The City has received recent complaints from residents who used a third party online service to pay utility bills, which were then received after the due date by the City. Residents said they believed the third party vendor had some relationship with the City, when in fact that was not the case. The result was the resident believed that by making payment through the third-party vendor that the City bill had been paid at that time, when in fact the third party vendor mails a paper check to the City instead. This means that it may take several days for the City to actually receive payment from such a vendor.

The City does not control these third party vendors, or have a relationship with them. Resident should understand that the vendor also charges a fee for the service, which may be more than what the City charges through its existing service. The City's own online bill pay option gives customers the option to pay water and sewer utility bills at any time using the online portal. Please go to www.pacificmissouri.com and hit the "Bill Pay" button to access the service. The City is also accepting credit cards and debit cards for payment at City Hall during regular business hours. The new systems were rolled out earlier this year.

HELP WANTED!

City looking to hire new Parks Superintendent

The City of Pacific has begun taking applications for a new position to oversee operation and maintenance of the City's parks facilities, buildings and grounds.

The new position, titled "Park Superintendent," will have responsibility for the day-to-day operation and management of the parks system. The position will be responsible for a wide range of operation and maintenance tasks, and will oversee and supervise other park staff as assigned.

The position will also have responsibility for managing park payroll, bidding and procurement and other administrative tasks. The position will be the primary point of contact for the City in dealing with the general public, sports groups and other organizations using the parks, and park vendors and suppliers. The position will work closely with the Park Board, City administration and the Board of Aldermen in the management and oversight of the park

system. The position will work out of City Hall but will coordinate closely with the City's Public Works crews, and will be available to work on Public Works projects as may be necessary.

The ideal candidate will have a degree in parks and recreation and / or demonstrated experience in parks operation and maintenance, preferably in a municipal setting. The ideal candidate will have capability of handling basic administrative tasks in addition to the operation and maintenance tasks required.

The closing date for applications is Jan. 10, 2020. A copy of the complete job description, employment application and other information is available on the City website, www.pacificmissouri.com

Lisa Lane project to be constructed

The Lisa Lane extension project should begin this winter, following a recent Board of Aldermen contract award.

The Board awarded the contract to KJ Unnerstall Construction, Washington, which had the lowest of seven bids received. The total contract amount is \$131,466.10.

The project calls for extension of Lisa Lane from the current terminus west of Flier Drive to connect to Indian Warpath Drive. The project includes a sidewalk and storm water improvements. Engineering Surveys and Services is the project engineer.

The City is using funds that had been held in escrow from a prior development plan as part of the funding for the project.

City gives approval to new industrial building plan

The Board of Aldermen recently gave approval to a development plan that calls for construction of a 31,000 square foot light industrial building at property on Route 66 Business Parkway. The site is on the east side of town, across from the Pacific Plaza and adjacent to the new Insulite Glass building.

Route 66 Business Park LLC is the developer. The new building is being marketed for sale or lease and may be split into two approximate 15K square feet locations. The developer developed the adjacent building and site last year, which was then sold to Insulite Glass, which took occupancy earlier this year.

City hires IT firm to upgrade computer systems / network

The City has hired a new information technology (IT) firm to manage and upgrade the City's computer systems and networks. ArchTechLLC was hired in October following a selection process the City initiated in late summer.

ArchTech is responsible for management of the City Hall and Police Department computer infrastructure. The firm installed a new secure wireless network in November and is implementing a new server and network infrastructure for the Police Department in December. The work also includes replacement / upgrade of several department computer workstations. A new email system and upgrades to the City's office software are in the works for early 2020.



The new Welcome to Pacific sign at Osage and Viaduct Streets is decked out in holiday finery for the season. The sign was a project of the City Beautification Committee and Board of Aldermen, with construction / installation by Rock Solid Landscaping and local artisan Harry Engelhart who handcrafted the metal train and “Welcome to...” signage. Mayor Steve Myers later purchased the Christmas decorations and lights using his own funds as a donation to the City of Pacific. *Thank you to all involved!*

Police issue warning on new scams hitting our area

from Chief Matt Mansell

Citizens please be aware of scams that are hitting our area. In any case, never ever give anyone information on yourself or other family members over the telephone.

The caller may tell you they’re the I.R.S., they may tell you that they have a warrant for your arrest, all kinds of tactics to scare you into releasing personal information. The only thing that these people really want is your credit cards, checking, or even savings account numbers.

The latest scare is that they call and advise you that they have a court summons or papers for you. They advise you to send them five (\$5.00) dollars (or maybe other amounts), and they’ll mail you the court papers. When the victim does this, the scammers clean out the victim’s accounts.

They may tell you a cost that is so small, it doesn’t bother you to send the money. But any amount does matter because they just need to obtain the numbers on your account

(s), then they can take everything you’ve got. Most of these operations are from criminals outside of the United States, and it’s hard for the F.B.I and other Law Enforcement agencies to make arrest on them.

Please remember this: Law Enforcement does not call up a bad guy and tell them we have a warrant for you. We don’t tell these types of people that we’re coming after you. If you ever receive a phone call like one of these, let them come and get you. If the I.R.S. or anyone else has papers for you, let them pay to send them. Why do you have to pay for something you don’t want. DO NOT become a victim.

Most of us were taught to be a nice person. Because of this we have a trust in people. Please, be careful and don’t trust people on the phone with unbelievable or confusing conversations. If someone or something like this happens to you, please feel free to call any Pacific Police Officer and they will assist you.

City accepts donation of used Ameren bucket truck

The City recently received a donation of a used “bucket truck” from Ameren Missouri. The unit is a 2011 Ford F550, with an All-Tech Industries AT-37G bucket, 37-foot reach. The donation is valued at \$22,000.

The City intends to use the truck for maintenance of the City’s street lights and banners, tree trimming and other purposes. The City intends to share use of the vehicle with Meramec Valley R-3 School District via an agreement between the two entities.

Prior to the Ameren donation, the City would contract for certain street light maintenance tasks with a private party. The Ameren donation allows the City to realize some savings with its street light maintenance by utilizing the truck and its own crews.

The Board of Aldermen accepted the donation at its October 1 meeting. City officials expressed thanks and gratitude to Ameren and representative Larry Shroth for securing the donation.

Thank you Ameren!

City renews contract for the annual rodeo

The Board of Aldermen has voted to renew a contract with 5J Rodeo Productions (dba Outlaw Rodeo) for production of the annual Pacific Iron Horse Rodeo event.

The contract extends three years, beginning in 2020, and is in essentially the same form as previous years. The Rodeo Company is responsible for



City Public Works employee Robert Vancil is pictured here working in the City’s new Ameren bucket truck.

providing the performers, livestock and materials and equipment necessary to put on the annual event. The total contract amount (per

year) is \$17,600, the same as the contract that ended with the successful September 2019 event.