

# PACIFIC UPDATE

December 2022

636-271-0500 300 Hoven Dr, Pacific, MO 63069 [www.pacificmissouri.com](http://www.pacificmissouri.com)

## Message From Mayor Filley



Season's greetings! It is hard to believe 2022 is coming to a close. The age-old question has to be asked, where did the year go? For me personally, 2022 involved settling in as your Mayor. Having held an elected official position before has helped tremendously with some of the basic understanding of policies and procedures. However, I will say, there is still a lot for me to learn in this position. I am still as excited today about representing you all and our community as I was the day I placed my name on the ballot. I am looking forward to all of the great things 2023 will have in store for Pacific. We have some big projects beginning, such as improving the intersection at First and Osage, Fourth Street and Osage, and Denton Road bridge. The Red Cedar Inn will be up and running as a welcome center and museum, and plans for several community events with the Pacific Partnership and Pacific Area Chamber of Commerce will work to bring our community together.

As we move into 2023, I want to remind everyone that we, as community leaders, want to hear from you. We want to hear about "the good, the bad and the ugly." Board meetings are an excellent way to express your thoughts and concerns for all to hear. A quick completion of a speaker card and you may have your 5 minutes of "fame". If public speaking is not your forte, then reach out via email, phone or even the "old fashioned" letter.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a very happy new year!

Heather



The following businesses recently chose Pacific and we're proud to welcome them to our community!

MDS Manufacturing LLC- 830 Jefferson St

Bake The Studio LLC- 119 E St. Louis St

The Cigar Vault- 115 W St. Louis St

We Decorate Kakes LLC- 726 W Osage St

Patriot Powder Coating LLC- 2209 Hogan Rd

Fox+Blankie- [www.foxandblankie.com](http://www.foxandblankie.com)



## New visitor center and museum gets a name and logo

With construction winding down this month and the City preparing to start setting up the inside in January, Pacific's new visitor center and museum was officially named the "Red Cedar Inn." Red Cedar Inn is going to be host to a museum featuring the history of Route 66 through Pacific and its surrounding areas. There will also be history on display for the Meramec Valley area, a rotating exhibit area, and a Children's museum with interactive attractions. People of all ages can learn and be engaged. A welcome center and gift shop will also be housed in the Red Cedar Inn. The City is aiming for a late-spring opening of the new facility.



The genealogy center will be located right next-door sharing a building with Parks and Recreation.

You can follow the progress of the Red Cedar Inn, get updates on events, and the museum by following Red Cedar Inn & More on Facebook or visitpacificmo on Instagram.



## Big plans call for more community involvement

The City of Pacific would like to plan some one-day events and weekend festivals for 2023 but needs the help of its citizens. There will be an informational volunteer meeting at City Hall on Thursday, January 5 from 6pm-7pm. Attendance of this meeting does not commit anyone to volunteering but it will give those interested a chance to ask questions or make suggestions. Is there an event you would like to see happen in Pacific? Bring your ideas to the meeting!

One such event, the City-Wide Garage Sale, already has a date set for April 22, 2023. If you are a winter or spring cleaner, consider putting items aside you want to sell at your garage sale. More details to come!

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – **Helen Keller**



## FUN FACT- DID YOU KNOW?

Since 1952, the Nativity scene statues have been placed in the cave opening in the West Osage Bluff face. This Christmas tradition was started by six women from a canasta club who wanted to do something in the community to celebrate the Christmas season. They sat down with the Queens Daughter's, an organization that was formed with a mission to bring Catholic sisters to teach at St. Bridget School, and together they came up with the idea for a life-sized nativity. The original statues cost \$1,000 out of a church mail order magazine. The community and local businesses all donated what they could, and the money was raised \$1 at a time. The ladies persuaded their husbands and sons to climb ladders leaned against the bluff and arrange the large statues up in the cave opening.

Over the years the scene has had many caretakers including the Pacific Chamber of Commerce and a group of downtown business owners. Currently it is managed by the St. Bridget Men's Club who just updated the scene this year.





## City hires new Community Development Clerk



Tiffany Wilson has been hired to fill the Community Development Clerk position at City of Pacific. Tiffany served as the Executive Director for Pacific Area Chamber of Commerce for 8 years before accepting the job at the City.

The community development clerk assists the Community Development Director, the Building Inspector and is secretary to the Planning and Zoning Commission. We are very excited to have Tiffany as part of our team.

## Holiday lights and seasonal events keep growing in Pacific



The City of Pacific hosted its Inaugural Holiday Decorating Contest this year and its citizens and business owners have stepped up the cheer this holiday season. "It has been a great success. Pacific did not disappoint when it came to lighting up with Holiday Spirit," says Kelly O'Malley, Director of Tourism.



The Pacific Partnership's downtown lighting project also helped to dress up our community for the holidays. BigFoot 4x4 Inc. was not to be outdone with their 34' x 50' Monster truck that can be seen at W. St. Louis St and 2nd Street. If you haven't already, we would like to encourage everyone to take a drive around and enjoy the lights through the New Year!

## Winter Weather Ready

Now is a great time to prepare yourself, family, pets, vehicles, and your house for the upcoming winter season. Here are some tips to help you out.

- Know the forecast and dress appropriately for the weather conditions
- Watch for warning signs of frostbite and hypothermia, and take proper actions when necessary
- Protect your pets from excessive exposure

**Be Ready! Winter Weather**

**Weatherproof your home to protect against the cold.**

- Install a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- Have your chimney or flue inspected every year.
- Make sure the batteries are working!
- Insulate walls and attic.
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.

**Check out more tips on winter weather indoor safety.**

- Never leave lit candles or other flames unattended.
- Bring your pets indoors as temperatures drop!

**Prepare yourself for exposure to winter weather.**

- Dress warmly and limit exposure to the cold to prevent frostbite.
- Avoid getting wet to prevent hypothermia.

**If power lines fall on your car, warn people not to touch the car or power lines.**

**Make sure your car is ready for winter travel.**

- Check antifreeze level and have radiator system serviced.
- Replace worn tires and check tire air pressure.
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in tank and fuel lines.
- Make a winter emergency kit to keep in your car.

**www.cdc.gov/phpr/infographics.htm**

- Prepare the vehicle fluids, tires, supplies if stranded
- Know best driving practices for snow, ice and other road conditions
- Build and/or verify a Winter Survival Kit
- Have a Family Communications Plan
- Maintain safety with power outages and heating sources
- Watch your footing on slippery conditions; Be in shape if planning to shovel
- Avoid vehicle travel when conditions warrant, or you do not feel it is safe to do so

# City Contracts for Denton Road Bridge Replacement

Work on the new Denton Road bridge is expected to begin this winter, following recent Board of Aldermen action.

The Board awarded the contract for the project to K.J. Unnerstall Construction (KJU), Washington, in the base bid amount of \$1,469,690. KJU was the lowest of four bids received for the project. The project includes complete replacement of the existing bridge over Brush Creek, and realignment of the roadway north of the bridge as it connects to 4th Street. A federal grant is paying approximately \$1 million of the project cost, with City funds covering the remainder.

The bridge has been closed since October, when it was damaged in a vehicle accident. The bridge and roadway will be closed to traffic for the duration of the project. The new bridge is expected to be complete by spring / summer 2023.

## Candidate filing closes December 27, 2022

The City of Pacific will hold the annual election on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, for the following:

- One Aldermen for Ward One (two-year term)
- One Aldermen for Ward Two (two-year term)
- One Aldermen for Ward Three (two-year term)

Filing for said offices opened Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 8 am in the office of the City Clerk, 300 Hoven, Pacific, MO and continues during regular business hours from 8am-5 pm Monday through Friday. The office will be closed on December 23 & 26, 2022 for Christmas. Filing will close Tuesday, December 27, 2022 at 5pm. The last day to register to vote is March 8, 2023.

## Recycle your Christmas tree, help out a goat!



Pacific residents are encouraged to take advantage of the City's annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Cut Christmas trees may be placed at curbside after the holiday season, and City crews will pick them up when making their rounds.

Once collected by the City, many of the trees are picked up by people who raise goats. Apparently, the goats love eating them! When you are finished enjoying your live holiday tree, please remove all decorations, lights, tinsel and stands from the tree, cut your tree into pieces no longer than 6' and place them at the edge of your yard next to the road.

Please call the maintenance building and leave address for curbside brush pickup. 636-257-2163.

You also have the option to drop off your tree at the City of Pacific Maintenance Yard at 77 Cedar Field Drive.



## Major water meter upgrade project planned for 2023

The City is preparing to move forward with a major water meter improvement project, following recent Board of Aldermen action.



The project involves converting all residential water meters to “radio read” capability, which will essentially allow the City to read its water meters remotely from a mobile data collector unit. Once completed, the City will be able to read its water meters in a fraction of the time it takes currently, and residents will have the ability to track their water usage data on a daily and even hourly basis if requested.

The project involves replacement of nearly 1,700 residential water meters, many of which are located inside homes and apartments. The City has contracted with Schulte Supply for these replacements, and residents with meters to be replaced can expect to receive notice early next year. Crews will need to access the home in order to replace the meter; a process that typically will take approximately 20-30 minutes. There is no charge to the resident / property owner for this work.

The total project cost is \$625,563 and includes purchase of the meters, hardware and software equipment and upgrades, and installation. The City hopes for the new system to be operating in spring/summer 2023.



## If it snows over the holidays, City crews will be ready!

Let it snow? City snowplow drivers might not necessarily agree, but if it happens, City crews will be ready. The City has five trucks with plows and salt spreaders ready to deal with the winter weather. The City’s response typically starts with the hillside areas first, which are pre-treated with salt as winter weather approaches. Once the snow starts falling, the main arterial roads take top priority: Highway N / Congress, Old Gray Summit Road, Thornton Road, Payne Street, Lamar Parkway, Indian Warpath. Secondary roads are next on the list: Union Street, 4th Street, Cedar Drive, Columbus Street, Olive Street, Industrial Drive / Candlewick, Integram Drive. Neighborhood and subdivision streets are cleared once the main routes are passable.

Residents are reminded that Osage Street through the City is a MoDOT route. 1st Street, Viaduct, Highway OO and Hogan Road are also MoDOT routes. The City assists with these routes as necessary, especially in an emergency, but MoDOT has first responsibility. City crews often work 12-hour shifts in a major snowstorm event. While the City does not have any designated snow routes subject to enforcement, resident cooperation in moving vehicles off the street is always appreciated and helps crews clear the roads faster. When the worst of the snow hits, the best course of action is to just stay home and let the emergency responders do their job.

Snow plow crews are dispatched through the City’s 911 communications center. Please call 636-257-2424 for any non-emergency issues.



# City planning to adopt 2018 ICC Building Codes



The City of Pacific's Department of Community Development presented the amended 2018 International Code Council (ICC) building codes to the Board of Aldermen for adoption in the fall of 2022. After careful consideration and following opportunity for public engagement, Pacific aldermen conducted a first reading of the ordinances to adopt the new codes on December 6, with a second and final reading scheduled for December 20. Assuming Board approval, the new codes would become effective January, 2023. The City had been operating under the 2009 edition of the ICC codes for many years.

Codes are adopted to give cities authority to conduct building inspections to ensure that buildings are constructed in accordance with current codes that protect public health and safety and reduce potential hazards. Every three years the ICC adopts new building codes after a process of review by Building Officials throughout the United States. City officials then have the option to review the proposed changes and either stay with their current set of codes or to recommend the adoption of the ones that make the most sense for the community.

The new set of codes are published on the City website ([www.pacificmissouri.com](http://www.pacificmissouri.com)) or can be obtained by contacting Director of Community Development Myers at: [SMyers@PacificMissouri.com](mailto:SMyers@PacificMissouri.com).

## **FAQ: What is a Boil Water Advisory?**

The City recently issued a boil water advisory following a water main break on Old Gray Summit Road. The advisory was limited to a specific area of the city (generally those areas fed by the affected water main) and was lifted after water samples taken from the affected water main were tested free of contamination.

**What is a boil advisory?** A boil **advisory** is precautionary in nature and is issued when there is a potential for contamination to enter the water system. Boil advisories usually relate to major water main breaks that result in reduced water pressures in the system. (This is what happened in the Old Gray Summit Road incident). The City is required under Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulations to issue a boil advisory in such an instance, and then have samples of the water system tested for contamination. Samples typically take at least 24 hours but may take longer if the event occurs on a weekend or holiday.

**What is a boil order?** A boil **order** is issued when there is **confirmed** contamination in the water system, or a high-level threat of such contamination. This was **not** the case in the Old Gray Summit Road incident. Boil orders are rare, but they have happened on occasion.

The City uses its website, social media, and the Regroup emergency messaging system to notify citizens of boil advisories and orders. Media reports can at times be misleading and citizens are requested to use the website for the most accurate information. If you haven't signed up for Regroup, please do so by using the QR code elsewhere in this newsletter.

People are also welcome to call the Police Department non-emergency line, 636-257-2424, for the most updated information. Further information relating to Boil Advisories may be found on the Missouri Department of Natural Resources website: <https://dnr.mo.gov/document-search/boil-water-orders-boil-water-advisories-pub2001/pub2001>.

# Pacific Aldermen Spotlight:

## Ward 3 Aldermen Scott Lesh



Ward 3 Alderman, Scott Lesh, is a life-long resident of Pacific. He attended Meramec Valley Schools and graduated from Pacific High School. After attending college and receiving an engineering degree, he was employed by the Missouri Department of Transportation as a Materials Inspector for the St. Louis District. Alderman Lesh pursued interests in hydrology and scuba diving which led to a 17-year instructor position with St. Louis Community College in the Physical Education and Aquatics Department. During that time, he developed skills for the information technology sector. Currently, he works as a contractor in network design and wireless implementation projects.

Alderman Lesh's introduction to city service was driven by the desire to preserve the character of living in Pacific -- a desirable small-town atmosphere with a short commute to amenities of the nearby metro area. Revitalization of Pacific's historic downtown area, including small business development and outdoor activities, will offer a unique advantage to our town's economic development while capitalizing on the charm of a small town. Another important focus would be investing and maintaining Pacific's public utilities infrastructure, water and sewer. Alderman Lesh believes the city infrastructure residents invested in, for decades, is a true community asset. Pacific must ensure its viability and its cost savings to residents for years to come. And lastly, continuing to engage with people is paramount in providing responsive action to the needs of our citizens. He is eager to hear from residents by email, text, or phone. Alderman Lesh states, "In pursuing city development, it is important to make sound financial choices, adhere to responsible zoning practices, and listen to the voice of the people."

As always... "Attend, Participate, and Volunteer!" Several committee seats are open, and the time is fast approaching to be heard, candidate registration runs through Dec 27 for the 2023 elections!

### Current Board of Aldermen Contact Information

**Ward 1:**  
**Rick Presley-**  
rpresley@pacificmissouri.com  
**Sara Brundick Gendron-**  
sgendron@pacificmissouri.com

**Ward 2:**  
**Jerry Eversmeyer-**  
jerryeversmeyer@yahoo.com  
**James Cleeve-**  
jcleeve@pacificmissouri.com

**Ward 3:**  
**Andrew Nemeth-**  
anemeth@pacificmissouri.com  
**Scott Lesh-**  
slesh@pacificmissouri.com

City of Pacific  
636-271-0500  
300 Hoven Dr, Pacific, MO 63069

## New Senior apartment complex to begin construction soon



Construction on the new Aurora Estates project, a 46-unit senior living apartment complex, is expected to begin later this month. The facility will be located at the corner of Indian Warpath Drive and Lisa Lane, just west of the Millstone Village apartment complex.

The new center will cater to low- and moderate-income residents aged 55 or older. Ring Property Company, LLC is the project developer and has developed similar properties in St. Louis County and Columbia, MO. The project has qualified for tax credits from the Missouri Housing Commission and will be subject to certain occupancy rules and restrictions.

The Board of Aldermen adopted a Resolution in September 2021 in support of the project. The developer hopes to complete construction by late 2023.





City of Pacific  
300 Hoven Drive  
Pacific, MO 63069

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*Season's  
Greetings*

## Mark your calendars!

12/23-12/26—City Hall closed for Christmas holiday  
1/2/23-- City Hall closed for New Year's Eve

Board of Aldermen meetings, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7 pm

Planning and Zoning Commission, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7 pm (as necessary)

## Pacific SAFE Initiative

Preparation and awareness are invaluable pieces of maximizing individual readiness and action planning. The City of Pacific encourages every resident and business owner to be a member of our free Emergency Mass Notification system (ReGroup). We use this key tool to contact enrolled members with shared alerts, warnings and messages deemed useful ahead of, during and after important events. Please allow us to help you be aware by joining at: <https://pacificmo.app.reggroup.com/signup> or by using this QR Code.

## 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. Can't find what you're looking for? Send an email to [twilson@pacificmissouri.com](mailto:twilson@pacificmissouri.com) and let us know!

