



City Hall
111 N. Main
Owasso, OK 74055
Phone: 918-376-1500
Emergencies: 911

Visit Us On The Web
www.cityofowasso.com

www.baileyranchgolf.com

Calendar of Upcoming Events December 2008 - February 2009

Regular Council Meetings 109 N. Birch - 6:30 p.m. December 2, 2008 December 16, 2008 January 6, 2009 January 20, 2009 February 3, 2009 February 17, 2009	Planning Commission 109 N. Birch 6:00 p.m. December 8, 2008 January 12, 2009 February 9, 2009	Burning of the Greens January 6, 2009 6:00 p.m. Owasso Sports Park South 106th St. North	City Holiday Closings All City facilities closed except Police and Fire services Thanksgiving November 27 - 28, 2008 Christmas December 24 - 25, 2008 New Years January 1 2009
Lights On Celebration December 1, 2008 6:00 p.m. Friendship Park	Board of Adjustment 109 N. Birch 6:00 p.m. December 23, 2008 January 27, 2009 February 24, 2009	Sales Tax Watchdog January 26, 2009 109 N. Birch 6:30 p.m.	
Chamber Christmas Parade December 13, 2008 9:30 a.m. Main Street	Annexation Committee 111 N. Main December 17, 2008 January 28, 2009 February 25, 2009	Owasso Economic Summit February 6, 2009 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Bailey Ranch Medical Center	



City Council Meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 109 N. Birch, in the Old Central building east of City Hall.

Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

A list of meetings and agendas can be viewed on the City website, or if you prefer, can be emailed to you. Please contact Julie Stevens at jstevens@cityofowasso.com, or 376-1577.



City Connection

Winter, 2008

Special Military Exhibit at Owasso Museum
December 2 - 6, 2008,
100 S. Main, 272-4966

Uniforms, photographs, medals and other military memorabilia from the Civil War to the present will be on display, with emphasis on items related to the attack on Pearl Harbor. The display is being brought to the museum by Keith Myers of Tulsa.

The museum will be open 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day, and admission is free. For more information, call 272-4966.

Code Red Notification

The City utilizes a service to contact citizens by phone to pass along important information. To ensure you get these messages, we encourage you to register your home phone and/or cell phone on the Code Red website. Visit www.cityofowasso.com and click on the **Code Red Sign Up** link on the City's home page, or call 376-1500 for more information.

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Owasso Votes Yes For Strong Neighborhoods

Hotel tax proposal passes to fund a Strong Neighborhood Initiative

On August 26, 2008, more than 1000 voters turned out to pass a proposed increase in the Hotel tax from 3% to 5%, which is the same rate as most other cities in the metropolitan area. The measure passed with a 62% majority.

The 2% tax increase will provide necessary funding for an initiative that will help build and maintain Strong Neighborhoods, which will in turn maintain the economic stability of the City.

Many communities are faced with the task of revitalizing neighborhoods in an effort to impact property values and the health and welfare of its residents. However, many communities wait until the cost of doing so is extremely high.

Owasso leaders recognized that in taking steps to ensure the success of aging neighborhoods before they experience significant deterioration, the City would save significantly in the amount of time, money and resources it would take to keep Owasso as attractive to existing and potential businesses and residents 20 years from now as it is today.

City staff have begun the process of developing the program by reviewing other communities with similar initiatives.

The successful Strong Neighborhood Initiative consists of the following key components:

1. Hiring a full time coordinator experienced in leading such an initiative.

2. Commitment from City leaders and residents.
3. Small grant funds for public neighborhood projects.
4. Providing assistance in setting up Neighborhood Associations.

Look for more information on www.cityofowasso.com or call 376-1500.



Here comes the Holly Trolley! Ride with Santa November 28 & 29, Noon to 2 PM

The Holly Trolley is ready to roll. Starting its second year on November 28th, shoppers will have the convenience of parking once and riding the Trolley all day to their holiday shopping destinations and restaurants in Owasso. This is a FREE service provided by the City.



On Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29, Santa will be riding the trolley from Noon to 2:00 PM each day. Santa will be collecting wish lists from children, and all will

receive a personal reply to their letter from Santa in December.

The Holly Trolley will begin operating Friday, November 28, 2008. It will continue every Saturday and Sunday from November 29, 2008 through December 21, 2008.

Hours of operation are Saturdays 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM and Sundays Noon to 7:00 PM throughout the period. The Holly Trolley will also run on Friday, November 28, 2008 (the day after Thanksgiving) from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

The Holly Trolley will have four stops at the Smith Farm Shopping Center, two stops at the Owasso Market Shopping

Center, and one stop each at the Cornerstone, Owasso Town Center, Mingo Valley, and Tyann Shopping Centers.

Maps and information were included in November utility bills, and will also be available at each stop.

While an actual trolley will operate November 28-30, 2008, on the remaining dates the Holly Trolleys will be white vans with large magnets on the sides and rear identifying them as a Holly Trolley. You may also want to look for the vehicle sporting reindeer antlers, and a bright red nose.

For more information, visit www.cityofowasso.com.

Utility Bill Direct Deposit Program

Save stamps, time and energy. Call 376-1520 today to sign up for Direct Deposit bill pay.

“Fame is a vapor, Popularity an accident, Riches take wing. And only character endures.”

- Horace Greeley



Owasso Main Street 1909

Visit the Owasso Museum to learn more about Owasso's history.

100 South Main
Tu-Fri 12pm - 4pm
Sat 10am - 4pm

272-4966

CITY MANAGER'S NOTE - A QUESTION OF SUSTAINABILITY

While the new buzz-word “sustainability” is being overused in many parts of the country, in Owasso it is quickly becoming the way to define our greatest challenge. That of developing a strategic approach to ensure our citizens, homeowners, businesses and potential future investors will enjoy a high quality of life and a city that has as strong an investor appeal in the future as is currently enjoyed.

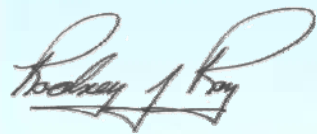
Efforts toward developing that strategy are underway with evolving plans and focus in areas of quality of life initiatives, transportation system enhancements, and

environmental action planning; all being considered as individual components of a larger plan to sustain the excitement that brings people to our city. The resulting opportunities for new jobs, higher home values and good return on investment is the focus of these efforts.

Success of any strategy relative to public policy requires public input and most importantly the active participation of all who have a stake in the community's success. I hope each citizen of Owasso will seek opportunities and ways to become active in this community's efforts and join in creating a vision with realistic plans to

make sure Owasso has a great quality of life and is even more attractive to homebuyers, and investors during the next twenty years.

If you want to be a part of that team, please go to www.cityofowasso.com and click on “Talent Bank” to submit your name and areas of interest or specifically how you want to contribute to the sustainability effort.



Character traits for December - February

Generosity - Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need.

Orderliness - Arranging myself and my surroundings to achieve greater efficiency.

Forgiveness - Clearing the record of those who have wronged me and not holding a grudge.

To learn more about the Owasso Character initiative, visit the city website at www.cityofowasso.com, or Character Coordinator, Michele Dempster at 376-1535.

can be found online at www.cityofowasso.com

To register for this event, contact Chelsea Harkins, Economic Development Director at (918) 376-1518 charkins@cityofowasso.com

states the “satisfaction I derive from service is based on participating in the overall process.” He has developed a respect for the mechanics of a well-run city.

“The almost impossible task of retaining the ‘small town’ appeal while providing the amenities of a much larger city make Owasso a great place to live,” says Sinex, “To never have to drive farther south than the airport is the greatest joy of my life.”

Email Councilor Sinex at jsinex@cityofowasso.com

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT-FEBRUARY 6, 2009

Dr. Mark Snead from the Oklahoma State University Spear's School of Business will reveal the economic forecast for the area during his keynote address at the first Owasso Economic Summit, February 6, 2009 at the Bailey Medical Center. The

research is provided as a tool to enhance business and economic development in the region.

The Summit will feature sessions on banking and finance; marketing; and workforce and education. Panelists will be from local, regional, and state business sectors. Registration details

COUNCIL CORNER



Councilor Jon Sinex, an Owasso resident for over 10 years, represents Ward 1. Councilor Sinex attended the Colorado School of Mines, and the University of Tulsa.

Councilor Sinex is married to

April and has five children ranging in age from 4 months to 24 years. His hobbies include his family, jeeping, sports, and the “never ending task of remodeling our house and yard.”

Councilor Sinex became interested in serving on the City Council due to a desire to participate in a community service activity, and was influenced by friendships with individuals already involved in City Council and School Board activities. He

DEPARTMENT NEWS

BAILEY RANCH GOLF CLUB

On October 19, 2008, Bailey Ranch Golf Club held the first “This Is Your Course Day”. Nearly 200 golfers enjoyed a fun filled day of free golf, contests, drawings, and free golf clinics. Bailey Ranch is your course. Playing golf here reinvests tax dollars in the community. Look for the return of “Your Course Day” this spring.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Growing at an annual rate of 7.8% since 2000, Owasso is one of Oklahoma's fastest

growing cities. The population within the city limits is approximately 28,599. The city limits have expanded to cover an area of 12 miles.

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Email Councilor Sinex at jsinex@cityofowasso.com

PARKS

All park restrooms and the splash pad are closed for the winter season. These facilities will reopen in the Spring.

POLICE SERVICES

Since the Alarm Ordinance went into effect in October 2007 to reduce false alarm calls, there has been a reduction of 48% in response to alarm calls. The total officer hours recovered from this reduction is approximately the equivalent of one full time officer.

PUBLIC WORKS

Grease and cooking oils poured down sink drains

PUBLIC PROJECT UPDATES

NORTH 129th ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Traffic has been shifted over to the new road surface on the East side of 129th from the 128th Street entrance into Double Oaks III to the North side of 82nd East Ave. This project is scheduled

for a late spring of 2009 completion date.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT

Newly formatted utility bills now show usage history, as data is accumulated in the new Utility Billing system. Coming soon this winter, online bill pay and account access for our utility customers.

For more information and department contacts, visit us on the Internet at www.cityofowasso.com

MAIN STREET BEAUTIFICATION

Light poles were installed early November to complete this project phase.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Chris Cook joined the Bailey Ranch Golf Club staff in January, 2007. Chris is the Superintendent for the golf course.

Since joining the City, Chris has exhibited determination, resourcefulness and endurance. He has shown great determination in achieving organizational goals with a modest budget during a time of spiraling expenses. Chris and his crew have faced extreme weather conditions since he arrived in the form of ice storms, record rainfall, and extreme heat, all severe challenges

to maintaining excellent course conditions.

During his time away from the golf course, Chris and his wife enjoy time together mountain biking and watching football games.

Chris is a tremendous asset to the Bailey Ranch Golf Club team. Chris was recognized as “Employee of the Quarter” in September, 2008.



Enjoy Your Day at Bailey Ranch Golf Club

Bailey Ranch Golf Club, 10105 Larking Bailey Blvd., in Owasso, offers one of Oklahoma's best tests of golf and is considered to be one of the most fun courses to play in the region.

Take advantage of our winter rates now. Visit Bailey Ranch Golf on the web at www.baileyranchgolf.com

Our Job is to remove the obstacles standing in the way of people celebrating their life.



Timmy and Cindy
Currently there are 33 Timmy and Cindy statues located all over our city. For more information on the Timmy and Cindy program, visit the us online at www.cityofowasso.com