



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

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Calendar of Upcoming Events March 2009 - May 2009

Regular Council Meetings

109 N. Birch - 6:30 p.m.
June 2, 2009
June 16, 2009
July 7, 2009
July 21, 2009
August 4, 2009
August 18, 2009

Planning Commission

June 8, 2009
July 13, 2009
August 10, 2009

Board of Adjustment

June 23, 2009
July 28, 2009
August 25, 2009

Annexation Committee

June 24, 2009
July 22, 2009
August 26, 2009

Annual Red, White, Boom

Fireworks Display
July 2, 2009
High School Stadium

Neighborhood Initiative Kickoff Meetings

June 4th 6:30 p.m.
Discovery Bible Fellowship
116th ST N & N Garnett

Neighborhood Initiative Kickoff Meetings

June 8th 6:30 p.m.
Owasso High School (new commons area)
12901 E 86 ST N

Neighborhood Initiative Kickoff Meetings

June 15th 6:30 p.m.
Bailey Education Foundation
10502 N 110th

Neighborhood Initiative Kickoff Meetings

June 18th 6:30 p.m.
Owasso 6th Grade Center (commons area)
8101 N 129 E Ave

Neighborhood Initiative Kickoff Meetings

June 22nd 6:30 p.m.
Old Central (bldg behind City Hall)
109 N Birch



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.

CITIZEN INPUT SURVEY RESULTS

Citizens were recently asked to complete a survey on the city's website. Thank you to the 464 participants. Below are the survey questions and results.

As the City looks for ways to reduce non-essential operating costs, we are evaluating existing programs. For the past several years, the City has funded an Independence Day celebration that included a fireworks display at a cost of \$15,000. We are requesting citizen input as to whether the City should continue to fund this event.

- Do you think the City should continue to fund this event?
Yes: 317 68.3%
No: 147 31.7%
- Are you an Owasso Resident?
Yes: 389 83.8%
No: 75 16.2%



City Connection

Summer, 2009

Storm Sirens

Storm sirens are strategically located throughout our community to provide the best coverage for storm alerts. However, a common misconception is that sirens should be audible within homes and businesses. Storm sirens may not be heard inside structures, therefore, citizens are encouraged to stay tuned to news and weather in the event of severe weather, or to purchase a weather radio for homes and businesses.

Owasso 13th Annual Block Parties, September 12th, 2009.

Block parties aren't as common today as they once were. In some neighborhoods today, neighbors may not even know each other! Hosting a block party is one way for neighbors to socialize. Owasso prides itself on its community involvement and quality small town celebrations. For ideas on planning a block party, please visit www.cityofowasso.com/block_party/index.html Or call 376-1541.

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Owasso Kicks Off Neighborhood Initiative

In August 2008, Owasso voters passed an increase in the Hotel tax to provide funding for the Owasso Strong Neighborhood Initiative.

The first component in the Initiative was to hire a Neighborhood Coordinator. The City of Owasso announced in April that Jerry Fowler had been hired as the Neighborhood Coordinator. Jerry and his family moved to Owasso 14 years ago. He looks forward to the opportunity to build relationships with other residents and area stakeholders.

The fundamental and foundational component of a healthy and dynamic community is "strong neighborhoods." In order to maintain the strength of our community, the key is

building relationships between citizens, businesses and local government. Neighborhood kick-off



events are being planned in various locations to provide information about the Neighborhood Initiative and to provide an opportunity for citizens to meet Jerry Fowler, City staff, and City Councilors. All meetings will begin at 6:30 PM.

Thursday - June 4th
Discovery Bible Fellowship 116th ST N & N Garnett

Monday - June 8th
Owasso High School (new commons area) 12901 E 86 ST N

Monday - June 15th
Bailey Education Foundation
10502 N 110th

Thursday - June 18th
Owasso 6th Grade Center (commons area) 8101 N 129 E Ave

Monday - June 22nd
Old Central (bldg behind City Hall)
109 N Birch

Please plan to attend a meeting near you. If you cannot make that meeting, you are welcome to attend any other meeting. Visit www.cityofowasso.com or contact Jerry Fowler at 376-1500 for more information.

Owasso Sales Tax Watchdog Committee

GUARDING HOW YOUR SALES TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT

The Sales Tax Watchdog Committee - originally created as part of the 1988 sales tax extension - was formed to provide a body of representatives from various interest groups within our community to monitor the use of the designated "third penny" of local sales tax. In October of 2004, the voters of Owasso approved a ballot measure that, in effect, made the "third penny" sales tax an on-going tax and the Sales Tax Watchdog Committee was reestablished at that time as part of the proposition

approved by the voters. Interest groups represented, and the number of those representatives, on the Sales Tax Watchdog Committee include News Media (1), Retail Business (2), Service Business (2), Education (1), Recreation (1), Building Industry (1), Senior Citizen (1), Financial (1), and Members at Large (4).

It is the duty of the Owasso Sales Tax Watchdog Committee to provide oversight and to ensure that funds from the "third penny" are spent in a manner consistent with that which the voters approved. Additionally, the committee issues reports on the use of

funds provided by the "third penny" sales tax. The committee is charged to report to the public All Capital Improvement Projects are proposed by the Capital Improvements Committee, approved and adopted by the City Council, and reviewed by the Watchdog Committee.

The Sales Tax Watchdog Committee meets a minimum of two times per year and meeting agendas of the committee are posted on the City of Owasso website, www.cityofowasso.com, as are all public meetings, such as the Capital Improvements Committee and City Council.

Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste must be separated from regular household refuse and placed in a City red cart or bags purchased at City Hall or local QuikTrip stores for curbside pickup. Yard Waste can also be placed in clear bags for inspection purposes, and disposed of at the Recycle Center, 499 South Main. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Questions? Call 272-4959

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."

James Dent



Millinery in Owasso (about 1901)

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

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

272-4966

CITY MANAGER'S NOTE -

There has been some talk recently about whether or not the City should re-invest in an infrastructure project that would extend sewer service to about 3,800 acres of land, some of which is already within our "city limits" and some that will eventually be part of our city. The proposed E. 76th Street Sanitary Sewer Interceptor line is simply a very good business decision for the City and is a product of lessons-learned over the course of the past 100 years of the city's existence. The business component of the proposal is simple: we should make those who will most benefit from the line be responsible for paying for it. Existing customers should not be required to pay for new development, nor should those who will use the service twenty-five years from now get a "free-ride" just because the line was built out and the cost forgotten. That lesson was learned when the

City built the "Ranch Creek" sewer line but did not use a "payback agreement". Thirty years later, developers and home owners are attaching to the sewer line without helping to pay the debt that was entered into when the line was constructed.

Over the years, the Owasso community has made the difficult decisions to improve the services available to those who choose to make Owasso their home, and those same people have subsequently chosen to continue to reinvest in their hometown. With each decision, there seems to be an improvement in the process and the costs are more fairly allocated to those who benefit the greatest. Additionally, over the years, this method of reinvesting has proven its value. This City can have good schools, low crime, and a high level of new infrastructure all at the same time if we continue to make

wise business decisions based on the belief that people want to live and work here because Owasso is progressive and does think toward the future.

Over and over, Owassons have gone to the polls to fund projects and elect leaders who have good decision making skills, reasonable thought processes, and a willingness to invest in the future. Those decisions have made Owasso a strong and viable community.

Character traits for June - August

Justice - Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right, and true.

Gentleness - Showing consideration and personal concern for others.

Faith - Confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when I cannot see how.

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

COUNCIL CORNER



Mayor Steve Cataudella, an Owasso resident for over eight years, serves as the representative for Ward 2 on the Owasso City Council. Councilor Cataudella served in the US Air Force for 5.5 years, and has been employed at Hewlett-Packard for twenty four years in Oklahoma.

Mayor Cataudella is married to Kenna and has two sons: Austin and Brooks. His hobbies include all that his family is involved with. Austin plays on the drum line for the Pride of Owasso and Brooks plays competitive baseball for the HOOKS.

Councilor Cataudella enjoys working in his yard and relaxing with neighbors. He has served on the City Council for six years. He chose to live in Owasso because of the hometown life style. "The education system is second to none and the people in Owasso are

the friendliest in the State of Oklahoma. It's an awesome place to live."

Mayor Cataudella became interested in serving on the Council because he wanted to give back to his community. He served previously on a school board and understands that it takes dedicated people who care about the citizens. He states any city that works on building character starting in the schools was somewhere he wanted his family to live. "The people of our community is what makes Owasso a special City and why I love to be here."

DEPARTMENT NEWS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The summertime growing season is an exciting time for gardens and landscapes around town, but as yards grow tall, it is important to remember lawn maintenance. High grass and weeds in Owasso are considered public nuisances once they reach 12 inches in height on developed properties. In order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the City of Owasso enforces the code and requires that grass be cut once it becomes a nuisance. Once made aware of a lawn that has reached a nuisance

found to be in violation of the code, the staff sends a letter to the owner of the property giving a date by which the property must be mowed. If the deadline passes without the property being mowed, the City of Owasso holds a hearing regarding the property. Once the hearing officer determines that the owner has not met the requirements of the city code, and that a nuisance condition exists on the property, the City may take action to mow the property and invoice the property owner for the cost of the mowing. If the invoice is not paid, the City may file a lien against the property for the mowing cost.

The City encourages residents to report a high grass and/or weeds nuisance found on a property within the Owasso city limits. To find out more information, please contact the Community Development Department at 376-1545.

PARKS

Owasso has seven shelters in five area parks that can be reserved for events and parties for as little as \$25.00 for two hours. Call 371-7975

or reserve online and view video of our parks and shelters.

POLICE SERVICES

Reminder to the approaching 4th of July holiday. It is unlawful, unless otherwise permitted by ordinance, to ignite fireworks unless they are sparklers, fountains, pin-wheels and all such types of fireworks that are not explosive or noise making in character and are stationary.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT

eGov online payments are now available. To register, find your account number on a recent statement and visit the City website at www.cityofowasso.com. Then click on the eGov link.

PUBLIC PROJECT UPDATES

NORTH 129th ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The street widening project was completed at the end of May. All lanes from 76th St. North to 96th St North are now open to traffic. Cooperation from area residents and Owasso schools was instrumental in helping keep this project on schedule.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Juett Webster, Employee of the Quarter, has been employed with the City of Owasso Public Works Department, Streets Divi-

sion, for four years.

Juett constantly gives of himself when he sees others in need. Through his willingness to help in every division, Juett demonstrates how department unity empowers an organization to achieve and maintain a high level of customer service.

During his off hours, Juett spends time with his family,

and assisting co-workers with various home repairs. Juett possesses many character qualities such as availability, benevolence, compassion, dependability, flexibility, and generosity. When asked what he enjoys most about his work with the City he humbly states "The people; they are all really supportive and I feel like I'm surrounded by greatness."

ADOPT A PET

The Owasso Animal Shelter would like to invite you to view the adoptable pets offered at the shelter.

All of the animals up for adoption have been pre-screened for adoptability. Shelter animals often make the best pets as they are eager to please their new owners. Adopting a shelter animal is a great way to offer homeless animals a new life. All dogs and cats up for adoption are examined by a vet, vaccinated, and spayed/neutered. The shelter is located at 500 S. Main.

RED WHITE BOOM

Owasso's annual fireworks display celebrating our nation's



independence will be held Thursday night, July 2, 2009, at the Owasso High School Stadium.

The Owasso Community Choir will pay tribute to the armed forces.

Gates will open at 7:00 p.m. and admission for all is FREE.



Timmy and Cindy At Candlewood Suites

For more information, or for a map of all Timmy and Cindy locations, visit www.cityofowasso.com and click on the Timmy & Cindy link.