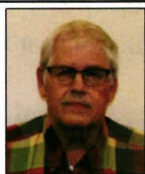


City of St. Louis

News and Views

January 1, 2024

Message from the Mayor



This is my last newsletter to you. (To be honest, it's been the least enjoyable part of my position, lol.) I've truly enjoyed those who've attended Coffee with the Mayor and others who've contacted me by phone or e-mail over the years. Some great ideas have been implemented as a result of these connections – and even through some complaints!

Congratulations to Ralph Echtenaw for being elected Mayor, and to Ferris Azzam, newly elected as a write-in candidate for our City Council. I also want to thank members Liz Upton, Bill Leonard, Roger Collison, newly-appointed Kevin Palmer, and recently-retired George Kubin. We didn't always agree on every topic before us, but we did always respect each other's opinions.

City staff – in City Hall, and those working in the various departments – are top-notch. I've enjoyed getting to know many of them on a first-name basis and I can attest to their dedication to making St. Louis a great little city. Our citizens are fortunate to have them in the City's employ.

Finally, I have nothing but praise for our City Manager, Kurt Giles. I've enjoyed a good working relationship with him, gained much from his knowledge, and am proud to call him my friend.

Former mayor Jim Kelly was a mentor to me, and I learned so many details of the mayoral position from him. Now I follow him into retirement from an elected role, but my plans are to continue, with Mary, in volunteering in any way we can to help Saint Louis. It's a great place to live! May each of you have a fulfilling, happy, and prosperous 2024!

Healthy Pine River

The Healthy Pine River organization is dedicated to restoring the Pine River. They have worked with both the City of St. Louis and City of Alma as well as state legislators to push towards this goal.

It is only \$5 for you to join this group and the more members they have, the more effect they can have on legislation.

Learn more on Facebook at **Healthy Pine River** or go to healthypineriver.org If you have questions, just e-mail HealthyPineRiver@gmail.com

Thanks to everyone for considering this!

Looking Back on 2023

Downtown St. Louis had a lot of activity this past year as we had many improvement projects and several new businesses.

The Blue Shamrock Pub, W.T. Morris Swimming Pool, Frosty Cone, Kubin's Furniture, Huntington Bank, The Snack Guys, Subway and Tienda Mexicana El Cunao all made improvements to their businesses.

In addition we had GAIN (Gratiot Animals In Need) move into our downtown area as well as Namaste Massage, RedBloom Center for Community Wellness, Fit Fuel Smoothies, Taqueria El Primo and most recently the St. Louis EZ Mart/Sunoco (formerly 7-11). We also had long-time business Kubin's Furniture welcome a new owner, Wyatt Minor.

The St. Louis Farmers Market under new manager Sara Piaskowski had a fine year with plenty of vendors and displayers as well as some cool events! Our wonderful City swimming pool was again a huge draw to youngsters and their families as many of our local businesses and organizations sponsored Free Swims more than ever in 2023.

Speaking of events, our annual Fireworks display went on as usual and that weekend also featured great entertainment downtown as well as in Clapp Park. The Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, Downtown Trick or Treat and Small Town Family Christmas parade all brought hundreds of people into town to help celebrate those holidays. The Old US-27 Motor Tour and downtown cruise-ins were big hits.

Meanwhile, the City has received grants for the demolition of condemned houses and to replace many water lines. We continue to do as much road paving and sidewalk replacement as possible. Every year we work on maintaining and improving our parks.

Finally, our partnerships with the schools, local service groups and churches remains a key feature of the St. Louis community. We're fortunate to have concerned, helpful friends and volunteers to support all our efforts. Thanks to everyone who lends a hand as we look forward to a great 2024!

Property Tax Information

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



Winter Property Taxes are due

February 14, 2024

Without Penalty

All winter and summer taxes not paid by

February 29, 2024

Will be turned over to the county on

March 1, 2024

Board of Review

The Board of Review will be in session to hear your appeals at St. Louis City Hall on the following dates:

Monday, March 11, 2024

3:00-9:00 PM

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

There will also be an organizational meeting on
March 5, 2024

At 11:00 AM

Election News



2024 brings many changes to the election process including the option for early voting!

Registered voters should be receiving postcards with the location, dates and times voters can cast their ballot prior to election.

The 2024 Presidential Primary Election will be held
Tuesday, February 27, 2024.

Voters still have the option of an absentee ballot.

Please contact your clerk, Jamie Long, at
989-681-2137 ext. 1050 with any questions.

You can also visit the Michigan Voter Information
Center at mvic.sos.state.mi.us

Snow Removal



With winter in mind, please remember to keep fire hydrants and drains clear of snow.

It is illegal to plow snow from your driveway or walks into or across the street as this can hinder snow removal by City crews.

To view the City's Snow Removal Program visit
<https://www.stlouismi.com/government/public-works-and-utilities/dpw/>



City Council Meetings are the first and third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.
The public is welcome to attend.



Please "Like" our Facebook page
City Hall St. Louis, Michigan to stay in touch with us.

No Parking on City Streets



There is no parking on City Streets
from 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM
November 1 to May 1.

It is also a violation to park in any manner which creates a hazard or impedes snow removal.

**Brush pickup for the month of January
begins January 8, 2024**

**This Institution is an equal opportunity provider
and employer.**