Volume 29
Issue 2

August
2026

VILLAGE
OF
AIRPORT
DRIVE

# The Village News

## Limb Pick Up

On July 23rd, the Board of Trustees received bids from three contractors to pick up the remaining tree limbs for residents from the June 13th storm. Rick Banfield, JLK Lawn and Property Services, was awarded the contract. Mr. Banfield started picking up limbs on Thursday, July 30th and will pick up limbs until August 17th.

Limbs need to be six inches in diameter or less; cut into four-foot lengths; and placed at the curb for pickup.

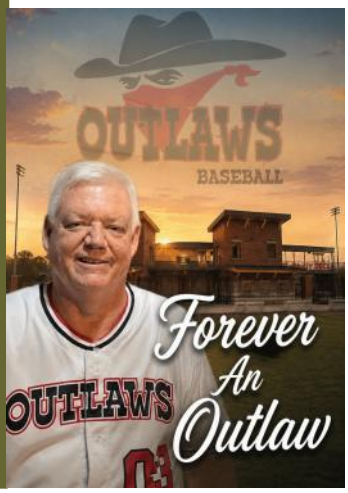
This pickup is for tree limbs only.

If you have questions about the pick up, please call the office at (417) 623-6744 or you can contact Mr. Banfield at (417) 621-1413.

We would like to share our appreciation for former Trustee Mark Rains. He passed away on May 24, 2026. Mark was first elected in 1997 and served Airport Drive for 28 years. During those years the other Trustees selected Mark as Chairman for thirteen years and as Chair Pro Tem for ten years.

Mark started the conversations for many matters in Airport Drive. In January 2020, he suggested adding a 1/2 cent sales tax to pay for police and fire protection services. The new tax was approved by residents in the August 4, 2020 election and went into effect on January 1, 2021. A third Jasper County Officer was assigned to Airport Drive by November 2020.

In August 2025, Mark shared his thoughts about updating the Municipal Building. He had asked Village staff about their needs and any issues they had with the building. As his health declined, he asked Trustee Claren Holmes to take the lead in discussions regarding renovating or rebuilding the Municipal Building. The Building Committee members worked with Paragon Architecture to create two sets of plans, one for an expanded rebuild and one for a new building. Those plans are available to review. More meetings will be held at later dates.




Mark cared about the Village and worked to improve situations when he could. We are so grateful for all he did for Airport Drive!

Artwork by Sergeant Tom Crossley,
Jasper County Sheriff's Officer

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Trustees will meet on the following dates at 7:00 pm:**

- ◊ August 27
- ◊ September 24
- ◊ October 22

**The Office will be closed on the following dates:**

**Labor Day**
September 7th

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!**

Primary Election
Tuesday, August 4th
&
General Election
Tues. November 3rd

## Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| Updates & Reminders and April 7, 2026 Election news | 2 |
| A Word from Sgt. Crossley & Welcome to Northside Family Dentistry, Dr. Andrew Byrne | 3 |
| New Sewer Rates & August 4th Election Ballots | 4 |
| More August 4th Election Ballots | 5 |
| Audit Report for year ended December 31, 2025 | 6 |
| Village Contacts & Helpful Phone Numbers | 7 |
| August 5th Coffee, Conversation & Bingo! | 8 |

# Updates & Reminders

**Meetings for the Village of Airport Drive** are held at the Municipal Building on the 4th Thursday of each month (except November & December), and are open to the public, unless posted as Closed Session. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings; it's the best way to stay informed of events in the Village.

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The **Village Office** is open **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Monday through Friday, unless posted as closed. When visiting the office, park in the lot south of the building and use the south door.

**********

**Before you burn** limbs, brush, or yard waste, call **Carl Junction Fire District** at **417-649-6062**. In lieu of a burn permit, you are required to contact the CJ Fire District to confirm the conditions are okay for burning, and to let them know when and where you will be burning.

**********

**Solid waste containers** can be placed at your curb for collection after 6:00 pm on the day before trash pick-up (Sunday). The container should be removed from the curb no later than 8:00 pm on the day of collection (Monday).

**********

The **Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday** begins on Friday, August 7th and will run through Sunday, August 9th. During that time, you can purchase clothing (must be less than $100 per item), school supplies (not to exceed $50 per purchase), computer software (taxable value of $350 or less), Personal computers (not to exceed $1,500), and Graphing calculators (not to exceed $150), without paying sales tax!

The **MAPS Bus Service** is now available for use by Village residents. You do need to set up an account and there are scheduling requirements. For information call **417-626-8607**.

**********

If you notice **any street lights not working**, call Liberty Utilities (Empire) at **800-206-2300** or the Village Office. Liberty will determine ownership and repair the light. It is helpful if you can also give Liberty (or us) the pole number, but only if you can safely see the number.

**********

**MODOT** will pick up and dispose of **large debris** &/or **dead animals** on Highways 43 & 171. Please call 888-275-6636 or 417-895-7600.

**********

**To avoid late fees**, if mailing your payment for sewer services to the office, please allow 7 to 10 days for it to reach us. The postal system is becoming slower and less reliable. There is a black box in the south parking lot marked, Payments. You can drop off payments in that box as well.

**If you have not received your sewer bill by the 15th of the month, please call our office**. We can tell you your balance over the phone.

**********

For questions regarding **code requirements**, please call the Office at **417-623-6744**, or you can view the Code on-line through the link on our website **www.airportdrivemo.com** or at General Code's website **www.ecode360.com/AI3224**.

# Election News from April

The April 7, 2026 Election brought changes to the Board of Trustees. Residents Denise Winans, Claren Holmes and Dr. Jim Truelove were elected to serve the Village of Airport Drive until April 2028. The residents were sworn in as Trustees at the Special Meeting on April 16, 2026. Trustee Terry Myers will continue to serve as Chairman and Trustee Ray Bryant was nominated and received unanimous votes to serve as Chairman Pro Tem.

Members of the Zoning Commission are Steve Allgood, Debbie Bryant, Debie Heckart, Georgianna Krier, Sarinda Dudley, Tom Short and Roy Farley. Members of the Board of Adjustment are Edwina Rains, Jamie Myers, Nathan Weston, Steve Allgood, and Marvin Heckart. Residents Scott Miller Platt and Jack Huffman serve as Alternates to these Boards.

Thank you to all residents that donate their time and talents to serve the Village of Airport Drive!

## Jasper County Sheriff's Office

Hello, Village of Airport Drive,

Summer is officially here, and temperatures are just plain hot! Please remember to stay hydrated, especially when working or spending extended periods outdoors. Taking precautions during hot weather can help prevent heat-related illnesses and ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer season.

As we enjoy the summer months, I would like to remind everyone about the importance of maintaining their property. Residents are responsible for keeping their lawns mowed, including areas extending to the property line and drainage ditches. Keeping grass trimmed not only improves the appearance of our community but also helps reduce pests and improves overall safety.

In addition, please take time to ensure your property is free of junk, trash, discarded appliances, and inoperable or abandoned vehicles. Maintaining clean properties helps preserve property values and keeps Airport Drive a place we can all be proud to call home.

Deputies assigned to Airport Drive have recently been conducting directed traffic enforcement in the residential neighborhood behind the Village Office following complaints of speeding vehicles. As a reminder, the speed limit within Village neighborhoods is 20 miles per hour unless otherwise posted. With school out for the summer, children are spending more time outdoors riding bicycles, playing, and enjoying their neighborhoods. Please slow down, stay alert, and help keep our streets safe for everyone.

We will be posting statistics from our recent directed patrols and traffic enforcement efforts related to driving complaints on the Village of Airport Drive Facebook page in the coming days. We encourage residents to follow the page to stay informed about community activities and public safety efforts.

As always, if you need assistance from a deputy or myself, please contact dispatch at 417-359-9100 rather than the Village Office. Contacting dispatch is often the quickest way to reach a deputy and ensures a call history is documented for future reference.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. Together, we can help keep Airport Drive a safe, clean, and welcoming community.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Tom Crossley
Jasper County Sheriff's Office

## Let's Welcome Dr. Andrew Byrne to the Village!

NORTHSIDE
FAMILY DENTISTRY

5898 North Main Street, Suite 109,
Joplin, Missouri 64801

Text or Call
(417) 528-2354

**Northside Family Dentistry is open and scheduling patients now. You can call Wednesday thru Friday from 8 am to 5 pm**

**or schedule online at flexbook.me/nsfd.**

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

#### General Dentistry

**Encompasses a wide range of preventive & restorative services that help maintain the health & function of your teeth and gums. Whether it's a routine check up or cavity treatment, Dr. Byrne has you covered.**

#### Pediatric Dentistry

**Provides specialized oral care for infants, children, and teens. Dr. Byrne offers everything from early exams & cavity prevention to management of dental development— all tailored to be gentle, effective and child-friendly.**

#### Invisalign Treatment

**Invisalign treatment is a discreet orthodontic solution that uses a set of clear, removable aligners to gently move teeth into their proper position.**

# New Sewer Rates going into effect August 1, 2026

Public Hearings to allow residents and business owners to discuss sewer rate changes were held on June 25, 2026 and July 23, 2026. After the public hearing on July 23rd, the Board of Trustees adopted Ordinance 15-26, to set new base rates and user charge rates for sewer users. The chart below shows the new Base Charges.

| | Gallons of Water Reported | Base Charge |
|---|---|---|
| All Residential | | $ 35.00 |
| Commercial 0 | less than 1,250 | $ 60.00 |
| Commercial 1 | 1251 to 5,000 | $ 81.00 |
| Commercial 2 | 5,001 to 15,000 | $ 110.00 |
| Commercial 3 | 15,001 to 125,000 | $ 145.00 |
| Commercial 4 | more than 125,000 | $ 290.00 |

The rate charged per 1,000 gallons of water used will increase from $ 4.74 to $ 6.00. The rate increase in 2025 did not quite keep up with the sewer expenses paid to Carl Junction and expenses to maintain the system. The goal of the Trustees is to keep the sewer system self sustaining.

The average used for residential billing is calculated using the reported number of gallons of water from January, February and March of 2026. This new average will be used starting August 1, 2026, and will be in effect for approximately the next 12 months. The average usage of all residential properties will be used for well users and newly constructed residences. For commercial users, we are requesting the most recent usage each month.

If you had a water leak, filled a pool or hot tub, or experienced an unusually high water usage in January, February or March, please let us know. We work to find the most accurate amount of water entering the sewer system and bill accordingly.

# Election Day, Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Show of hands, who is ready for the primary election to be over? In case you haven't already voted, or haven't made up your mind about the Constitutional Amendments, we wanted to share the sample ballots and the Fair Ballot Language from the Missouri Secretary of State's website.

**Constitutional Amendment No. 1**

*Proposed by Article IV, Section 47(c) (Second Regular Session) SJR No. 1*

Shall Missouri continue for 10 years the one-tenth of one percent sales/use tax that is used for soil and water conservation and for state parks and historic sites, and resubmit this tax to the voters for approval in 10 years?

The measure allows continued collection of the existing sales and use tax, which generates revenue of approximately $140 million annually.

SAMPLE

◯ YES

◯ NO

**From the Missouri Secretary of State, Denny Hoskins, CPA, website:**

**Fair Ballot Language:**

A "yes" vote will continue for 10 years the one-tenth of one percent sales/use tax that is used for soil and water conservation, for state parks and historic sites. This will be resubmitted to the voters for approval in 10 years.

A "no" vote will not continue this sales/use tax.

If passed, this measure will not increase or decrease taxes.

**Constitutional Amendment No. 2**

*Proposed by 103rd General Assembly, (First Regular Session) HCS HJR Nos. 23 & 3*

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- require all charter counties, including Jackson County, to provide for the election of a county assessor; and
- require assessors in all charter counties to comply with any training requirements established by general law?

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

SAMPLE

◯ YES

◯ NO

**Fair Ballot Language:**

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to require that all charter counties, including Jackson County, elect a county assessor and that such assessors comply with training requirements established by state law.

A "no" vote will not change the current constitutional provisions, which exempt Jackson County from the requirement to elect its assessor and do not require charter county assessors to follow training requirements under general law.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

**Constitutional Amendment No. 4**

*Proposed by 103rd General Assembly (Second Extraordinary Session) HCS HJR No. 3*

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Modify current requirements that a statewide majority of voters may approve initiative petitions to amend the constitution;
- Require a majority of voters in each congressional district to approve initiative petitions to amend the constitution; and
- Make available to each voter the full text of initiative petitions with their ballot?

The Department of Corrections estimates increased annual costs of up to $21,817. The Office of State Public Defender estimates an unknown fiscal impact. Other state governmental entities estimate no costs or savings. Local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

◯ YES

◯ NO

**Airport Drive Residents registered to vote can vote at the Municipal Building on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm.**

**Constitutional Amendment No. 5**

*Proposed by 103rd General Assembly, (Second Regular Session) SS SCS HCS HJR Nos. 173 & 174*

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Require legislative phase-out of the individual state income tax based on revenue growth, and authorize the expansion of sales and use taxes;
- Curtail constitutional limits on taxing goods and services; and
- Require local tax rate cuts without reducing school funding if local sales tax revenue increases?

The proposal has no direct impact on state or local tax revenue. If passed, implementing legislation will have an unknown impact to state and local tax revenue. If implemented, state government entities expect a reduction of $57,000 annually in income tax check-off donations and implementation costs of at least $100,000.

**SAMPLE**

◯ YES

◯ NO

**Fair Ballot Language:**

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to:

Modify current requirements of Article III and Article XII that a simple statewide majority of voters may approve initiative petitions to amend the constitution.

Require a majority of voters in each congressional district to approve initiative petitions to amend the constitution; and

Make available to each voter the full text of initiative petitions with their ballot.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to require majority approval in each congressional district for initiative petitions to amend the constitution or make available the full text of initiative petitions with the ballot.

If passed this measure will not increase or decrease taxes.

**Fair Ballot Language:**

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to require legislative phase-out and elimination of the individual state income tax based on revenue growth, and authorize the expansion of sales and use taxes; curtail constitutional limits on taxing goods and services; and require local tax rate cuts without reducing school funding if local sales tax revenue increases.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to require legislative phase-out and elimination of the individual state income tax based on revenue growth; and will not authorize the expansion of sales and use taxes.

At this time, the impact on taxes is unknown.

# Village of Airport Drive Financial Report

| For the year ended December 31, 2025 | General Fund | Street Fund | Capital Improvements | Sewer Fund | Safety Tax Fund | Sewer Maint & Expansion |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beginning Balance Jan. 1, 2025 | $ 4,627,528 | $ 65,252 | $ 2,153,289 | $ 441,792 | $ 69,950 | $ - |
| **Revenues Collected** | | | | | | |
| Business Licenses & Permits | $ 36,979 | | | $ 150 | | |
| Fines & Forfeitures | $ 7,725 | | | | | |
| Franchise Fees | $ 42,724 | | | | | |
| Interest Income | $ 124,930 | $ 695 | $ 54,958 | $ 10,109 | $ 1,408 | $ 485 |
| Motor Vehicle Taxes | $ - | $ 44,749 | | | | |
| Operating Transfers In | $ - | $ 120,000 | | | $ 25,000 | $ 14,400 |
| Other | $ 204 | | | | | |
| Sales Tax | $ 813,397 | | $ 321,225 | | $ 321,128 | |
| Sewer Charges | | | | $ 301,184 | | $ 18,483 |
| **Total Revenues:** | $ 1,025,959 | $ 165,444 | $ 376,183 | $ 311,443 | $ 347,536 | $ 33,368 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenditures Paid** | | | | | | |
| Abatement of Code Violations | $ 125 | | | | | |
| Animal Control | $ 748 | | | | | |
| Bank Fees | $ 457 | | | | | |
| Capital Outlay | $ 86 | $ 136,314 | | | | |
| Contracted Services | | | | $ 10,049 | | |
| Copier Expense | $ 1,298 | | | | | |
| Deposits Refunded | $ 105 | | | | | |
| Education & Training | $ - | | | | | |
| Election Costs | $ - | | | | | |
| Fire Protection | | | | | $ 103,622 | |
| Fringe Benefits | $ 6,297 | | | $ 700 | | |
| Inspection Fees | $ 4,385 | | | | | |
| Insurance | $ 23,459 | | | $ 4,479 | | |
| Internet & Computer Services | $ 22,239 | | | $ 1,093 | | |
| Law Enforcement & Training | $ 158 | | | | $ 284,933 | |
| Leaf Pick Up | $ 8,540 | | | | | |
| Legal Notices | $ 1,565 | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | $ 900 | | | $ 60 | | |
| Office Expense | $ 2,987 | | | $ 460 | | |
| Operating Transfers Out | $ 25,000 | | $ 120,000 | $ 14,400 | | |
| Postage | $ 3,500 | | | $ 2,494 | | |
| Professional Fees | $ 83,811 | $ 44,991 | | $ 41,627 | | |
| Public & Employee Relations | $ 5,455 | | | | | |
| Repairs & Maintenance | $ 13,161 | $ 26,281 | | $ 61,445 | | |
| Salaries | $ 90,933 | | | $ 11,274 | | |
| Sewer Fee to Carl Junction | | | | $ 197,195 | | |
| Telephone | $ 1,217 | | | | | |
| Travel & Mileage | $ 60 | | | | | |
| Utilities | $ 6,852 | | | $ 4,563 | | |
| Village Street Lights | | $ 15,732 | | | | |
| **Total Expenditures:** | $ 303,338 | $ 223,318 | $ 120,000 | $ 349,839 | $ 388,555 | $ - |
| Excess Revenues over Expenditures | $ 722,621 | $ (57,874) | $ 256,183 | $ (38,396) | $ (41,019) | $ 33,368 |
| | | | | $ - | | |
| Ending Balance Dec. 31, 2025 | $ 5,350,149 | $ 7,378 | $ 2,409,472 | $ 403,396 | $ 28,931 | $ 33,368 |

**MAILING ADDRESS:**
**Village of Airport Drive**
**25150 Demott Drive**
**Joplin, Missouri 64801**
**Phone: 417-623-6744**
**Fax: 417-623-7839**

We're on the Web
www.airportdrivemo.com

Current and Past Newsletters are available on our website. You can view or download Newsletters going back to March 2022.

We welcome all comments and suggestions for Newsletter articles. If you have memories, pictures, or letters about the community you would like to share, or upcoming events in the Village, please let us know and we might add these to future Newsletters.

*Respectfully,*
*Board of Trustees*
*And Village Clerks*

A Community Growing Together

**Board of Trustees**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Terry Myers, Chairman: | 417-385-7320 | April 2027 |
| Ray Bryant, Chrmn Pro Tem: | 417-782-3996 | April 2027 |
| Claren Holmes, Trustee | 417-429-5945 | April 2028 |
| Denise Winans, Trustee | 239-404-8545 | April 2028 |
| Dr. Jim Truelove, Trustee | 417-825-6816 | April 2028 |

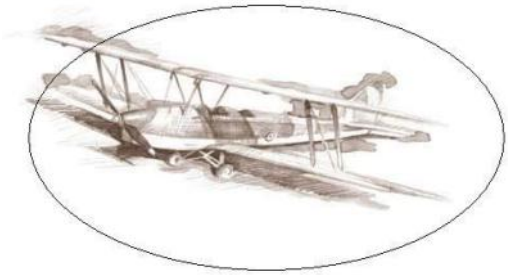
**Office hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Closings are posted. Any questions or problems after hours may be directed to any member of the Board of Trustees.**
**Board of Trustee Meetings are the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm unless posted otherwise.**

## Emergency and Other Numbers

**Emergency—911**

| | |
|---|---|
| Jasper County Sheriff Dispatch | 417-359-9100 |
| Aire Internet Service | 855-943-8247 |
| Carl Junction Fire District | 417-649-6062 (non-emergency) |
| Carl Junction Post Office | 417-649-7831 |
| Carl Junction Sewer Plant | 417-649-7229 |
| City of Carl Junction Water | 417-649-7237 |
| Dig Rite (MO One Call) | 800-344-7483 |
| Garbage Gators (trash service) | 417-842-8677 |
| | Pickups are on Mondays |
| Joplin Airport | 417-623-0262 |
| Joplin Post Office | 417-623-6176 |
| Liberty/Empire Electric | 800-206-2300 |
| Humane Society | 417-623-3642 |
| Jasper County Rural Water #1 | 417-781-8844 |
| Mediacom | 800-234-2157 |
| MO American Water | 866-430-0820 |
| Sparklight | 866-983-2409 |
| Spire (MO Gas Energy) | 800-582-1234 |
| Webb City Post Office | 417-673-4346 |
| Wisper Internet | 800-765-7772 |

**Village of Airport Drive**
**25150 Demott Drive**
**Joplin, Missouri 64801**
**(417) 623-6744**



# August 2026 Newsletter

Join us on Wednesday, August 5th
10 am to Noon
For Coffee, Conversation
& Bingo !!
Come visit with neighbors &
friends at the Municipal Building!
Wear your favorite Hawaiian
inspired outfit! (only if you want to)
For details, call (417) 623-6744

Bingo prizes donated by SMB Southwest Missouri Bank

**Future events will be held on the first Wednesday of each month.**