

Volume 23
Issue 3

July
2020

VILLAGE
OF
AIRPORT
DRIVE

The Village News



Working
To Protect
And Serve
Airport
Drive



Sales Tax Question for the August 4, 2020 Ballot

Proposition "A"

"Shall the Village of Airport Drive impose a city sales tax of one-half of one-percent (1/2 of 1%) for the sole purpose of funding fire and police capital improvement and operations?"

What is Proposition "A"?

A question to be put before the voters of Airport Drive on August 4, 2020. Passage of Proposition A would add a 1/2 of 1% Sales Tax on all local retail sales and services subject to taxation within Airport Drive. For every \$10.00 spent, 5¢ would be the amount collected. The Sales Tax would be paid by everyone that shops at businesses in Airport Drive. All of the sales tax collected for this fund would be used for only Fire and Police Capital Improvements and Operations.

TOWN HALL MEETING

There will be a Town Hall Meeting on July 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 25150 Demott Drive. Trustees Mark Rains, Jim Paul, Reed Thompson and Ray Bryant will be at the meeting to discuss the proposed Sales Tax. Some of the Meeting Topics:

- ⇒ At this time, Airport Drive collects 6.95% Sales Tax, the lowest rate of any nearby city. A few tax districts collect over 9%!
- ⇒ Carl Junction Fire Protection District passed a 1/4 of 1% levy that will be in effect January 1, 2021. The amount Airport Drive pays for fire protection services will increase, possibly double.
- ⇒ Should there be a 3rd Jasper County Sheriff's Officer dedicated to Village?

There will be hotdogs, chips and drinks provided. Please attend to ask questions, visit with neighbors and discuss what is important to you in Airport Drive.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

- ◇ July 23
- ◇ August 27
- ◇ September 24

Town Hall
Meeting
July 16, 2020
@ 6:30 p.m.

The Office will
be closed on the
following dates:

September 7 -
Labor Day
October 12 -
Columbus Day

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Updates & Reminders

Meetings for the Village of Airport Drive held at the Municipal Building 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 Airport Drive.

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.

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/A13224**.

If you would like to receive your **sewer bill by email**, please contact the Village Office at 623-6744 or send an email to **Sue@airportdrivemo.com**.

Mosquito briquettes are available to residents at no charge. Stop by the Office to pick them up.



Carl Junction Fire Protection District wanted to remind everyone to have their **house numbers on their homes**. It helps emergency personnel identify homes more quickly in emergencies.

All **ditches** are to be maintained by the resident. Trees, bushes, brush, debris and leaves need to be kept out of the ditches so water will drain from them.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM

Since March, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed life as we know it. Due to the restrictions issued by President Donald Trump, Missouri Governor Mike Parson and the CDC for the gathering of people, the March 26th Board of Trustees Meeting was canceled. The Board was able to hold a Special Meeting on April 2, 2020. They adopted Resolution 01-20, supporting the declaration of a State of Emergency in the Village of Airport Drive and calling for proactive measures to protect public health, safety, and welfare. Also adopted was Ordinance 03-20, prohibiting the gathering of ten or more persons except for educational institutions, daycare facilities and business operations within the corporate limits of the Village. The Trustees also discussed options to offer aid to local eating establishments due to loss of business caused by the government's restrictions to not allow dining inside their buildings.

The next Special Meeting was held on April 13th. The Board passed an ordinance to authorize expenditures to provide economic stimulus for restaurants within Airport Drive due to state limitations on business activities. The 2020 Budget was amended to fund up to 750 \$10.00 discounts per restaurant. Five local restaurants were approved to

participate in the program - Babe's Drive In, Butcher's Block Event Center, El Charro, the Meat'n Place and Woody's Smokehouse.

An Economic Stimulus Committee was selected. Residents Janie Liles and Debbie Bryant, and Trustees Reed Thompson and Ray Bryant and Clerk Sue Hirshey agreed to serve. Rules and Procedures for the program were created by Attorney Derek Snyder and approved by the Board of Trustees. Because the program was first suggested by Trustee Reed Thompson, he gave statements to the press to promote the program. He spoke with Gretchen Bolander from KODE/KSNF TV station and Lucas Davis from The Joplin Globe. Deputy Clerk Kristy Hoggatt added daily reminders to the Village's Facebook page and website to let the public know where the discounts were being offered.

Between the five restaurants, 3,337 discounts were given to customers spending more than \$10.00. Customers appreciated discounted meals and business owners appreciated the promotion of their businesses.

A huge **Thank You** to the Economic Stimulus Committee Members Janie, Debbie, Ray and Reed! They put in several hours for this project; attending meetings to set up the program, creating a calendar with the restaurant owners, and reviewing receipts to verify totals prior to reimbursement of the discounts.



A Word from Sergeant Roughton....

Greetings Folks!

It's time again to share what is happening in our Village.

First of all I want to say how sorry I am about what is happening in our nation. It is terrible what has taken place these last few months. Besides the threat of Corona Virus, we are all dealing with the tragedy of George Floyd and Rayshard Brooks. It's been really difficult for me to understand. Please know not all law enforcement officers are bad or have the mindset of killing someone. In my eyes, we are all equal. I am here for all of you as well as the Sheriff's Office. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns on any matter. I feel very grateful to work for all of you and will do my best to be the best officer I can.

In other news, there hasn't been a lot of anything going on. We've had a few thefts, mainly shoplifters from Harp's and Walmart. Traffic is picking up after re-opening from the Corona Virus.

Speaking of Corona Virus, I know it has been confusing. At one point they say "wear a mask", then on another note they say a mask won't help. Then it was supposed to infect the elderly and then changed to young folks. I don't think anyone really knows the answer, and that's why we should all use common sense and protect ourselves the best way we can. I do believe it could be like this for a long while, but I also believe this will pass.



Jasper County Sheriff's Office

Your all are great people and I don't want to lose any of you because of the virus. Please be cautious. We will get through this together.

Well, I guess the heat is here for awhile. Please keep your pets in mind if they are outside. They need fresh water as much as possible, as well as shade. Their water gets hot quickly on a hot day, especially if it's in the sun. So please take care of them.

Also take care of yourselves. Try not to mow in the heat of the day. If you can, keep water or Gatorade in an ice chest to drink. A cold towel will also feel good on your neck. Keep it in a baggie in your ice chest if you don't want to get wet, but you might think being wet would feel better.

I've noticed some trash cans are being left out too long by the road. Please know you can put them out by 6:00 pm the day before, but the need to be pulled back from the road by 8:00 pm on trash day.

Also, some need to put new address numbers on your houses. It will help first responders get to you quicker if they see an address on the house. It would be much appreciated.

Well, I think that about covers it for now. I hope everyone has a great summer. Please stay safe, be kind and take care of one and another. We will talk again in a few months.

Thank you for being a great community!

Sergeant Melissa Roughton

Jasper County Sheriff's Office

June 2, 2020 Election Results

The April 7, 2020 General Election was postponed by Governor Mike Parson and Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft until June 2, 2020. Although terms for Trustees Jim Paul, Mark Rains and Reed Thompson ended on April 2, 2020, they continued to serve Airport Drive until the June election. On June 2nd, four candidates vied for three seats on the Board. After voters were finally able to cast their ballots, Trustees Jim Paul, Mark Rains and Reed Thompson retained their seats.

A Special Meeting was held after the election on Monday, June 8, 2020 at the Municipal Building. The Trustees elected Jim Paul to serve as Chairman, and Terry Myers to serve as Chairman Pro Tem. Residents Debie Heckart and Edwina Rains agreed to continue to serve on the Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment, respectively.

Thank you to the residents serving on the Zoning Commission: Chairman Steve Allgood, Vice Chair Debie Heckart, Secretary Janie Liles and Members Melody Dhooghe, Jerry Goins, Debbie Bryant and Georgianna Krier.

Thank you to the residents serving on the Board of Adjustment: Chairwoman Jamie Myers, Vice Chair Nathan Weston, and Members Edwina Rains, Mike Warman and Tod Wooley.



In the
Spotlight



Country
Pickin's

ANTIQUES
&
PRIMITIVES

5836 N. MAIN STREET RD

OPEN

TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY
10:00 A.M. TO 4:45 P.M.

CLOSED

SUNDAYS & MONDAYS

It would be hard to find someone more knowledgeable about antiques than George Anne Stringer. She and her husband Bill own and operate County Pickin's Antique Mall on North Main Street Road. The Antique Mall has been in Airport Drive since 2006. Before that, George Anne owned Goads Antiques in Carthage. Her brother Bob began selling books there; now you can find him at Always Buying Books. Twelve vendors offer things such as signage for gas and oil products, collectable glass, architectural doors and porch railings, scales, candles and antique, not refurbished, furniture. Check out their Facebook page for newly arrived items.

Did you know
Antiques and
Primitives are
two different
things?

Stop in and ask
George Anne
how they are
different.



United States®
**Census
2020**

If you still have not submitted your **Census 2020** information, how can we help? According to the Census, only 72.2% of the households in Airport Drive have responded. Census takers will begin going door-to-door in August for non-responsive addresses. Don't wait for them to come to you. If you haven't responded yet, please do it soon!

BLOOD DRIVE



THE
BLOODMOBILE
WILL BE
BE AT THE
VILLAGE OF
AIRPORT DRIVE
MUNICIPAL
BUILDING
25150 DEMOTT
DRIVE

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 13, 2020
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Photo identification required.
Please eat well and drink plenty of fluids prior
to the blood drive.

Thank you for Giving Life To Your Community!



It has **never** been
easier to respond
to the **census**
on **your own...**



Online



By phone



Or by mail

...all **without** having to meet
a census taker.

Respond **today** at
2020Census.gov
844-330-2020

Shape
YOUR future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

Starting in mid-June, Liberty Utilities began installing smart meters at homes and businesses throughout their service areas. This project will take approximately a year to complete.

Liberty wanted to alert us that in the coming weeks, residents may notice several service vehicles in their neighborhoods. They are working with a contractor, **Itron**, to install the meters. The Itron technicians will drive vehicles with signage identifying them as a Liberty Utilities contractor. The technicians will also carry identification. Residents receiving new meters receive an informational packet in the mail with details regarding the installation process from Liberty approximately four weeks in advance of the meter exchange.

For more information please go to Liberty's smart meter website, www.libertyutilities.com/smartmeters, which includes frequently asked questions, an installation map and estimated timeline; or call the **Smart Meter Information Center** at 833-971-1864, available from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Liberty Utilities

Smarter Meter. *Better Service!*



Smart Meters are Coming Soon to Liberty Utilities!

Beginning in 2020, we're replacing meters throughout our service areas with smart meters.* Smart meters are digital meters that allow for secure and automatic two-way communication. The equipment and technology, once fully installed and activated, will enable customers to access near real-time information about their usage, giving them more control and the opportunity to take action more quickly to manage costs.

*Dates may vary as installation progresses. Watch www.libertyutilities.com/smartmeters for updated installment schedules.



Meeting Your Needs Today and Tomorrow

By December 2019, there were more than 98 million smart meters installed across the United States.** Liberty Utilities is pleased to join utilities across the country in implementing this technology to improve our customers' experience; reduce costs through efficiency; protect our environment through lower emissions; and strengthen our electric, water, and natural gas distribution networks for safe and reliable service today and in the future.

**Source: The Edison Foundation, Institute for Electric Innovation

For more information, visit www.libertyutilities.com/smartmeters.



What to Expect During Installation

- Installation is expected to begin in 2020.
- We will install or upgrade meters by geographic regions to ensure the transition is efficient and seamless. A map and schedule will be available at www.libertyutilities.com/smartmeters.
- Customers will receive a letter with additional details approximately four weeks before the installer arrives to change the meter at their home or business. This letter will include a phone number to call for specific questions or to schedule an installation time if you prefer.
- Customers do not need to be home during the meter exchange. In most cases, there will only be a brief interruption in service lasting just a few minutes. Installers will leave behind a door hanger with additional details regarding the work that was conducted.
- Installers will drive vehicles with signage identifying them as a Liberty Utilities contractor. Installers will also carry identification.



Improving Your Customer Experience

Once our smart meter project is completed within a service region and the technology is fully activated, customers will enjoy numerous benefits:

- Meter readings will be automated. This means few to no estimated bills.
- Automated meter readings provide cost savings with fewer service calls and service trucks on the road. This also reduces vehicle emissions, protecting the environment.
- Starting or stopping service will be done more quickly and efficiently.
- Customers can better track and manage usage throughout the month with near real-time usage data provided through a simple, user-friendly website portal.
- Smart meter information helps our service teams troubleshoot and resolve problems with equipment or services and provides timely outage and safety alerts. This helps customers by reducing the need for them to call to report issues or outages.
- Smart meters help to modernize the energy grid and our distribution systems. This helps to improve reliability and service restoration when an outage or issue occurs.
- Smart meters also help our utilities plan for the future by providing precise analysis to help us design pricing plans and service options that match customer needs and energy and water use.



Keeping Your Information Safe & Secure

Liberty Utilities remains committed to safeguarding customer privacy.

- Smart meters do not transmit personally identifiable information such as names or account numbers. The information that is transmitted is done so over secure networks.
- Smart meter data is considered confidential and is protected by the same rigorous privacy and security safeguards that we use to protect other account information. Liberty Utilities will meet legal and regulatory standards and industry best practices, including ongoing security testing.



For more information, visit www.libertyutilities.com/smartmeters.

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

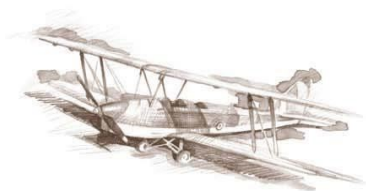
We're on the Web
www.airportdrivemo.com

**To receive the Newsletter,
 occasional updates,
 notifications from the office
 or Sgt. Roughton by email,
 please share your email
 address with us at
Sue@airportdrivemo.com**

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

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|
| Jim Paul, Chairman: | 781-9736 | April 2022 |
| Terry Myers, Chrmn Pro Tem: | 385-7320 | April 2021 |
| Mark Rains, Trustee: | 825-4218 | April 2022 |
| Reed Thompson, Trustee: | 529-9418 | April 2022 |
| Ray Bryant, Trustee: | 782-3996 | April 2021 |

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.

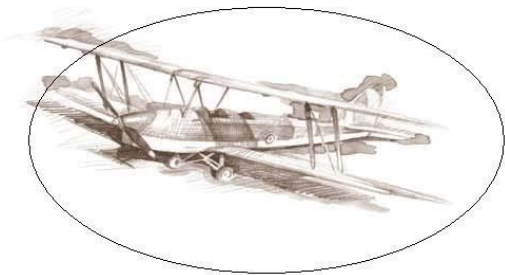
Board of Trustee Meetings are the 4th Thursday of every
month at 7:00 pm unless posted otherwise.

Emergency and Other Numbers

Emergency—911

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jasper County Sheriff's Office | 417-359-9100 |
| Animal Control Officer | 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 |
| 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 |
| Republic Services (trash service) | 800-627-1717 |
| (Pickup on Monday) | |
| 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



**Join Us at
Our Town
Hall
Meeting!**

July 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm

The Village of Airport Drive

**Municipal Building
25150 Demott Drive**



**There will be hot dogs,
chips & drinks provided.**

**JULY 2020
NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
VILLAGE OF AIRPORT DRIVE
NEWS, HELPFUL INFORMATION & MORE**