



City of Duncanville

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kevin Hugman, City Manager

DATE: February 16, 2018

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

Happy Retirement to Mary Jones! – Today the Mayor and members of City Council, city staff, and many other well-wishers bid a fond “happy retirement” to City Secretary Mary Jones! Thank you to all of the City Council and many citizens who came to honor Mary on this special day. She has served the citizens of Duncanville for more than 20 years and done a great job in many capacities for the city, including the last four years as City Secretary. We will miss her warm smile and engaging personality and wish the very best for her in her retirement!



Fire Department – The Department has not had any major EMS events in Duncanville this week. The Department did respond to a structure fire in a two-story residence at 435 N. Alexander Ave. The fire started in the garage and quickly spread to the second floor and attic. There were no injuries, but an animal lost its life. Due to high winds the day of the fire, a second alarm was called out and our regional partners of DeSoto, Cedar Hill and Dallas assisted in the extinguishment of the structure. The fire was ruled unintentional and the investigation closed.

Mayor Green, EMS Division Chief Mike Ryan, Lacey Freeman, and Skip Cannon attended the fourth First Responder Appreciation Luncheon this week at Methodist Charlton. The DeSoto Chamber of Commerce honors the police and fire departments from the Best Southwest Cities for service to our communities. Duncanville Firefighter/Paramedic Steve Blanchard was honored with a certificate for his quick thinking and experience in providing an airway for his patient. The patient was hypoxic and had coded due to diminished ventilation from a respiratory device. The patient regained a pulse upon arrival at the hospital emergency room. Firefighter Blanchard performed above and beyond in saving this patients life!

Fire Inspector Pam McAllister provide fire safety training on Tuesday to the Hilton Garden Inn employees. They reviewed fire alarm panel operation, extinguisher operation, automatic fire extinguishing systems, and emergency exiting during the training.

Public Works – Water usage was 23.984 MG the week of February 11-17, up from 23.114 MG the prior week. The daily peak water demand occurred on Thursday, February 15, when 3.601 MG was used. There was 1.13 inches of precipitation that week.

Public Works will staff two booths at the *Flavor of Duncanville* event to be held on March 15, 2018, from 4:00p to 8:00p at Duncanville High School. One booth will concentrate on water conservation and waste collection (HAZMAT, grease, Christmas tree disposal, etc.), and the other booth will host information on storm water management and code enforcement.

There will be no Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on Monday, February 26, 2018, due to no agenda items.

Planning Technician Athena Seaton is gathering information to submit an application for recognition as a Scenic City through the Scenic City Certification Program. The Scenic City Program provides an objective review of existing municipal infrastructure ordinances as they relate to public roadways and public spaces. The evaluation compares these standards to the Scenic City model devised by the 15 Scenic City Program Partner organizations, which includes TML, Keep Texas Beautiful, Texas Downtown Association, Texas Historical Commission, NCTCOG, and others. Certification can be earned by cities that score the highest points and demonstrate existence of three required standards: 1) a permitting system for on-premise signs, 2) a landscaping or tree planting program, and

3) prohibition on new billboards. Based on the points awarded, cities can be recognized at one of five levels – Recognized, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. A city can also reapply for a higher level of recognition as additional requirements are met. There are currently more than 70 Texas cities recognized with a Scenic City certification.

Following the public meeting regarding “No Parking Zones” held on Tuesday, February 13, the city will designate “No Parking Zones” from 5:00p to 5:00a, seven days a week, in the vicinity of 930 Gaynor Avenue, 932 Fairbanks Circle, and 973 Fairbanks Circle. Curbs will be painted at the intersections of Leigh Lane/Gaynor Avenue, Oak Run Drive/Willow Run Drive and Willow Run Drive/Heather Run Drive to more clearly enforce no parking within 30 feet of a signed intersection, per State law. Additionally, “No Parking Zones” will be placed in front of 1314/1318 Heather Run Drive and 1110/1114 Willow Run Drive. Signage, markings, and curb painting will occur starting March 5, weather permitting.

The attached monthly Code Enforcement Report compares the 2017-2018 notices of violations and citations issued for the month of January. For the month of January 2018, notices of violation are at 440.1% and citations are at 116.1% of those issued in January 2017. The year-to-date numbers are the same as the monthly comparison since we are at the start of a new year. Since percentages for the comparison between January 2018 and 2017 are so significant, an explanation of the differences is shown below:

	2018	2017
<u>BUILDING CODE VIOLATIONS</u>		
- Other Violations	193	0
<i>Summary: Code Enforcement campaign to address alleys resulted in an increase in violations for properties with no rear addresses posted and/or visible from the front or rear of dwelling or structure.</i>		
<u>NUISANCE VIOLATIONS</u>		
- Illegal Open Storage	248	64
<i>Summary: As a result of the Code Enforcement campaign to address alleys, officers also identified an increased number of illegal open storage violations in the rear of residential properties.</i>		
- Junked/Inoperable/Illegal Vehicles	73	24
<i>Summary: Code Enforcement Officers during year 2017 did not actively work junked vehicles. New Code Officers have increased efforts to identify junked vehicles.</i>		
- Other Violations	37	1
<i>Summary: New Code Officers were not correctly identifying case categories and used this section to process questionable cases. Errors have been identified and corrected with training</i>		

<p>- Parking on Sidewalk or Unimproved Surface</p>	<p>45</p>	<p>13</p>
<p><i>Summary: Code Enforcement Officers during year 2017 did not actively work parking on sidewalk or unimproved surfaces. 2018 resulted in an increase in notice of violations for this category due to residential complaints and an intensified effort by new Code Officers to address this issue.</i></p>		

Crews are currently undergoing clean-up, remediation and disinfection of a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) that occurred February 21 and again on February 22, 2018, at Mauk Branch Creek. SSO events result from heavy rains as well as the city's aging infrastructure. Staff has notified the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in compliance with their requirement for a discharge over their threshold limit. Once the danger of additional overflows has passed, crews will begin taking laboratory samples at various points along the creek to ensure the water and environment are safe. There has been no observation of any fish kills to-date. Due to the heavy dilution by rainwater, it is unlikely there will be any damaging effect to the creek or fish life from the SSO. **Duncanville citizens should not be concerned when using our water, as at no time was the City's water system affected by this sewer spill.**



On Wednesday, February 21, Street crews closed the 200 block of Walnut Street between West Cherry and West Orange due to street flooding. Signage was placed to detour traffic around the

road closure and was reopened at 2:00p on Thursday, February 22. Crews also removed debris from drainage ditches along Vinyard Road to allow water to flow that was ponding in the street.



Street crews removed a large tree at 310 Cedar Creek Drive that fell in the storms on Wednesday, February 21. The tree was cleared from the city right-of-way and a portion of the resident's driveway cleared for vehicle access.



Construction Updates:

- The concrete construction crew continued removal and replacement of concrete sidewalks at 202 Vinyard Road, placing 1,025 square feet of concrete. Substandard sidewalks are being replaced or repaired and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps installed.
- LaBanda Contractors is continuing work on the FY18 Water Improvements. The water line on West Vinyard is currently progressing through testing procedures. A change order allowing an additional 14 days for completion was processed for a project delay due to a pipe sizing issue. The project is currently scheduled for completion by Friday, March 9 due to the weather delays this week.
- The North Main Street Pump Station Phase II Improvements construction project is pending completion of several punch list items. Staff continues to work with the designer for a solution to the elevated storage tank lighting issue. Scott James Plumbing will install a new drain line from the chlorine building to the sanitary sewer manhole once the construction contractor completes the punch list items.

Economic Development – ED staff is providing support and working on the following projects:

- Working with other city staff and McDonald's to get their certificate of occupancy (CO) inspections completed satisfactorily. McDonald's is scheduled to have a soft opening on February 28, 2018 and City Council has been invited for a VIP pre-

opening from 6:00p-7:30p. Their Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for March 22 at 10:00a.

- Received and researched a state lead for a food processing company, however Duncanville does not have the required acreage available.
- Received and pursued an inquiry from a developer for a property on located on Camp Wisdom.
- Received and pursued an inquiry from a broker on the Main Station Property, which is owned by the DCEDC.

DCEDC held their monthly meeting on Monday, February 19 and approved the 2017 Annual Report and the 2017-2018 Community Enhancement Program update. DCEDC also presented Ten Hagen Excavating with a \$48,000 wall incentive grant. Ten Hagen is building a new 8,000 square foot headquarters at 1214 S. Alexander Ave. and received a screening wall grant from the DCEDC.



Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Permits Issued:

- H-Tech Foreign & Domestic Repair Service; 110 E Fain St.(Small Engine Repair)
- DFW Consolidated Healthcare Services; 217 E Camp Wisdom Rd. Ste. # E (Healthcare Office)

Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Applications Received

- Allstate Insurance Agency; 407 N Cedar Ridge Dr. Ste. # 200 (Change of Location, Insurance Agency)
- Dollar ATM; 1534 Clark Rd. (ATM Retail and Repair)

Monthly Summary of Code Enforcement Activity
January 2018

	2018				2017			
	January		YTD		January		YTD	
	Notices of Violation	Citations	Notices of Violation	Citations	Notices of Violation	Citations	Notices of Violation	Citations
Building Code Violations								
Construction w/o Permit or Illegal Construction	13	1	13	1	12	5	12	5
Driveway in Disrepair								
Fence in Disrepair	25		25		10		10	
Installation of Illegal Driveway								
No Water Service	3		3					
Other Violations	193	4	193	4				
Parking Lot in Disrepair	1	1	1	1	2		2	
Plumbing Violation								
Substandard Building	8		8		5		5	
Nuisance Violations								
Dumpster & Dumpster Enclosure								
Graffiti	4		4		2		2	
Growth Limitations - Plant Life	38		38		6		6	
High Grass	20		20		6		6	
Illegal Dumping	1		1					
Illegal Open Storage	248	13	248	13	64	16	64	16
Illicit Discharge								
Illegal Truck	3		3					
Junked/Inoperable/Illegal Vehicles	73	2	73	2	24		24	
Junked Vehicles - Private Property or Street	6		6		3		3	
Parking Trucks in Commercial Areas								
Vehicle over 1.5 tons capacity in Residential Areas	3	1	3	1	3		3	
Visibility obstruction	2		2		1		1	
Other Violations								
Dead trees or Vegetation	6	1	6	1	4		4	
Dumpster Screening Required								
Garage Sales w/o Permit								
Illegal Placement of Trash	2		2					
Other Violations	37	1	37	1	1		1	
Over 5 Vehicles on Residential Prop.	5	2	5	2				
Parking on Sidewalk					3	3	3	3
Parking on Sidewalk or Unimproved Surface	45	5	45	5	13	6	13	6
Trash Containers Left Open	1		1					
Trash Out Early	3	1	3	1				
Vegetation Encroachment or on Sidewalk or Curb	21	1	21	1	12		12	
Vegetation on Sidewalk/Curb/Gutter								
Vehicles Displayed for Sale								
Sign Violations								
Banner Permit Expiring								
Banner w/o Permit	1		1					
Blinking or Flashing Sign								
Dilapidated & Deteriorated Condition								
Illegal Placement of Sign								
Illegal Sign		1		1	2		2	
Over 40% Window Signage								
Pennants Displayed								
Sign w/o Permit	5		5					
Obsolete Sign	1		1					
Swimming Pools								
Improper Fence around Pool	3		3					
Pool Not Maintained	4	2	4	2	1		1	
Zoning Violations								
Containerized Storage	1		1			1		1
Illegal Home Occupation	1		1		1		1	
Illegal Outside Display of Goods								
Illegal Use	2		2		2		2	
No Current C.O.								
Parking Requirements								
Screening Requirements								
TOTALS	779	36	779	36	177	31	177	31
Compared to Same Period Previous Year	440.1%	116.1%	440.1%	116.1%				