



# City of Duncanville

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TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kevin Hugman, City Manager

DATE: February 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

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**Bond Rating** – this week, the city was notified by S&P Global Ratings (Standard & Poor’s) and Fitch Rating Services of their respective agencies’ ratings for the upcoming bond issuance. S&P gave the city a ‘AA/Stable’ rating for the new bonds, and also reaffirmed the city’s overall rating as ‘AA/Stable.’ S&P’s report noted the following factors that influenced their opinion:

- “[an] adequate economy, with projected per capita effective buying income at 78.8% ...”
- “Strong management, with good financial policies and practices . . .”
- “Strong budgetary performance with operating surpluses in the general fund . . . “
- “Very strong budgetary flexibility . . . “
- “Very strong liquidity . . .” and
- “Adequate debt and contingent liability profile . . .”

Fitch Rating Services also gave the city a ‘AA; Rating Outlook: Stable.’ This was the first time the city of Duncanville has been rated by Fitch.

A rating of ‘AA’ has a very strong ability to meet its financial obligations and commitments.

**Police Department** – Following citizen concerns about speeding in alleys in the Hollywood Park / Willow Run neighborhoods, traffic officers have spent time monitoring the alleys at Barrymore Lane, Astaire Avenue, Cedar Run Drive and Stanwyck Avenue. Times of monitoring have been varied, but no violations were observed during those times. They will continue to monitor and enforce speed limits in the area.

**Notes on recent successes:**

- As a day patrol officer was clearing a false burglar alarm in the Hollywood Park neighborhood, he heard several gun shots nearby. The officer quickly alerted other officers, both patrol and other sworn personnel on-duty at the time, to the gun shots, via radio. As our personnel began to respond, three juvenile teens in

the area where the shots were heard, ran from officers. Ultimately, two of the three juveniles were taken to the Dallas County Juvenile Justice Center; one for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for firing upon a motorist; and the other for tampering with evidence for disposing of the pistol while running from officers. The pistol was located by officers in some bushes near a home and confiscated as evidence. The victim to the aggravated assault was not hurt. This was a great effort by many of our police officers who responded quickly and efficiently!

- A day patrol officer arrested a wanted subject who had violated a previously issued criminal trespass warning at a grocery store.
- A day patrol officer was dispatched to investigate a suspicious person call regarding a male and a female who were pushing a shopping cart and bicycle in an alley. When the officer attempted to stop and question the subjects and their behavior, they ran from the officer. As officers from patrol, criminal investigations, and administrative functions arrived in the area of the fleeing male suspect, he was contained in the Freedom Dodge parking lot. However, he would still not surrender and in fact, hid in the parking lot. Since officers were not certain if he was armed, they held the perimeter of the parking lot, secured the dealership employees in place, and called for a K9 from another agency. The suspect apparently heard this and attempted to flee again, but officers quickly apprehended him. He was wanted for a parole violation from the State of Texas, which it appears is why he fled. His decision to flee however, also resulted in an additional evading charge. The female was also located and jailed for other agency warrants.
- A night patrol officer was alerted to a possible animal cruelty issue with a dog who the reporting person stated he had sold to a neighbor but was heard yelping for several nights. Upon the officer's investigation, he determined the dog was illegally tethered, had no food or water, was malnourished, and had injuries consistent with trying to burrow under a nearby fence. The new "owner" of the dog was reportedly not present. Due to the condition of the dog, it was impounded to the Tri-City Animal Shelter. Animal Control is investigating further to determine if criminal charges are appropriate.
- A day patrol officer had a speeder evade from him to a city park where the driver attempted to disassociate himself from the vehicle. The officer arrested the subject and found narcotics in the vehicle.

**Fire Department** – The Department has not had any major fire events in Duncanville this week but did respond to a fatality accident last Saturday, January 26 on Daniieldale at Green Tree. The victim was travelling westbound on Daniieldale and turning left onto Green Tree when struck by a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed eastbound on Daniieldale. The accident is still under investigation by the Police Department. The Department also responded to a residential structure fire on January 28 at 507 E. Fairmeadows Dr. The fire got into the attic space before the fire crews arrived but firefighters from Duncanville, Dallas, DeSoto, and Cedar Hill quickly contained the fire.

No one was injured, but the structure had smoke and water damage. The family will not be able to live in the structure because of the damage and electrical issues.

Fire Marshal Mike Trousdale submitted his retirement letter to the Department and will retire on February 28, 2019. He has worked for the Duncanville Fire Department for over 36 years and been the Fire Marshal since June 2010.

The Department's three new employees are in training and progressing through the process. We currently have one vacancy to fill and as of February 28, will have 2 vacancies with Fire Marshal Trousdale's retirement.

The Department was scheduled to administer a dual civil service exam with DeSoto and Duncanville on March 2. We were notified today that DeSoto decided to schedule separate tests at this time. We will try to schedule a Civil Service test for Duncanville as soon as possible.

**Public Works** – Water usage was 24.338 MG the week of January 21 through January 27, down slightly from 24.422 last week. The daily peak water demand occurred on Tuesday, January 22, when 3.625 MG was used. There was no precipitation that week.

Applications were received this week for twenty-nine properties for the residential rental property program, for a total of 64 registered properties year-to-date. Four properties were inspected. Two inspections passed, and two failed due to electrical problems. No residential certificates of occupancy were issued.

The Planning and Zoning Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, January 28 at 7:00p in the Council Chambers. The agenda consisted of a replat for Village Tech Addition and an overview of the zoning ordinance update project schedule.

The Board of Adjustment held a training workshop on Monday, January 29, at 6:30p in the Council Briefing Room. The training was facilitated by City Attorney Robert Hager and covered a variety of topics including, but not limited to, basic meeting conduct, appeals, interpretations, and variances.

The city-wide Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2017. One of the primary actions to implement this comprehensive plan is a zoning ordinance revision. The last major update of the Zoning Ordinance occurred in 1998 and was completed in 2002. The fourteen to sixteen-month process to update the Zoning Ordinance has begun. With help from planning consultants at Freese and Nichols, a Community Open House will be held on Wednesday, February 6, at 6:30p at the Senior Center to begin the community input phase. All citizens are invited to attend to give their valuable input.

The concrete construction crew repaired 1,032 square feet of sidewalk at 403, 406, 410, 415, 419, 423, and 602 Walnut Street. The drainage crew cleaned the bar ditch and installed sod to facilitate drainage at 1739 Cedar Hill Road.

**Construction Update:**

- Muniz Construction has completed approximately 80% of Granada/Flamingo Way Alley Reconstruction project.
- Vortex Turnkey Solution LLC completed approximately 610 LF of pipebursting at Circle Drive for the FY18 Pipebursting Program.



**Parks and Recreation –**

**Parks:**

- The swings at Kidsville were inspected this week based on the concern shared at the community meeting. There are currently two swings that have been removed due to broken hardware which cannot be replaced. Staff is going to attempt to utilize the unbroken hardware to replace one of the swings if it can be done so safely for the swing patrons. It is evident the swings have been repaired and moved several times over the years to maintain the safety of the units. Overall, we are just to a point where the swings need to be replaced like the rest of the playground.
- New infield clay was delivered to Alexander and Lions parks and park crews tilled the new clay into the playing surfaces. This is done annually to help maintain safe surfacing that drains adequately for increased playability.

**Fieldhouse:**

- Painting of offices and first floor meeting rooms has been completed.
- This coming week we have:
  - TCSAAL Basketball Tournament - Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 4:00a to 9:00p x 6 courts
  - Top Gun Youth Winter Basketball League - Saturday 10:00a to 6:00p x 6 courts
  - Fieldhouse Youth Basketball League - Sunday 5:00p to 9:00p x 5 courts

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

- Working with two developers interested in Duncanville.
- The Development Team is working with a developer that is actively purchasing property in Duncanville.
- Working with an appraiser on potential properties for the new Fire Station.

Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Applications Received:

- Crossroads Trucking, Inc.: 407 N. Cedar Ridge Dr., Unit 130 (Transportation - Office Only)
- DP & L Church: 200 E. Carr Ln. (Church - Change of Ownership; Change of Name)
- Jaes Helpers: 214 S. Main St., Suite #220 (Child Placement Agency Office)
- Braids by Kie & Bond & Beads Co.; 1019 S. Main St., Suite #112 (Hair Braiding Only)
- Steve Corder State Farm Agency; 606 W. Wheatland Rd., Suite #105 (Insurance Office (Co Replacement))
- Sonny Rios; 550 Main St, Suite #204 (Vocal Coach)

Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Permits Issued:

- McDonald's Car Wash; 518 N. Main St. (Car Wash – CO Replacement)

**Public Information** – News coverage for this week:

Jan 27, 2019 – [1 Killed, 1 Injured in Violent Duncanville Crash](#)

Jan 28, 2019 – [Duncanville ISD Names Dwight Weaver New Athletic Director](#)

Jan 30, 2019 – [2018 Duncanville Man and Woman of the Year](#)

Jan 31, 2019 – [A Dallas Diocese Priest Accused of Abuse was Saying Mass in Duncanville Last Fall](#)