

# City of November 1997 ORRISTON November 2016

#### Community **Events**

Nov. 1 & 15 @ 5:00

City Council Meeting at City Center

Nov. 11 @ 5:30

Veteran's Day Parade Downtown-Main St.

Nov. 26 10 am—3 pm

**Small Business Day** Downtown

Nov. 29 @ 6 pm

Tree Lighting Ceremony City Center

Dec. 1 @ 7 pm

Downtown Christmas Parade Main St.

#### **Christmas Parade**

The annual parade will be held Thursday, December 1st, and is hosted by the Crossroads Downtown Partnership. The 2016 theme is "Pick a Decade". Entrants are asked to pick a decade and decorate accordingly. The earliest decades will be near the front and the most recent ones towards the rear of the parade.

## **New Planning Director**

We are very happy to welcome Steve Neilson to the City. He has extensive experience in Planning and a particular interest in Downtown Revitalization. Steve will be a big plus for our community. Steve has worked as the Development Coordinator in Johnson City for the past 21 years. He has over 25 years of professional planning experience working in state and local government in Florida, Maine, and Tennessee. He is an instructor in Urban Planning, MPA Program, at East Tennessee State University. He holds a



Master Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Florida State University. He is a certified member of the American Planning Institute and was elected to the Tennessee Planning Leadership Council in 2012.

# Christmas Tree Lighting



The City of Morristown will present the annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 29th. This festive event will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a welcome from Mayor Gary Chesney in the City Center rotunda and end with the lighting of the tree on the plaza. Entertainment will be provided by First United Methodist Church Hand bell Choir, East Ridge and Meadowview Middle Schools' Combined Choir, and Santa Claus. Refreshments will be provided. The Community is invited to attend and help kick off the Christmas season. Children will help decorate with their art work.

### **New Aerial Fire Truck**

The Morristown Fire Department took delivery of a new aerial platform truck on October 14, 2016. The unit was manufactured by Pierce Mfg. in Appleton, Wisconsin. The rear mount 100' platform truck will enhance the ability of the Fire Department to control situations above the ground floor of buildings. It will take the place of a 1986 model 92 foot mid-mount aerial platform. That unit will go to reserve, and the 1964 American LaFrance ladder will be placed in surplus. The rear mount of the new truck allows for the full use of the ladder. It also allows for full reach at places such as the hospitals where building setbacks from the road can cause problems accessing all points of the side of a building. The truck is the culmination of a two year planning and building effort. The process of building the



truck started prior to the 2015-16 fiscal year with the actual building taking 14 months. The truck has a 2000 gallon per minute pump that can be used to supply the aerial or pump to other trucks. The truck has all the equipment required by the ISO to support our insurance rating and complies with all NFPA standards for automotive apparatus. Pierce trainers spent 3 days instructing shift personnel on the operation and features of the truck and some hands on practice. There will be 3 more days training on the pump and pumping to the aerials and discharges as well as maintenance and minor repairs that can be completed on site. The members of



the committee were Lieutenants: Kevin Jarnigan and Anthony Lakins, Engineers Danny Case and Doug Lephew, and Firefighter Preston Mayes. Deputy Chief Gary Ryan was the staff officer assigned to the project. Thank you Mayor, City Council and Administrator Tony Cox for supporting this effort and providing a great apparatus to serve the citizens of Morristown for many years.

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at: http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/city\_newsletter.php

# Message from The Mayor

BUMPY STREETS, DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES, MORE RECREATION NEEDS . . . . Sound familiar? Three years ago, Morristown residents who participated in the annual National Citizens Survey (NCS) identified those three at the top of their suggestions for desired improvements from their city government. This year, the city has completed a \$2 million repaving program on 38 streets, is preparing for its third round of dilapidated & abandoned structures removal, is in its second year of new ordinance enforcement for bulk trash removal, and has just acquired the 52 acre site in older northeast section of the city with plans to develop a large public recreation park which will be themed as a presentation of Morristown's history. I mention this not to generate applause, but instead, to remind those of you who were randomly selected and have received the latest edition of the NCS to PARTICIPATE! FILL THEM OUT and return. City staff uses survey results to affect planning and presentations to the Mayor and Council. Those of us who stand for election know how to read statistically valid survey results. Let the above be an example of how your preferences are not only heard, but acted upon. And best of all, those actions are taken right here where you live.

Proud to be your Mayor.



Mayor Gary Chesney

