



City of

MORRISTOWN

Tennessee

November 2017

Community Events

November 3rd@8pm

Java Jive
at Rose Center

November 7th & 21st@5pm

City Council Meeting
at City Center

November 18th@10am

Turkey Tyke Mini-Tri
at Frank Lorino Park

November 23rd & 24th

City Offices Closed
Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30th@7pm

Community Listening Roundtable
at Panther Springs Methodist

Heritage Park Underway

Lose & Associates, the contractor for the Heritage Park project, has begun work on the first phase of turning the former site of Morristown College into a public park. The City of Morristown has a multi-phase plan for developing the park. The first phase, to be completed this budget year, will use about \$1 million to install an irrigation system on the great lawn and rebuild the iconic colonnades. Throughout the project, the City hopes to maintain the history of the site.

Airport Rehabilitation Projects

This fall, the City has undertaken some major capital improvement projects at the Morristown Regional Airport. For several weeks in October, the airport was closed to repair all cracks and to reseal the entire length of the runway. The nearly one-mile length of pavement was first sealed for any cracks and then topped with a special coating and sealant. Runway repair experts AmeriSeal, a company based in Ohio, was chosen to complete this project based on their expertise and bid price. The total cost of this project was \$309,656, however, thanks to state and federal grants, the City's match was only 5% of that cost.

The airport is a valuable asset of the City and is the welcome mat for economic and industrial development. Through recommendations given by TN Aeronautics, the City does their best to maintain the property. By sealing the runway, the City is extending the life of the runway rather than completely resurfacing the runway.

Another major project currently underway is the repairing of 9 sinkholes around the airport property. While none pose an immediate danger to the runway or buildings, filling the sinkholes now prevents further damage and encroachment onto the runway.

The terminal has also recently gotten a facelift with new landscaping around the building. The City is proud of their municipal airport and hope that it well serves the aeronautical community.



National Citizen Survey

City officials are currently conducting a comprehensive quality of life survey. A survey was mailed to randomly selected Morristown households earlier this fall. If you received the survey in the mail, please take a few minutes to fill it out. Your participation in this survey is very important – especially since your household is one of only a small number of households being surveyed.

“We're very excited to be conducting this survey,” says Tony Cox, City Administrator. “This survey will help City staff and Council identify priorities for the community and improve the quality of life in Morristown.”

Last month, the City Planning Department worked with an independent consultant, National Research Center, Inc., to develop the survey. The survey, known as The National Citizen Survey™, allows the City to compare results and benchmark residents' opinions against other communities across the country. The results are used to prepare the budget for the coming year and target the needs and desires of our community.

Police Retirements



The Morristown Police Department (MPD) congratulates Lieutenant Tony Belisle and Officer Michael Matthews on their October retirements.

Lieutenant Belisle served with the MPD for over 30 years. He started as a patrolman in February 1987 and in May 1995 was promoted to a patrol sergeant. Lieutenant Belisle was promoted to Lieutenant in April 2003. He wore various

hats throughout the years. Not only was he a lieutenant, he had served as Support Services Supervisor, Accreditation Manager and, at the date of his retirement, a member of the Public Information Unit. On October 17, 2017, City Council presented Lieutenant Belisle a plaque and his duty weapon for his dedicated service.

Officer Michael Matthews left the MPD with just a little over 5 years of service; however, he has over 30 years of law enforcement experience. Officer Matthews began his career at the Sevierville Police Department. He spent nine years there and left at a sergeant position. The bulk of his law enforcement career was spent with TVA Police. His career with TVA lasted 27 years. When TVA had a reduction in their force, Officer Matthews retired and became one of the MPD's newest recruits in 2012. While serving the citizens of Morristown, Officer Michaels also was a Field Training Officer.

The MPD would like to thank both Lieutenant Belisle and Officer Matthews for their dedicated service to the citizens of Morristown, the Morristown Police Department and Law Enforcement.



Shop Local this Holiday Season

The holiday season is nearly upon us. Decorations will be going up around town, City Center will be hosting the annual Christmas tree lighting, and the annual Black Friday shopping sales will draw people into stores. This season, we encourage you to shop local. By shopping right here in Morristown you can help your community in more ways than one. Shopping local creates jobs for Hamblen County residents. It shows support for small businesses. In the annual budget, over a third of revenue dollars come from local sales tax. Your local purchases help build parks, pave roads, and fund schools. Join us in living life local!

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:

http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php

Message from the Mayor

In the next few weeks, a couple of corporate layoff announcements are coming. Those affected already know. This is not “positive” news, but it is also not cause for alarm. A new manufacturing company with 180 jobs begins hiring in early 2018. Another will open its North American headquarters next year and Morristown is one of three finalists. Governor Haslam snuck into town three weeks ago to help them decide. Two existing industries are ready to announce expansions.

The ebb and flow of public preferences, whether it's furniture, gasoline vs electric cars, toothpaste, jet engines, or baby wipes, will continue to determine corporate planning, and our local workforce will help them meet manufacturing goals.

Needs and demands change. Skills and knowledge that workers bring to the workplace change too. Our local TN College of Applied Technology(TCAT) now finds itself in the middle of this very issue, and it is “ready to rumble.” State education incentives have helped boost TCAT's student volume by 15% this fall. There's more coming. Heightened attention is being paid to high school seniors. Class topics are being fitted to the 21st Century workplace. Industrial certifications often now mean higher pay, plenty of job opportunities, and no college debt.

Our City is playing a major role in this shift as well. A \$15 million TCAT expansion program is expected to be funded next spring. The new facility will sit on the land next door occupied currently by Public Works.

This is not new information as the plans have been discussed for the past year, but incremental changes are happening now that fit in the bigger picture as your City continues “working the plan” toward positive and controlled growth.



Mayor Gary Chesney