



City of

MORRISTOWN
Tennessee

January 2019



Community Events

Jan. 1, 2019

New Year's Holiday

CLOSED

Jan. 2 & 16 @ 5pm

City Council Meeting
at City Center

Jan. 8 @ 4 pm

Planning Commission BZA
at City Center

Jan. 16 @ 3:45pm

Finance Comm. Meeting
at City Center

Jan. 21 Holiday

CLOSED

Martin Luther King Day

MPD Recognizes Professional Growth of Personnel

It is the goal of the Morristown Police Department (MPD) to train personnel to excel in their assignments, whether their daily assignment or their special team duties. Many personnel are growing professionally and personally by continuing their education.

The MPD currently has 86 full-time officer positions that are assigned to several areas of responsibility throughout the department and the community. Over half of all sworn personnel hold Associates, Bachelor's and/or Master's degrees. The majority of MPD personnel hold Bachelor's Degrees in Criminal Justice; however, degrees range from Organizational Management to Computing. Most personnel with the MPD have knowledge and skills outside of their profession. While some officers held degrees prior to being employed by the MPD, many have obtained their degrees while serving with the department.

Mark Bond with the American Military University says many positive benefits are associated with employing college-educated officers. Some MPD officers have taken advantage of online, accredited college programs which allow them to continue their education while working a rotating shift schedule. Other personnel have opted for traditional, on-campus courses of study.

Chief of Police Roger Overholt stated, "We are proud that our personnel continue to achieve personal and professional growth; we value their dedication to continuing their education."

Important Dates to Remember

HOLIDAY GARBAGE SCHEDULE:

Tuesday Jan. 1, 2019

Route will be picked up on
Wednesday Jan. 2nd.

Stuffed Animal Pageant

Talley Ward, Tuesday, Jan. 29th
6:30 pm



Heat your Home Safely this Winter

Your home's heating systems will be working double time to keep you warm this winter. The Morristown Fire Department says safety must be your top priority since heating is the second (behind cooking) leading cause of home fires. In 2011–2015, U.S. fire departments responded to 54,030 home structure fires that involved heating equipment resulting in 480 civilian fire deaths, 1,470 civilian fire injuries and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage. Follow MFD's suggestions to keep your home warm and safe.

"The biggest mistake is putting something too close to a heating source," says Fire Marshal, Brian Shepard. "Keep anything that can burn 3 feet away from space heaters, fireplaces, wood stoves, and radiators." Remember that skin burns too. Make sure that people and pets stay 3 feet away.

Use portable heaters that have been listed by a testing laboratory (look for the laboratory's label). These heaters should have an automatic shut-off switch so that if they are tipped over, they will turn off on their own. Plug portable electric heaters directly into the wall outlet; don't use an extension cord or power strip. Kerosene heaters must be refueled outside.

If you heat with a fireplace or wood stove, "Have your fireplace and wood stoves inspected before you begin using them each year," says Shepard. "Have the chimney cleaned to remove creosote, which can ignite and start a chimney fire." Use a tempered glass or metal screen over the fireplace opening to keep sparks inside. Never use papers, trash or liquid fuel. Only burn wood in fireplaces and wood stoves.



"Evenings (5-9 pm) are the peak time for home heating fires," says Shepard. "Turn space heaters off when you leave the room or go to sleep."

"Older adults are at increased risk from home fires," says Shepard. "Older adults have a higher

home fire death rate, and heating is the second leading cause of fire deaths for people ages 65 and over."

If you care for an older adult, plan for this increased risk. Check space heaters throughout the season. Make sure that bedding, throws and clothing are kept at least 3 feet away. Verify that fixed heating equipment is inspected every season and professionally cleaned when necessary. Talk with older adults to make sure that they understand their risk of burns and fire.

Plan for an emergency. Older adults may move more slowly or have trouble hearing a smoke alarm because of hearing loss. Make a home fire escape plan around their abilities.

Keep the telephone, hearing aids, and eyeglasses next to the bed. If someone in your care uses a cane or wheelchair, decide who will help him or her get out in an emergency.

For additional fire safety information, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.nfpa.org

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:

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

Message from The Mayor

WELCOME 2019

THESE PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE GIVEN US AN OPPORTUNITY TO CATCH OUR BREATH AND REFLECT ON WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE GOING. MY RESPONSE TO THAT HAS BEEN, "WOW!" OUR CITY HAS PLENTY GOING ON. OUR "WELCOME TO 2020" IS GOING TO BE CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT.

IN 2019 WE SHOULD SEE: THE OPENING OF HERITAGE PARK, MOVEMENT CONTINUING TO THE NEW PUBLIC WORKS COMPOUND, CONSTRUCTION BEGUN ON THE NEW TCAT CENTER AND VAN HOOL BUS COMPANY. ROCKLINE-IATRIC WILL BE OPERATING AT FULL EMPLOYMENT CAPACITY, TWO NEW EXPANSIONS OF EXISTING INDUSTRIES IN MAID AND ETPC WILL BE COMPLETE. Annnnd, HOLDING OUR BREATH A BIT LONGER – THE NEW EXIT 4 FROM I-81 WILL BE OPEN WITH AN INFLUX OF TRAFFIC AT MERCHANTS GREENE.

I COULD CONTINUE WITH PROJECTS, COMPLETION DATES, AND ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON OUR CITY – MORE THAN THIS SPACE ALLOWS. BUT SUFFICE IT TO SAY, WE HAVE A LOT ON OUR PLATE AND ALL PROJECTS NEED PROFESSIONAL AND COMPETENT ATTENTION TO GET TO THE FINISH LINE.

A SPENDING PLAN WILL BE REQUIRED FROM COUNCIL THIS YEAR TO GET US UNDERWAY ON THE NEW COMMUNITY CENTER. COUPLE THAT GOAL WITH THE RECENT HIGH MARKS OUR CITY FINANCE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FOR OUR 2018 AUDIT. MORRISTOWN'S FINANCIAL HEALTH IS GOOD.

THIS MINI - "STATE OF THE CITY" IS A REFLECTION OF THE EXCELLENT WORK OF OUR ADMINISTRATION, CITY HALL STAFF, PLANNING, PUBLIC SAFETY, PARKS & RECREATION, & PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS. IT'S A GOOD TIME TO BE HEADING INTO A NEW YEAR AND IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE TO HAVE SERVED AS YOUR MAYOR THESE PAST FOUR YEARS.

Gary Chesney



Mayor Gary Chesney