



August 2023 City Newsletter

Community Events

August 18th@2pm

Chip McLain Concert
at M-H Library

August 25th@7pm

Summer Jam Concert
at Fulton-Hill Park

August 26th@10:30am

International Food Festival
at Farmers Market

August 29th@7pm

Public Input Meeting
at City Center

September 1st@7pm

First Fridays Live
at Downtown Green

September 5th&19th@5pm

City Council Meeting
at City Center

Parks & Rec Survey

You're invited to participate in a short one-minute online survey about what kinds of programs and activities you'd like to see at our parks. Deadline to participate is August 31st. You can find the survey at: polco.us/s5wnwp

Special Grants Aid with Police Operations



Public Safety is a priority in our community. For that reason, each budget year a significant portion of taxpayer funds is designated to fund our police department. In addition to local dollars, our Morristown Police Department (MPD) has been successful in securing a variety of grants that help the department to purchase specialized equipment used in their day-to-day operations.

Recently, the MPD was awarded grants from Vested Interest to purchase 2 ballistic vests to outfit our K9 unit.

Vested Interest is a non-profit committed to protecting dogs of law enforcement. These vests will be worn by our K9s Onin and Rossi.

Out of many applicants, the MPD was proud to have been awarded the Violent Crime Intervention Grant earlier this year. Funds from this grant are being used to purchase equipment for our Explosive Ordnance Detection Department, including a mobile robot system, breaching tools, protective shields and specialized training.

The MPD has also been the recipient of the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for multiple years. Funds from the JAG grant have been used for a variety of purposes including specialized training and body-worn equipment for our officers.

The City is grateful for these grants that help our police department to better serve the community and to protect each and every one of our citizens.

Morristown Landing to Host Leagues

Since their opening earlier this year, Morristown Landing has quickly become the hot spot for athletics and community activity. They are now expanding the available opportunities by hosting several sports leagues and tournaments.

A dodgeball tournament is coming up this month and pickleball and cornhole leagues will begin later this fall. These activities will encourage more people in our community to get active in fun, engaging ways. Participants do not need to be members of Morristown Landing to participate. If you are interested in these leagues, more information can be found at morristownlanding.com.



Work on Thompson Creek Road



If you have traveled to the east side of town, you've likely seen a lot of dirt being moved near Frank Lorino Park. With recent development, the Thompson Creek Road area has seen some drastic expansions and improvements.

Adjacent to Frank Lorino Park, the City is currently clearing a substantial amount of land. This area will be home to a new Fire Station #3 and Fire training facility. The design for the new station has been approved and construction will begin in the coming months.

The clearing of land for the fire station has caused some of the disc golf course holes to be temporarily moved.

The City is using this opportunity to improve the design of the course and create some added challenges and features for disc golfers.

Construction of Thompson Creek Road has been an ongoing process, but work is moving right along. Soon crews will be installing necessary drainage and catch basins followed by asphalt and curbs. In addition to construction of the road, a new signal at E. Morris Blvd and Thompson Creek Road is currently under construction and will go live in September. The new road is expected to open in early 2024.



Message from Mayor Gary Chesney

CHANGING CITY ELECTIONS

The City Council is preparing to move its elections from May of odd numbered years to November of the even numbered to improve voter turnout. Coinciding with national elections will most certainly improve this. However, another change is being considered.

On January 1, State Law will change the way Morristown has historically selected its Council members. The city is drawn into four "wards" and four of the six Council members must live in the ward they represent. The two At-Large members and Mayor may live anywhere in the city. All voters vote for all candidates, making each Council members answerable to all voters.

The new law requires candidates from a ward to be selected by the voters in that ward – only. The result is all voters will no longer be able to select half of their Council members. Four of the Council members will now be answerable to one fourth of city residents. There is also the view that residents want to have a designated council person who lives in their ward.

On August 29th, Council will host a Public Input Meeting at City Center at 7pm to hear thoughts from citizens. The decision will be made at the September 5th Council meeting.

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mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php