



FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus
(636) 937-4694

Festus Focus also available at
www.cityoffestus.org!

February 1, 2014

Find the Most Up to Date Information at www.cityoffestus.org.

PROPOSITION: FULL TIME FIREFIGHTERS

During the April 8th Election a "Full Time Firefighter" Proposition is on the Ballot for Festus voters. You may or may not know that the Festus Fire Department is an all-volunteer fire department and that means that there is never anyone at the fire department on a full time basis.

Right now, when there is a fire call, volunteer firefighters who live in various parts of the city must get dressed, drive to the fire station, get their equipment on and get the fire trucks ready before responding to the call. The time to respond can range from 4 to 7 minutes.

The proposed tax will pay for 1 full time firefighter at the station house 24/7, and one part-time firefighter at the station 24/7 at an approximate cost of \$219,243 per year. By having firefighters at the station 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the response time can be cut down to a couple of minutes.

Full time firefighters will also be able to promote fire education and fire safety to the public and test and maintain working fire hydrants and all fire equipment.

The tax increase will only be a \$0.21 cent per hundred dollars assessed valuation tax on real estate and personal property and solely for use by the fire department.

As an example on a \$150,000 assessed home valuation the tax increase would cost the homeowner around \$59.85 a year. That is only about \$5.00 a month. The total tax could raise around \$310,000 with the money exceeding the firefighter pay to be used for new fire equipment.

It is up to the voters to decide on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call my office at 636-937-6646, ext. 104.

Fire Chief Chuck Boyer



Festus Home Devastated by Fire

JANUARY SNOW PLOWING

The salt bins have been refilled and the cinders have been replenished to be ready if a second snowfall occurs this winter.

This year the City has spent \$10,000 in salt and \$11,551 for overtime to plow and remove snow that blanketed city streets

with 12 inches of snow on January 5th. With the extremely cold temperatures and heavy snowfall the city crews took about 24 hours longer than usual to get all the side streets cleared where they were passable by most vehicles. Please don't hesitate to contact city hall or public works after a snow

to let us know about impassable streets and we'll do our best to get to it as soon as possible. Our crews put in a number of

12 hour days to get the streets open. Your assistance helps us

to build a database and know of problem areas. The plow



Please Remember to VOTE

Last day to register to vote for the April 8, 2014 election is March 12, 2014. You can register to vote at City Hall and the Library. Identification needed to register. Must be 18.



Festus Library
400 W. Main St.



Festus City Hall
711 W. Main St.

Presidents' Day Trash Schedule—
Trash pick-up will be running its normal schedule during the week of Presidents' Day.

Trash Schedule Changes—
Should trash schedules change due to inclement weather, the changes will be posted on www.cityoffestus.org and on our Facebook page as soon as we are notified.

AARP TAX-AIDE

Festus Public Library

IRS Certified Free Tax Preparation

Monday & Tuesday February 3 through April 8, 2014

Call 314-525-1660 for an appointment

Monday-Friday, 9 am to 1 pm starting January 20, 2014

Adopt-a-Street Program

City of Festus has started an Adopt-a-Street Program. If your organization is interested in adopting a street you can get information regarding this program by contacting Brent Abrams at 636-937-6646. Forms can be picked up at the Public Works Building located at 950 N. Fifth Street.

FESTUS PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Souppity, Soup, Soup

Thursday, February 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Bring your family and join us to make dry soup gift jars. We will provide the materials to make the gift jars for you to give away or keep for yourself! This will be a fun program for the entire family.

Story Time

Join us every Thursday morning at 10:30 as we present stories, songs, and activities for our youngest readers.

eBooks and eAudiobooks

Don't forget that ebooks and eaudiobooks may now be checked out from the Library by visiting our website at www.cityoffestus.org/library and clicking on the overdrive link. It's easy to get ebooks onto your device and there are never any late fees!

Festus Library Foundation

Please consider donating to the Festus Public Library Foundation. When you make a contribution to help meet future goals, your name will be added to the contributor's board at the Library. Contributions can be monthly, annual, or one time. Please call or visit the Library for more information.

Friends of the Library

Annual In-door Yard Sale

Friday, February 28th from 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday, March 1st from 9 am to 12 pm

Support the Library while shopping for Treasures

- **Council Meetings**—February 12 and 26 at 7pm
- **City Hall and Public Works Closed**—February 17 for Presidents Day
- **Park Board**— February 27 at 6pm
- **Planning & Zoning Meeting**— February 20 at 6:30 pm
- **Library Board**—February 6 at 7pm

