



FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus
(636) 937-4694

Festus Focus also available at
www.cityoffestus.org!

March 1, 2014

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

Annual City Wide Spring Clean-Up

This spring is the Great Festus Spring Cleanup. On Sat. April 26, 2014 from 7 am to 11 am you and your group can volunteer to "Bash some Trash" around a park, street or neighborhood. The City will supply gloves, safety vests, and trash bags. Details and an application available online at www.cityoffestus.org.

Also, IESI and MRC will be collecting household items, appliances, brush, metal goods and electronics at the west parking lot of the Public Works Building, 950 N. Fifth St., from 7 am to 3 pm. No hazardous materials, lumber or building materials will be accepted. We invite all residents within the city limits to bring their junk that day along with a valid ID. One load per household please.



April 8, 2014 Election

Candidates for the April Election are as follows:

Ward I	Gary Underwood
Ward II	Kathy Murphy (incumbent)
	Ronald Reiter
Ward III	Kevin Dennis
Ward IV	Jim Tinnin
Treasurer	Lori Eisenbeis

Polling Places:

Ward I	KC Hall
Ward II	City Hall
Ward III	Library
Ward IV	Festus Middle School and Faith Baptist Church

Polls open at 5:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

PROPOSITION FULL TIME FIREFIGHTER



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 position \$25,000 annual wage plus \$21,362 (approx.) in benefits including retirement, health insurance, life insurance, worker's compensation, etc. Three people will be hired to staff this position. Part-time position \$8.50 per hour plus worker's compensation coverage, etc. No benefits. We will hire as many firefighters as needed to fill the hours of this position.

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.

The tax will cover more than the necessary salaries for the fulltime firefighters. The remaining revenue will be divided up this way depending on the needs of the fire department.

\$75,000 per year placed in reserves for new fire truck, \$3,000 per year to replace hoses, nozzles, and other equipment on fire trucks, \$1,000 per year to purchase smoke alarms and install in low income neighborhoods, and \$10,000 per year for capital improvements to building, grounds and new 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 PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Teen Tech Week: Book Folding—Tuesday, March 11, at 4:00 p.m.

Teen Tech Week is March 9-15 and this year's theme is "DIY@Your Library". We will do some really cool book folding projects. This program is for grades 7-12. It will be lots of fun!

eReader Introduction—Monday, March 17, at 11:00 a.m.

Come to the Library for an introduction to eReaders—beginners are welcome! We'll have devices available for you to test out—or bring your own device. This is a great chance to learn how to check out library books and audiobooks on devices like iPads, Nooks and Kindles.

Story Time

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

SNOW ROUTE INFORMATION

When the snows come down, the street crews are out clearing the emergency snow routes first. After the snow slows down then the crews begin working on the side streets. The City is currently revising those streets that are designated as emergency snow routes and have developed the following primary list:

American Legion Dr./South Mill St.—Main St. to Highway 61/67
 Central Avenue—North Mill St. to Horine Rd.
 Collins Drive—West Main St. to Highway A
 Pounds Rd./Gamel Cemetery Rd./Old Highway CC—Highway A to Highway 67
 Cromwell Rd.—West Main St. to North Fifth St./Hillsboro Rd.
 Gamel Cemetery Rd.—Bradley to Intersection of Pounds Rd.
 East Beffa/Harrison Ln./Lee Ave.—Highway 61/67 to Highway A
 North Fifth St./Hillsboro Rd.—N. Adams to Sunshine Dr.
 Horine Rd.—North Fifth St. to City Limits
 Main St.—Brierton Ln. to West City Limits
 North Mill St.—Main St. to North City Limits
 North Sixth St.—North Mill to East City Limits
 Pounds Rd.—Highway A to West Main St.
 Sunshine Dr.—West Main St. to West City Limits
 Brandon Wallace Way—Highway 61/67 to Scenic Dr.
 North Ninth St.—North Mill St. to Delmar Ave.
 Hawk Pointe—Sunshine Dr. to Bailey School Rd.
 Gannon Dr. West/YMCA Dr./Old Highway CC—Highway A to American Legion Dr.

If you have any recommendations or suggestions please contact Public Works at 636-937-6646. During a snow storm with an accumulation of 1 inch or more of snow or ice or a "publicly declared snow emergency", a no parking prohibition goes into effect automatically for any snow route and a vehicle is allowed to be towed or the owner fined \$25. If you are interested check out Section 367 Emergency Snow Routes online at www.cityoffestus.org and look for the Ordinance link.

News Updates—

Board Members Wanted- The City is always looking for civic minded citizens to fill vacancies on boards and commissions. If you are interested in serving on one of the City's various boards, please visit our website to see what boards the city has and to get an application. Once you have completed the application you can drop it off or put it the mail to City Hall at 711 W. Main St. Get involved to better your community.

- **Council Meetings**— March 12 and 26 at 7pm
- **Park Board**—March 27 at 6pm
- **Planning & Zoning Meeting**— March 20 at 6:30 pm
- **Library Board**— March 6 at 7pm
- **Municipal Court**— March 11, 18 and 25 at 6:00 pm