



FESTUS FOCUS

City of Festus
(636) 937-4694

July 1, 2019

Festus Focus is also available at
www.CityofFestus.org



All city offices will be closed

Thursday, July 4th

in honor of Independence Day.

**All offices will reopen at normal times on
Tuesday, July 5.**



Mosquito Spraying

As long as weather permits, the city's street department sprays Monday - Thursday evenings every week from May - October for mosquitos. The city is divided into four quadrants and each is sprayed once a week. Parks are sprayed daily. Please remove all standing water as this promotes mosquito breeding.



Library Fun

Big Truck Story Time - Thurs, July 11, 10:30am



Enjoy a truck-themed story time inside and then head out to the library's parking lot to check out some of our City's trucks and meet their drivers. For all ages.

Storyteller Sherry Norfolk - Friday, July

12, 11:00am

Feathers, Fins, Fangs, and Fur! There's never a dull moment as Ms. Norfolk brings exuberant folktales, fairy tales, myths and legends to life! For families.

Jeff. Co. Health Dept. Dental Van - Week of July 15



The Dental Van will be in our parking lot this week! Call 636-797-3737, ext. 301 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All forms of Missouri Medicaid are accepted, and most private insurances and uninsured are accepted.

Make a Jet Pack - Wednesday, July 17, 1:00pm

Where are our jet packs? Design your own to get you traveling through a Universe of Stories. For ages 6 - 12.

2018 Annual Water Quality Report

(The Consumer Confidence Report)

The City has received the results of the annual water report and, as expected, we have passed. If you would like to read the report, it may be found on our website, or hard copies may be picked up at Public Works, the Library or City Hall or by going to this address: www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO6071352.pdf.

Library Fun Cont'd

50th Anniversary of Moon Landing Celebration

Saturday, July 20, 10:00am - 1:00pm

We will play Walter Cronkite's television coverage of the July 20, 1969 moon landing on a continuous loop. Join us and imagine what it was like watching this live! For all ages.



Washington State Park presents Leaf People

Tuesday, July 23, 11:00am

Learn about our state's trees and make your very own "Leaf Person". For ages 6-12.

Family Game Night - Wednesday, July 31, 6:00 pm

Get your competitive family together and play some giant board games, create sidewalk chalk art, and try out some of our activity kits. Sponsored by MRV Banks. For families.

Council Meeting: July 10 and 24 at 7pm

Park Board: July 18 at 6pm

P & Z Meeting: July 18 at 6:30pm

Library Board: No July meeting

Court in Session: July 9 and 30 at 6pm

Board of Adjustment: July 8 at 7pm



PROPOSITION PUBLIC SAFETY THE PUBLIC SAFETY PENNY



Provided for informational purposes only



On Tuesday, August 6th, Festus voters will be asked to consider establishing the Public Safety Penny - a 1 cent sales tax dedicated for Police, Fire and Dispatch.

The following are answers to anticipated questions about the sales tax, which hopefully will help you become informed about this important ballot issue.

Question: What is the sales tax about?

Since 2014, the cost of providing Police, Fire and Dispatch service to residents has risen more than \$500,000. Additional economic pressure has come since 2017 when Public Safety Tax initiatives were successfully approved by voters in Franklin, Jefferson, St. Louis and Ste. Genevieve counties and municipalities like Crystal City, Desoto and Hillsboro.

If approved by City voters, the Public Safety Penny will fund the following;

- Full Time Fire Chief
- Three Additional Full Time Firefighters
- Improve Accident Response
- Officer Retention with Competitive Salaries
- Increase School Resource Officer Training
- Crime Prevention and Reduction
- Dispatch & Radio Upgrades for Officer Safety

The Public Safety Penny will close a substantial budget deficit for capital equipment purchases such as vehicles, apparatus and radio equipment.



- FULL TIME FIRE CHIEF
- 3 FULL TIME FIREFIGHTERS
- OFFICER RETENTION
- INCREASE TRAINING
- DISPATCH UPGRADES

Question: Is this a new tax? Yes.

Question: How much will the tax raise?

It is estimated that the Public Safety Penny will raise \$2,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2020.

Question: When is the new tax paid?

When someone makes a retail purchase within the City of Festus, an additional 1 cent will be added to the sales tax portion of the purchase. For example, on a \$100 purchase, an additional \$1 would be charged.

Question: When would the tax go into effect?

January 1st, 2020.

Question: What are the other Public Safety Taxes?

- Crystal City 1/2 cent sales tax
- Desoto 1 cent sales tax
- Hillsboro 1/2 cent sales tax
- Franklin County 1/2 cent sales tax
- St. Louis County 1/2 cent sales tax
- Jefferson County 35 cent property tax
- Ste. Genevieve 27 cent property tax

Question: Why can't the City use revenue from other sources for this?

The City is not allowed by state statute to use money from parks, utility or transportation funds for Police, Fire and Dispatch. All of the funds must come from general revenue or the 21 cent property tax (dedicated to just Fire). This year, Police, Fire and Dispatch represent more than 60% of the general fund and necessary capital upgrades spent more than \$443,000 into general fund balances.

**COMBINED SALES TAX RATES
NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES**

CITY	GENERAL SALES TAX RATE
Festus (current)	8.350%
Pevely	8.350%
Arnold	8.350%
Herculaneum	8.850%
Byrnes Mill	8.850%
Crystal City	9.100%
Hillsboro	9.225%
Festus (proposed)	9.350%
DeSoto	9.850%

Information provided and paid for by the City of Festus

