

Strathmoor Manorisms
City of Strathmoor Manor Newsletter
Late Fall/Early Winter 2017

Greetings, Manorites!

It's been a little while since our last publication! Hope everyone is having a nice end to fall and beginning of winter, staying warm, and enjoying the spirit of the holiday season despite the stress that might accompany it! My family & I love seeing your decorations when we're driving through the Manor at night! Thank you, neighbors! And in the spirit of giving and receiving (information), I would like to ask that you please read through this issue, as there are a few housekeeping/business items in addition to the ones that appear in every publication! :-) Thank you all kindly and make it a wonderful end to 2017! :-)

--- Commissioner Heitz

Manor City Taxes

If you or your mortgage company has questions regarding your Manor property taxes, please contact City Bookkeeper, Pat Colgate, at (502) 451-9800. Please mail tax payments to:

City of Strathmoor Manor
P.O. Box 5459
Louisville, KY 40255-0459

Spring Picnic

We will be having a City picnic this spring, but we need your help! The Commission would love for neighbors to come forward and serve on a committee to plan the picnic! Please contact Mayor Brian Cobb or Commissioner Brooke Heitz if interested.

Google Fiber Update

Commissioner Susan Stopher posted the following on the City Facebook page on December 2:
"The City of Strathmoor Manor joined over a year ago, with most of the other Home Rule Cities, under the Jefferson County League of Cities (JCLC) in a Google agreement. There are concerns about the depth of the 'trenching' installation method being allowed in Metro Louisville. The Strathmoor Manor Commission wants to make sure that our streets are preserved, that we don't face liability issues in the future, and that best practices are followed in all of this. The Manor Commission is concerned and working on this. We are requesting patience by residents as the Commission examines the best solutions for our city."

JCLC will be having a Special Cities meeting in January during which these matters will be reviewed.

Jefferson County League of Cities Request for Funds: KRS 109 and HB 246

The Jefferson County League of Cities (JCLC) officially requested the City of Strathmoor Manor for financial assistance to help cover the expenses that were incurred during the injunctive phase of the lawsuit filed by Mayor Fischer (Louisville Metro) against each of the 83 cities in Jefferson County regarding KRS 109 and House Bill 246. HB 246 is presented below, but to summarize, HB 246 attempts to drastically limit individual cities from contracting and managing their solid waste collection needs. During the City of Strathmoor Manor's April meeting of the Commissioners, the Commission voted to contribute \$500 to this defense fund. Any residents with questions on this matter should contact Mayor Brian Cobb.

The following comes directly from the Kentucky Legislative Record:

House Bill 246; Relating to solid waste management and declaring an emergency. HB 246 looks to Amend KRS 109.041 to prohibit a county or waste management district from prohibiting or restricting materials recovery by a city in a county containing a consolidated local government; prohibit the consolidated local government or waste management district from hindering, delaying, impairing, prohibiting, or impeding a city or its contractors from utilizing a solid waste management facility; prohibit a county or waste management district from levying a fee that is based on the composition of the solid waste stream of the city if the waste stream is in conformity with state and federal law for the use of the solid waste management facility receiving the waste; Amend KRS 109.115 to provide for the mayoral appointment of a seven-member board of directors of a waste management district for a county containing a consolidated local government and to restrict current appointment language to other counties; establish a two-year term for directors and require appointment of new board; Amend KRS 109.120 to require that waste management district rules and regulations in counties containing a consolidated local government be approved by the appropriate legislative body; provide that rules and regulations of a district that were adopted prior to the effective date of this Act shall sunset on August 31, 2017, unless reauthorize by the new board; require that districts make notices, meeting agendas, and minutes available on a Web site operated by the consolidated local government; declare offices of board in county containing a consolidated local government vacant; EMERGENCY.

News from the Forestry Board!

The Strathmoor Manor Forestry Board is comprised of:

- Kathy Zandona, Director of City Maintenance, serves as Chairperson
- Susan Stopher, City Clerk, serves as Secretary
- Nick Clifton and Ron Hirsch are our resident volunteers

The purpose of the Forestry Board is to maintain a healthy tree canopy, beautify our city, and increase property values! The Manor maintains the trees in the rights-of-way (easement between street and sidewalk) and plantings in the roundabout and park. Residents assist by watering and mulching the trees in the rights-of-way nearest their homes.

The Manor has hired arborist Cindi Sullivan to do walk-throughs of the Manor, checking on our trees and plants throughout the year and making recommendations as needed. Here are some of her observations/recommendations on both publicly and privately owned trees:

Chlorosis:

There are a few examples of trees suffering from chlorosis (abnormal reduction or loss of the normal green coloration of leaves). A soil test for each would determine the pH and recommendations for acidifying soil could be obtained to begin correcting the problem.

Mulching:

There are a few examples of mulch being overapplied or applied incorrectly. A general rule of thumb when shredded hardwood mulch is applied is to use the 3x3x3 rule...a minimum of 3 feet in diameter around the base of the tree, 3 inches deep, and 3 inches away from the trunk. Mulch will help reduce weed competition, regulates soils temperature, improves soil as it breaks down, and holds moisture on the tree's root system. However, mulch applied to the trunk will create an environment conducive to holding moisture leading to decay, and a nice little habitat for rodents that will chew bark. Additionally, shredded mulch applied too thickly can become impermeable, reducing the ability of water to get to roots.

Mechanical damage:

There are also examples of weedeater and/or mower damage. Humans do more damage with their power equipment to trees than any insect or disease problems!

Vines:

Vines on trees are never a good idea. Vines compete with trees for available nutrients, water and sunlight. They can also hide serious defects that if undetected, can lead to tree failure.

Stakes and ties:

Stakes and ties are generally not recommended as a standard practice, unless specifically warranted by tree stability, size, or planting site. Stakes and ties should be removed after a year or so in order to reduce the possibility of trunk/branch damage.

Summary of Chapter 100 - Public Properties, 3.101 Trees and Plants on Public Property (found in City of Strathmoor Manor's Code of Ordinances)

No tree, shrub, or plant shall be planted on any public property without prior authorization of the Forestry Board. It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to commit the following acts without prior written authorization from the Forestry Board:

- 1) To remove, in whole or in part, or trim any tree on public property.
- 2) To attach anything whatsoever to any tree, shrub, or plant on public property.
- 3) To obscure any portion of a tree on public property by painting or other defacement.
- 4) To place or maintain any object, fill (i.e., soil, mulch, stone, rock), impervious matter (i.e., cement, blacktop), or other substance which may impede the free passage of air, water, or nutrients to the roots of any tree on public property.
- 5) To remove or damage any device placed to protect any tree, shrub, or plant on public property.

Reminder: Proper Disposal of Yard Waste and Mattresses

In accordance with city regulations, yard waste cannot be placed in plastic bags, and any loose limbs must be bundled and no longer than three feet in length. Mattresses and box springs will not be collected unless they are wrapped in plastic, due to the possibility of bed bug contamination. Wraps can be purchased from The Home Depot or Lowe's for around \$7.00.

Parking and Driving in the Manor

Parking in the Manor can be challenging. Many homes have short or narrow driveways, and the Manor streets are on the narrow side as well. Increased on-street parking due to Lakeside Swim Club makes the situation even more challenging in the summer.

Please observe the speed limit and watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists, and please be a considerate neighbor by parking in your driveway when possible; this makes it easier for other vehicles to navigate our streets safely!

Lock Those Doors!

The Strathmoor Village Police Department reminds all residents to lock up - both your home and your vehicles. We all have a personal responsibility to safeguard our own property. Please be observant as you walk and bike in the Manor and report any suspicious vehicles or persons to Strathmoor Police at (502) 432-8900.

Contact Information for City of Strathmoor Manor

Mayor	Brian Cobb	(502) 396-3968	cobbbrianw@hotmail.com
City Clerk	Susan Stopher	(502) 456-6319	sgstopher@gmail.com
Communications	Brooke Heitz	(502) 797-5102	bcwillinger@gmail.com
Maintenance	Kathy Zandona	(502) 238-4279	kmzandona@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Peterson	(502) 749-6331	rpeter8582@gmail.com

www.cityofstrathmoormanor.com

Strathmoor Village Police Dept. (502) 432-8900 strathmoorvillagepolice@gmail.com

Miscellaneous Information

- Downed tree or limb blocking a road in the Manor? Please call the Strathmoor Police Department at (502) 432-8900 or the Louisville Metro Police Department at 911. A police officer will secure the scene and call for a maintenance crew. This is considered an emergency situation because trees blocking the road also block emergency vehicles.
- Please call MSD at (502) 587-0603 if you have standing water in your easement or are experiencing a problem with the stormwater drain in your easement.
- Street light out? Please call LG&E at (502) 589-1444.
- Please make sure your house number is visible during both daylight and darkness so that guests, emergency vehicles, and vendors can find your home.
- The City of Strathmoor Manor has a Facebook page. Please join us!
- Please be a considerate dog owner and pick up after your pet, and if he or she is outside barking in the early morning or late at night, please let him or her in!