

# PROSPECT CITY NEWSLETTER



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Volume 2, 2022

## Every Year.....

Every year at this time, the law requires the Mayor, as the city executive, to present the Council with a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. Prospect's fiscal year is from July 1st through June 30th. I have done that, along with a proposed budget ordinance, and with a "budget message" which I delivered orally at the last Council meeting on April 18. Some very unusual things impacted this year's proposed budget. By July 1st, Prospect will have received more than one million dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act, which we are not allowed to save. Also, there has been a very high rate of inflation, over 8%, impacting our staff and our police.

The law then requires the Council to adopt a budget ordinance for the coming fiscal year. It need not be the budget proposed by the Mayor – the Council is free to make whatever changes it wants.

The process broke down at the April 18th meeting while a vote was underway to give the proposed budget ordinance a first reading. (All ordinances must be read at two successive meetings, so this was NOT a vote to pass the budget ordinance, just the required preliminary step.) A motion for a first reading was made when three Council members stood up and walked out, thereby shutting down the meeting for lack of a quorum and ending the budgetary process. This move was regrettable, and it's my hope to get budget discussions back on track as soon as possible.

In other news, very recently the Jefferson Circuit Court held that the Metro Planning Commission's approval of LDG's Veridian apartment development was void because the Commission had ignored the 'Comprehensive Plan'. Also, in LDG's lawsuit over Prospect Cove, LDG is in the process of deposing me and all who were Council members in 2017. I have heard nothing about the progress of their new rezoning application.

Spring is here. We had two wildflower walks in Harrods Creek Park recently, and residents are enjoying our parks and warmer weather. A big thank you to Linda Wardell who has chaired the Parks Committee for many years.



Will and Ceci Wardell, ages 10 and 7 take some time to smell the flowers in Harrods Creek Park

## Spring Yard Waste Reminder!

Yard waste is picked up on Mondays or Tuesdays *whichever is your regularly scheduled day for garbage pick up*. All yard waste must be placed at the curb.

Yard waste may be placed in paper bags, standard size (30-32 gallon) trash cans labeled "Yard Waste" or residents may lease 95 gallon totes marked "Yard Waste" from Rumpke. Leaves, grasses, weeds or other plant material may be placed in the containers. Bundles must not exceed four feet in length or 40 pounds. Bundles may contain twigs or branches

up to three inches in diameter and may also be placed at the curb to be removed as yard waste.



It is necessary to remember that in early spring and after significant storms when there is an unusual amount of yard waste Rumpke may not be able to service the entire route in the usual time frame. If you have an unusual amount of yard waste it may be beneficial to call city hall at 228-1121 or Rumpke at 568-3800 to double check.

## Prospect Meetings Available Online



Did you know all of the City's public meetings are available to watch online at your leisure? The

City maintains a YouTube page for the sole purpose of maintaining public record. While you can watch a meeting live as it happens, you can also go back and watch any meeting from the past couple of years.

To find it go to "youtube.com" and enter "City of Prospect KY" into the search bar.



## Prospect Parks More Than a Decade of Progress

Prospect Parks have always been special places, hosting events and celebrations like the July 4th fireworks and summer concerts in Cowley Park (Hunting Creek subdivision), and the Fall Festival, and Arborfest in Little Hunting Creek Park (adjacent to City Hall). However, in the past 14 years, the Prospect Parks have become even more important in the lives of our citizens. With the addition of Putney Pond & Woodlands Park in 2008 and Harrods Creek Park in 2011 our community members have natural areas to visit in the heart of our city. There are places to hike, run, picnic, bird watch, fish, and paddle—or just “chill out”. Access to parks and nature improve the health and well-being of all and make Prospect an even more attractive place to live.



As the Prospect Parks have become even more popular in recent years, this is the perfect time to celebrate the progress made and recognize the contributions of community members. Volunteers have built trails, donated funds, cleared invasive plants, and led wildflower and bird watching walks. Scouts have completed 33 Eagle Projects in our parks, with more to come. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee members have guided plans for improvements, mentored Eagle Scout candidates, and planned activities in the parks. Following is a summary of our progress since 2008.



Putney Pond & Woodland has seen a trail network built by community volunteers, Installation of the Hardin Stone Stairway, The Gathering Place, and Woodland Bridge which were all done with 80% private donations. Scout Eagle Projects included foot bridges, benches, information kiosks, picnic tables, trail markers, bike rack. Also thanks to private donation a bench swing overlooking the pond.

Harrods Creek Park has seen nearly 4 miles of trails built, most of which were built by volunteers. Installation of a stone stairway, stream crossing, bench swings and bridges were some of the paid projects to enhance the trail system. The installation of the parking lot, concrete pathway and canoe/ kayak launch proved to be a huge draw during the pandemic. Again the Scouts stepped up with information kiosks, benches, trail markers, picnic tables, trail improvements and a bike rack!



Little Hunting Creek Park is where “Eagles Way” boardwalk connecting Little Hunting Creek Park to the woodland trails of Putney Pond & Woodlands begins. It’s a 400+ foot boardwalk constructed as Eagle Projects by several Scouts. Eagle Projects by Scouts also included the installation of benches.



With an eye towards the future some of the plans we have to make the parks even better are the addition of a new playground, pavilion, picnic tables and walking paths in Little Hunting Creek Park. Replacement of the culvert style crossing in Harrods Creek Park with a steel and concrete bridge. This will restore a stream to its original state, help with siltation around the waterfall and improve the environment. Over in Putney Pond we are researching building an accessible boardwalk across the pond to connect The Landings with City Hall. All this along with continued removal of invasive plants to restore native flora and support wildlife means busy

times ahead!

If you would like to help support your local Prospect Parks, let your City Council members know that you value the parks and support continued improvements. If you would like to volunteer, contact City Hall (502-228-1121).

Linda Wardell, Chair

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee



**Prospect Library Spring Book Sale!**  
**May 13th and 14th 9am to 5pm**



## Keeping Trees in Prospect

Trees, like people, aren't forever. They can grow old and fail, be attacked by disease, insects or fall prey to removal for any number of reasons. Continual planting is the key to maintaining a healthy urban forest. Canopy trees are the "big brothers and sisters" as the uppermost layer in the forest. They provide not only habitats for a variety of plants and animals, but also protection for understory trees and other living communities.

Prospect introduced an exciting new program earlier this year to partner with residents in bringing more canopy trees to the city. Larger trees were available to residents with them only being responsible for the professional planting fee. The first six trees were planted in April.

The Canopy Tree program will also be available this fall, and Prospect will again offer Arborfest in late October. Arborfest includes distributing smaller, understory trees, many of them blooming. Details of both events will be found in upcoming newsletters.

With spring and fall being recommended times for planting, remember to water new trees when dry throughout their first two years. Mulch to help retain moisture, but don't "volcano". Mulch should not touch the tree trunk.

In other tree news, Prospect is pleased to announce that the city has once again been designated a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. The "Tree City" program was started by the Arbor Day Foundation in 1976. At the time, only 42 cities qualified to make the designation of a Tree City. Over the years, this number has grown to over 3600, with new cities joining the list every year. This is Prospect's 13th consecutive year of earning the Tree City USA designation.



## Its Not Too Late To Dispute Your PVA Assessment



The City of Prospect has recently undergone a real estate reassessment for the 2022 tax year. On April 22nd the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator (PVA) mailed notices of reassessments to homeowners. You can view your property's assessed value and learn how to dispute the tax

assessment on the PVA's website:

<https://jeffersonpva.ky.gov/>. The deadline to dispute your 2022 tax assessment is **May 16, 2022**.



## From The Desk Of Code Enforcement

Spring has sprung! A quick reminder that the city requires all grass lawns to be trimmed to a height of 4 inches. Also, several recent wind events have damaged many trees around the city. Homeowners are responsible for removing and disposing of hazardous trees located on their property. Report any dangerous or hazardous trees found on public property to City Hall. Finally, remember that you must obtain a FREE permit to park a recreational vehicle or boat in your driveway for 72 hours. Contact City Hall if you have any questions about permitting requirements.

## A Good Walk Spoiled

No, we're not talking about golf! We are talking about inconsiderate pet owners who do not clean up after their dogs do their...umm.. "business", leaving it for others to deal with. Please remember to clean up after your dogs while out for a walk in this great spring weather. Its not just considerate, it's the law! According to City of Prospect ordinance number §51.03, taking "Spot" out for a walk 'without possessing a suitable device for the collection and sanitary disposal of animal waste could cost you up to a \$50 fine."

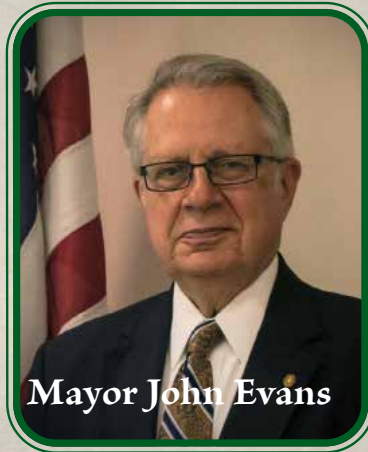






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Mayor John Evans

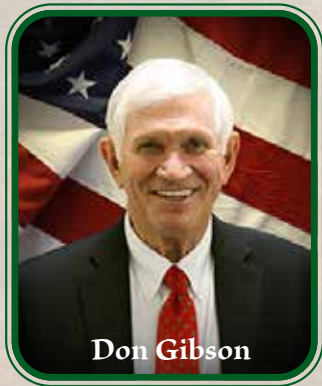
mayor@prospectky.com



Sandra Leonard

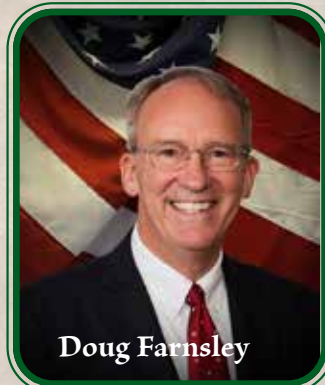
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228-6657

# Your Prospect City Council



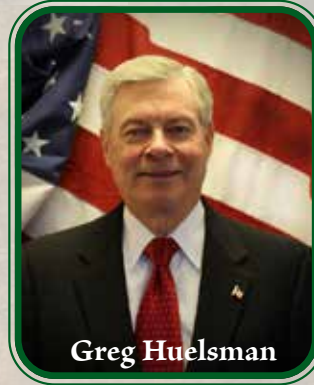
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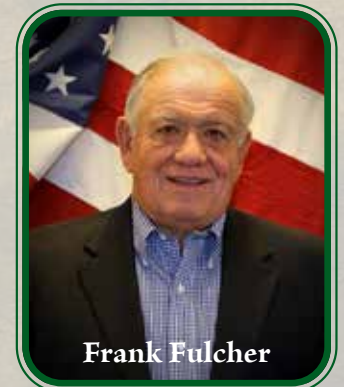
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## City Hall.....228-1121

### City Hall, Police And Library Hours

Monday .....8:30 - 6:30  
Tuesday - Thursday.....8:30 - 5:00  
Friday.....8:30 - 3:30

Prospect Police Department (General Information)....228-1150

Prospect Police Dispatch.....228-COPS(2677)

Police, Fire & EMS Emergency .....911

## Email Contacts

City Clerk.....John Carter.....cityclerk@prospectky.com  
Dir. of Public Works.....Ron Cundiff.....citymaint@prospectky.com  
Code Enforcement.....Rick Wilson.....citycode@prospectky.com  
Chief Of Police.....Jeff Sherrard.....chief@prospectky.com  
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