

MEDICAL LAKE CONNECTIONS

March 2023

Medical-Lake.org



Mayor's Minute

Hello! I was hoping to send an early Spring greeting but sadly winter persists. My skiing and snowboarding friends and family members on the other hand are cheering the new snow and look forward to the final days of Spring skiing. Enjoy!



Mayor Terri Cooper

Solar Array TransAlta Grant in the amount of \$185,000 caps off funding for the Solar Array unit at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The entire project was funded by grants and Spokane County matching dollars at no cost to the City of Medical Lake. Solar units will quickly pay for themselves and result in significant energy saving costs to the city.



CTR Commute Trip Reduction Awards! Marilyn Eaker, Accounts Payable employee helped the City of Medical Lake earn the CTR Bronze Jurisdiction Champion Award and the Silver Employer Champion Award for promoting trip reduction options. Marilyn helps raise awareness among city employees to encourage reduced individual automobile trips to work. The program seeks to promote greater use of commute alternatives to automobile use, traffic congestion and Spokane's air quality problems. Well done, Marilyn! Thank you for representing the City of Medical Lake.

City Council Vacancy Councilmember Dawn Olmstead recently moved out of city limits and submitted her resignation for Council Position #2. While in office, Dawn was an excellent citizen representative and she will be missed. The City solicited applicants and the Council chose three from the five who applied, namely, Lance Speirs, Kelli Shaffer, and Theodore "Ted" Olson to participate in a public interview process. Interviews were held during the February 21, 2023 council meeting. The applicants were impressive and passionate in their answers, all did well and the decision was not easy. Theodore "Ted" Olson was ultimately selected, a returning council member. Welcome Ted and thank you to all who applied. It was so wonderful to see so many ready and willing to serve their community.

Critical Areas Ordinance CAO passed the first read with minor corrections February 21, 2023. The reason the City is updating the ordinance is to gain compliance with the mandated State of Washington Growth Management Act RCW 36.70A to provide protection for critical areas of wetlands within city limits. Protecting our natural resources is vital to the future of Medical Lake. The CAO was allowed to expire in 2017 and after a two-year grace period continued to be in non-compliance for the next four years. The Planning Commission has the duty to review and bring recommendations to the City Council. When I was elected to office the Commission itself was out of compliance having four of the five commissioners not duly appointed. After appointing the current Planning Commission, the City hired a City Planner to guide the process and help bring us into compliance. After more than a year of meetings, public hearings, and consideration of all public comments the Commission agreed unanimously on a final draft. That draft came to the City Council for approval and the first read passed with a few grammatical corrections. The 2nd and final read is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Changes can still be made prior to passage upon Motion of a council member and majority vote of the council. Please keep in mind, when passed the COA Title 17.10 becomes the local law as it relates to wetland protection. Nothing prohibits future changes to Title 17.10 at any time if the need arises.

Ptera internet service rollout has started for the City of Medical Lake. To see if your home is in the first phase go to www.Ptera.com and select the **AVAILABILITY** button and enter your address.



New Equipment for Public Works/Streets. In July 2022 the City Council approved the use of ARPA funds to purchase a Vactor Truck for the Public Works Department. Vactors are used for sewer line and lift station cleaning, hydro-excavation and other critical tasks related to water and sewer lines. Vactors use water pressure to expose buried pipes when problems arise, eliminating the need to dig which can lead to further damages. City staff were able to locate and procure a well-cared-for 2008 Vactor 2100 Classic Truck for \$155,000.00. The truck will quickly pay for itself saving the city tens of thousands of dollars in annual rental costs.

Crime Check (509) 456-2233 Police service conversations continue with the Spokane County Sherriff's office. As promised, I will continue to pursue improved delivery of police services and advocate for increased police presence, at reduced cost to the City. Lieutenant Gladden has been in attendance at recent council meetings. At the February 21st meeting he informed the city there have been car prowling incidents reported and reminded citizens to close their garage doors and keep cars locked. Please call crime check when a crime occurs so the City will have the data to understand the extent of crimes occurring in Medical Lake and where the problems are most prevalent.

PARK & REC PROGRAMS

Notice: Non-Profit service or fundraising opportunity.

The City is seeking a non-profit organization to manage the Senior Bingo program. Bingo supplies are provided by the City. Please contact the Mayor's office for details.

City Administrator, Sonny Weathers (509) 565-5050 or email SWeathers@medical-lake.org

EVENTS & CLASSES

TAX FILING AIDE presented by **AARP**

Where: Medical Lake City Hall Auditorium

When: 5:00PM - 7:00PM Wed. & Thurs.

February 1st—April 13th

FREE!

Open to all ages, No AARP membership required!

Bring: 2022 tax returns, picture ID, 2022 income statements (W2s, 1098, 1099), proof of other income, child-care care provider information, and property tax information if applicable.

Jazzercise

WHERE: Medical Lake City Hall

124 S Lefevre St, Auditorium

WHEN: 9:00AM M,W,TH,FRI,SAT

4:30PM T,TH

5:30PM M,W

CALL: (509) 389-1146 for details



Medical Lake American Legion Post 196

Presents

FREE!

VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR

Where: City Hall Auditorium

When: Saturday, March 18, 2023

Time: 10:00AM—4:00PM

Hosted by: Alfred "Bud" Staples



Come learn about the many programs and services available for military veterans! Thank you for your service!!

MEETING DATES

CITY COUNCIL
TUES. 6:30PM

March 7th

March 21st

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**
THURS. 5:00PM

March 23rd

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS!

Spring will signal the start of grant award projects including the WWTP Solar Array installations, Barker Street Sidewalks, and Lake Street ADA Sidewalk Ramp Replacements. Watch the city's website for notice and details.