

Mayor and City Council Update

Friday, January 13, 2012

Part I Crimes Report - 2011 (courtesy of Chris Connally)...

Part I crimes are up about 10% from last year. St. Joseph has seen a 7% reduction in violent Part I crimes, but an 11.5% increase in property crime is causing an overall increase in crime statistics. There were 255 more thefts, 104 more auto thefts, and 56 more burglaries this year than last year. While we have had 15 more robberies, aggravated assaults are down by 32. All Part I crime statistics are reflected in the table below.

	Murder		Rape		Robbery		Aggravated Assault		Burglary		Auto Theft		Theft		Arson	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
January	0	0	2	3	15	8	11	18	78	67	16	12	172	196	3	2
February	0	0	0	1	5	5	10	16	80	32	19	10	154	144	0	0
March	0	0	0	0	5	5	14	15	75	46	17	17	222	179	1	2
April	0	0	5	1	4	3	15	10	73	60	21	17	230	223	1	1
May	1	2	2	1	10	6	19	12	57	69	23	8	219	199	1	0
June	1	0	1	2	9	4	17	19	80	79	17	7	243	229	1	2
July	0	1	1	4	9	5	20	15	94	85	22	14	223	242	1	2
August	1	1	3	1	3	7	19	27	75	69	38	26	232	248	4	3
September	0	0	3	1	6	8	11	19	71	77	39	7	278	200	1	0
October	0	0	0	1	4	8	16	14	60	81	27	16	271	224	1	2
November	0	2	2	3	9	6	3	19	71	84	23	14	251	226	1	3
December	0	0	1	2	4	3	12	15	92	101	24	34	286	216	0	3
Total	3	6	20	20	83	68	167	199	906	850	286	182	2781	2526	15	20

Wyeth-Tootle Mansion Improvements Update (courtesy of David Simpson)...

Plans and specifications for the bid documents were completed for Phase 1 stonework to the west facade of the mansion. Following completion of the documents, advertisement for bids were published October 2, 2011. A pre-bid meeting was held on October 11 with the bid opening on October 19. Two responsive bids were received, one from Restoration and Waterproofing Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$256,829 and the other from MTS Contracting, Inc. for \$368,671. The engineering department recommended the bid by Restoration and Waterproofing Contractors, Inc. be accepted as the lowest and best. Council approval was on November 14 by Special Ordinance 8321 and a Notice to Proceed with the work was issued on December 1.

The weather has been cooperating and the contractor has started taking impressions of the detailed features so work can begin on making the custom molds to create the cast stonework. Work on the patching/rebuilding of deteriorated stone can also be performed, weather permitting. A winter shutdown will eventually occur with work resuming in the spring and completion of this phase in the summer of 2012.



Park Board Members Tour New Athletic Facility (courtesy of Chuck Kempf)...

On Thursday afternoon, St. Joseph Park Board members had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the new multi-purpose athletic facility, located next to Phil Welch Stadium. Parks, Recreation, & Civic Facilities Director Bill McKinney invited the group and then provided the tour, explaining the different aspects of the facility and some of the intended uses.

The new facility, which takes the place of the outdated Muchenberger Center, will feature three basketball/volleyball courts, a fitness center, children's playroom, and community room. Many different activities will be able to be hosted, including aerobic classes, Zumba, basketball games, volleyball games, routine fitness activities in the full service fitness center, private parties, and community events. A walking track will also be featured in the building, around the perimeter of the main gymnasium. The main gym will have a maple floor to allow for optimum performance for basketball games and be versatile enough to host a variety of activities. The auxiliary gym will have a multipurpose floor and along with basketball and volleyball, will have a batting cage available for baseball and softball activities.

The parks department intends on providing programs and services for St. Joseph residents, including the department's adult volleyball, youth volleyball, and youth basketball leagues. Staff would also like to attract state and regional youth basketball and volleyball tournaments and events.

This project was part of the 2008 CIP sales tax campaign. It is a key piece to the other recreation amenities in this section of the city, which include Phil Welch Stadium, the Bode Sports Complex, South Park/Drake Softball Complex, Fairview Golf Course, and the urban hike and bike trail. E.L. Crawford Construction is the contractor, with design being provided by Leo A. Daly Architects. The center should be open in April or May, 2012.



St. Joseph park board members listen to parks department director Bill McKinney talk about the new facility.



The main gymnasium of the facility will feature two basketball courts and a walking track.

Christmas Tree Recycling for Residents (press release, December 27, 2011)...

The city of St. Joseph is providing disposal of "live" Christmas trees. The drop-off site is the parking lot of Drake softball field, located at the northwest corner of 22nd Street and Southwest Parkway. Residents of the city may drop-off trees beginning today through January 20, 2012. All trees must be free of decorations and tree stands, as the trees are put into a chipper and composted.

Public Notices (courtesy of Cindi Meers)...

Notice of Public Hearing – For the 3400 block South 22nd Street sanitary sewer system improvements NID

(Neighborhood Improvement District).

Notice is given that a public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on January 23, 2012, in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 1100 Frederick Avenue, St. Joseph, Missouri, for the purpose of considering the improvements and assessments herein described:

1. Project name: 3400 Block S. 22nd Street Sanitary Sewer System Improvements NID (Neighborhood Improvement District).
2. General nature of the improvements: Construction of a gravity sewer system to collect wastewater from nine (9) residential dwellings and commercial buildings, meeting city standards.
3. The estimated cost of the proposed sanitary sewer system improvements is \$118,446.00 for the entire improvement of which the city will contribute \$38,454.00, leaving a remainder to be paid by the District property owners of \$79,992.00 or \$8,888.00 per property owner. The final cost of such improvements assessed against the property within the district shall not exceed such estimated cost by more than 25%.
4. The proposed neighborhood improvement district is located entirely within St. Joseph, Missouri, an incorporated city and includes the following properties: 3408 S. 22nd Street, 3409 S. 22nd Street, 3411 S. 22nd Street, 3416 S. 22nd Street, 3417 S. 22nd Street, 3425 S. 22nd Street, 3901 S. 22nd Street, 2205 Excello Drive, and 2305 Excello Drive (Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 46 of Excello Subdivision).
5. The proposed method of assessment is: The total project cost will be shared among the property owners within the improvement district. To establish the cost per property owner, the total costs will be reduced by the city's contribution and the remainder will be computed by dividing the total cost of the project by the number of individual properties to be serviced (nine). Pursuant to state statutes, property owners will be afforded the latitude to finance their portion of the assessment through the city over a period that will be determined by the City Council or to pay the cost in total up front. Interest will be assessed to the unpaid balance in an amount not to exceed the state-regulated rate at that time. Property owners within the neighborhood improvement district shall separately pay the cost of connecting their residence/property to the sanitary sewer main.

The proposed Assessment Roll for the improvements, the plans, specification and estimated costs therefore, are on file in the office of the City Clerk for public inspection.

Written or oral objections to the proposed project or assessment will be considered at the hearing.

Notice of Public Hearing - On December 15, 2011, the Planning Commission of the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, recommended APPROVAL of the following rezoning requested by Rupp Funeral Home, J. L. Robertson, agent, redistricting 6040 and 6044 Pryor Avenue from R-1B, Single Family Residential District to C-1, Neighborhood Shopping District in accordance with Section 31-003 of the Code of Ordinances of the city of St. Joseph, Missouri.

On January 9, 2012, the following ordinance constituting the rezoning will be introduced for first reading by the Council of the city of St. Joseph, Missouri:

An ordinance (Bill #711-10) redistricting 6040 and 6044 Pryor Avenue from R-1B, Single Family Residential District to C-1, Neighborhood Shopping District as requested by Rupp Funeral Home, J. L. Robertson, agent (Sec. 31-003.202).

6040 and 6044 Pryor Avenue: West View Addition, Block 3, Lot 24 and Lot 25.

Now, notice is given to all citizens of the city of St. Joseph, Missouri, that the Council will hold a public hearing on January 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on the aforesaid rezoning which will be introduced for passage and at which time all parties in interest and citizens will be given an opportunity to be

heard and be informed as to the aforementioned ordinance.

Notice of Public Hearing - On December 15, 2011, the Planning Commission of the city of St. Joseph, Missouri, recommended DENIAL of the following rezoning requested by Anthony J. Nitti, redistricting 2544 South 10th Street from M-2, Heavy Manufacturing District to R-1B, Single-Family Residential District in accordance with Section 31-003 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of St. Joseph, Missouri.

On January 9, 2012, the following ordinance constituting the rezoning will be introduced for first reading by the Council of the City of St. Joseph, Missouri:

An ordinance (Bill #712-10) redistricting 2544 South 10th Street from M-2, Heavy Manufacturing District to R-1B, Single-Family Residential District, as requested by Anthony J. Nitti (Sec. 31-003.205).

2544 South 10th Street: Turner and Kirkpatrick's Addition, Block 2, Lots 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Now, notice is given to all citizens of the city of St. Joseph, Missouri, that the Council will hold a public hearing on January 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on the rezoning which will be introduced for passage and at which time all parties in interest and citizens will be given an opportunity to be heard and be informed as to the aforementioned ordinance.