



INDEPENDENCE ★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2019

Dear City Council and Citizens,

This month our Council Members will make important decisions about our City's budget. The City's Fiscal Year runs from July 1-June 30. Each year the Council has 45 days to review the Proposed Budget before making a final decision in mid-June. As I have stated before, cities across the country are facing a generational shift in consumer buying habits which is impacting retail sales tax revenue. As more of us shift our buying power online, our budgets must work with smaller retail sales growth which has major impacts on our General Fund. I have challenged my staff to look for creative options, cost saving measures and efficiencies over the last three years. But the sad reality is, sales taxes grew less than 1 percent last year, so we face difficult decisions ahead.

On May 20, the Council voted to put Proposition P on the ballot. If approved, this would allow the City to collect use tax, or sales tax, from online purchases to be used to fund the animal shelter and additional police officers. This issue will go before the voters on August 6.

This edition of the Manager's Monthly Report looks at the June meeting dates where the Council will discuss these issues and gives you an overview of our April numbers.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report and learning more about your City.

Sincerely,

Zach Walker
City Manager
City of Independence

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS IN JUNE

JUNE 3 - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- The Council will hear the first reading of the proposed 2019-20 Fiscal Year Budget.
 - The Council will hear the second reading of a proposed ordinance prohibiting the installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure or AMI.
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JUNE 10 - COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

- Additional information will be provided about proposed changes to post-65 retiree health insurance.
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JUNE 17 - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- City Council will hear the second reading of the proposed 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget and are expected to vote that evening.
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JUNE 24 - COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

- End of year legislative update.
- Independence On a Roll Working Group 2nd quarter update.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

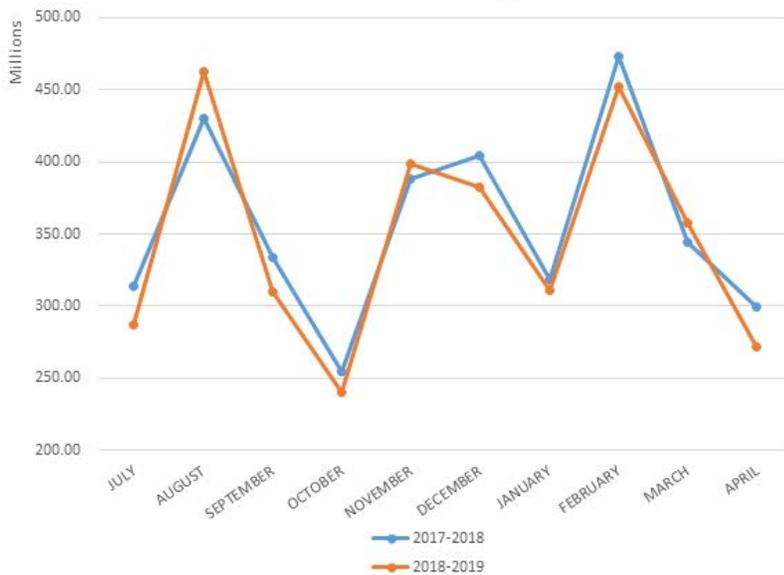
Join us on July 3 for the annual Independence Day Celebration and fireworks show at 927 W. Walnut Street. Gates open at 5:30 PM, concert begins at 7 PM, and fireworks begin at 9:30PM. This year there will also be food truck items and snacks available for purchase.

LOOKING FOR MORE EVENTS?

You can find a variety of events, programs and classes on the City's website at indep.us/events or on Facebook at facebook.com/CityOfIndependence.

APRIL BY THE NUMBERS

Gross Retail Sales by Month



SALES TAX RECEIPTS THRU APRIL 2019

FUND	2019 YTD
General	\$16,269,699
Streets	\$7,687,365
Parks	\$3,843,701
Storm	\$3,843,702
Police	\$2,033,694
Fire	\$1,921,886
Total	\$35,600,047

BUILDING PERMITS	Month	Year-to-date	April 2019 Valuation	Year-to-date
Residential	Permits Units	Permits Units		
Single Family	14	26	\$3,153,118	\$5,304,958
Duplex Units	0	4	\$0	\$644,000
3&4 Family	0	0	\$0	\$0
Apartments	0 0	5 280	\$0	\$36,596,000
Additions, Alterations, Misc. *	89	223	\$1,508,031	\$2,859,187
Subtotal Residential	103	258	\$4,661,149	\$45,404,145
Commercial				
New Commercial Building	0	7	\$0	\$5,407,928
Additions, alterations, tenant finish	6	29	\$585,400	\$8,400,821
Signs, Misc. **	30	129	\$303,596	\$996,001
Subtotal Commercial	36	165	\$888,996	\$14,804,750
Totals	139	423	\$5,550,145	\$60,208,895

* Includes re-roofs, pools, detached accessory buildings, demolitions and structural modifications such as decks, remodels and room or garage additions.

** Includes fuel storage, fire alarm, fire sprinkler, hood suppression, tent, cell tower and fences.

BUSINESS LICENSING	April 2019	Year-to-date
New applications received	209	544
Renewals	428	1,470
Total applications	637	2,014
Payments received	\$171,470.97	\$523,344.34

APRIL BY THE NUMBERS

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

- 315 million gallons of wastewater treated
- 36,863 feet of pipe inspected
- 769 manholes inspected
- 416 storm structures inspected
- 28 pipe repairs
- 399 water samples tested (1,688 tests performed)
- 37 environmental regulatory inspections

POWER AND LIGHT

- 39 distribution poles changed out
- 20 transformers were replaced
- 7 street light poles changed due to car accidents
- 37 new tenant turn-ons
- 16 diversions inspected
- 98 various services calls completed
- 170 electrical inspections performed
- Completed 12 environmental compliance sampling and reporting efforts related to protection of stormwater and groundwater resources
- 67,770,000 kWhs of electricity provided to customers
- Peak demand 131 MW
- Generated 2,270 MWh from units in Independence
- Solar farms produced 1,163 MWh

PUBLIC WORKS

- 1,607 potholes filled
- 21 building repair work orders addressed
- 20 sidewalk and right-of-way work orders addressed
- 3 traffic sign work orders addressed
- 3 mowing/debris/misc. work orders addressed.
- 4,360 crew labor hours

POLICE DEPARTMENT

8,006 calls for service. The call types with the highest numbers included:

- 1,695 traffic stops
- 532 suspicious persons/activity
- 457 disturbance
- 359 domestic violence disturbances
- 54 shots fired/sound of
- 21 assault aggravated/other

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1,717 total service calls with an average response time 4:47 minutes.
- 16 structure fires, average response time 4:12 minutes
- 1,057 EMS calls, average response time 5:19 minutes
- 237 commercial fire inspections
- 9 public education demos, reaching 100 people

WATER DEPARTMENT

- 834 million gallons of water pumped
- 27 water main leaks/breaks and repairs
- 25 minute average response time for water main breaks
- 574 fire hydrants inspected and flushed
- 2 fire hydrants replaced
- 3 fire hydrants repaired
- 455 valves located and inspected

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Notable Projects Submitted during April

Construction plans were submitted to renovate the 2,148 square foot building at 10819 E. Winner Road into the Vivilore Reception Hall.

Mid-Continent Public Library submitted construction plans to renovate the 4,800 square foot facility at 18109 E. 12th St.

Notable Projects Issued during April

Dollar General has been issued a building permit to construct a new 9,100 square-foot building at 15909 E. 23rd Street.

Dollar General has been issued a building permit to construct a new 7,500 square-foot building at 909 S Chrysler Ave.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public outreach and education are an important part of the service the Fire Department provides to our community. On April 16, the Fire Department welcomed the second ever class of the Citizens Academy to Fire Station 1 and the Emergency Operation Center. And on April 18 the Independence Chamber LEAD class participated in Public Safety Day. These efforts included overviews of the department and equipment demonstrations.

We are honored to work with our community and appreciate it when citizens take time to thank members of our Fire family. On April 25, the Sugar Creek Optimists recognized Fire Inspector Glenda Knisely for her efforts to educate the public.

April 25 was a busy day, in which Fire staff also participated in Bring Your Child to Work Day and a docudrama showing the aftermath of a crash at Chrisman High School.

Finally, on April 27 members of the Fire Department volunteer as part of Project Connect.

POWER & LIGHT

The Power and Light Department's core business is providing reliable service to our customers. In order to achieve that we have an aggressive tree trimming program which has resulted in 524 trees trimmed, 495 trees over 4" in diameter removed. Spring storms are here, and we restored power to 473 customers in 293 minutes. The numbers include weekend outages which require emergency call out of our staff.

Substation B switchgear had a new relay installed. Monthly NERC testing was performed. Due to a theft at Substation K, new copper was installed. Substation P circuit had wiring and relay settings installed.

Our acting Engineering Manager, Mitch Krysa, was awarded with the Professional Engineers in Industry Distinguished Service Award. This award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution statewide to advance the causes of the individual engineer in industry.

PARKS|RECREATION|TOURISM

Parks | Recreation | Tourism continues to complete projects across the City to improve the parks and venues provided to citizens and visitors of Independence. Here are some of the projects completed in May.

- The George Owens Shelter Replacement project has been completed. This project cost \$47,748 and was funded through the Parks Sales Tax.

The Arena, supported by the by the Independence Event Center CID, is planning several updates this year. No General Funds are being used for these projects.

- The Arena Star Room Renovation was completed. All three Star Rooms at the Arena were recently renovated to include new carpet, furniture and wall treatments. This project was made possible in trade for sponsorship at the Arena.



- CO2 Fog Effect Delivery System Updates were completed in May as well. This project cost \$17,580 and was funded through the IEC CID. The previous fog effect was fueled by CO2 bottles that had to be carried up to the catwalk several times a month.



In May, the City Council approved a new Point of Sales System Replacement Project. This project will cost an estimated \$225,000 and will be funded through the IEC CID. It will replace the out-of-date systems with several customer enhancements such as touch kiosk ordering, in-seat ordering apps for certain sections of the Arena and suites, and the ability to pre-load concession purchases on your electronic ticket. This project is estimated to be complete in August.



The Council also approved the second phase of the Video Board Replacement project at the arena. This will cost an estimated \$1.1 million and will be funded through the IEC CID. It will replace the current end boards with state of the art digital video boards. It is also estimated to be complete in August.



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The month of April was very busy for our patrol officers with numerous significant events. On April 6, the bomb squad was called out to the City Hall parking lot on a suspicious device attached to a vehicle. It was later determined to be a GPS tracking device that was unknown to the vehicle owner/driver. Also that day, officers responded to the 16400 block of E. 34th Street on a shots fired call. Officers located a suspect vehicle and detained three suspects. They located two firearms in the vehicle, and all three suspects were taken into custody for outstanding warrants, traffic charges, open container, unlawful use of a firearm. No injuries were reported.

On April 7, officers were dispatched to the 2600 block of Lee's Summit Road on an armed disturbance involving a 17 year old male who was not breathing. It was determined that the victim began having a serious medical issue during a road rage incident between himself and a driver in another vehicle. The victim was transported to an area hospital in critical condition. On April 8, officers were dispatched to the 1700 block of S. Ash Avenue on an aggravated assault with a suspect armed with a hammer. As the officers arrived on the scene, the suspect was screaming for them to leave his property. The suspect exited a vehicle and picked up a wooden board. The suspect was non-complaint and was tased by the officers. While holding the suspect on the ground, the suspect was pinching the officer's leg and refused to let go. The suspect was taken into custody. Also that day, officers observed a vehicle in the area of Wilson and Brookside but before they even attempted a vehicle stop, it fled and while doing so struck one of the police cars. The suspect continued to flee until he crashed into a light pole. The suspect fled on foot, resisted arrest and was tased by the pursuing officer. A second suspect broke his arm in the crash and was transported to an area hospital. A small amount of methamphetamine was recovered from the vehicle, and the fleeing suspect faced multiple criminal charges.

On April 10, officers responded to a residential burglary in the 11300 block of E. 13th Street. A neighbor witnessed a suspect enter the residence through a basement window. The witness took pictures with her phone and called 911. When officers arrived they created a perimeter. After assisting officers arrived, they searched the main level of the residence with negative results. The basement was not searched immediately because there was several inches of water and raw sewage in it. The SWAT unit was called out to search and eventually located the suspect hiding in the corner of the basement. He was taken into custody without incident. On April 13, officers responded to the area of 15th and Vermont on an assault. When they arrived, they attempted to confront a person believed to be the suspect. He took off running from them. Officers were able to catch up to the suspect and deployed a taser. After the suspect was handcuffed and rolled over, officers observed a handgun under him. The suspect was arrested for interfering with police and the weapon was placed on property for safe keeping. It was determined that the

suspect was not involved in the initial reported assault.

On April 16, a man was seen walking by a building along N. 291 Hwy. He picked up a window scraper and walked off with it, ignoring the workers who saw him do it. Officers were called to the scene and located the suspect nearby. An officer attempted to arrest the suspect but he fought the officer, striking him in the face. The suspect was tased and taken into custody. On April 17, an officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle. It fled and all three occupants ran away from the vehicle on foot near the 2700 block of S. Coachman Drive. All three suspects were located and taken into custody. One suspect has a felony probation violation warrant as well as other warrants for his arrest. The vehicle was reported stolen from Grandview, Missouri. While the suspect fled, one of them threw a handgun from the vehicle, but it was later recovered by the officers.

On April 22, an officer observed a suspect riding a bike in the area of Woodland and Turner who he knew on sight to be a suspect with a felony drug warrant for his arrest. The suspect fled on foot when the officer attempted to stop him. The suspect was found hiding in a back yard. He was charged with possessing drug paraphernalia, interfering with police and possession of burglary tools. On April 25 an officer was conducting proactive patrol and got a license plate response on a missing person in the 13700 block of E. 42nd Terr. The person was missing out of Nevada, MO by family and went into hiding because her significant other had felony warrants. A building check was conducted, and both subjects were located. The wanted person, who had seven warrants for his arrest, was taken into custody.

On April 27, we received a call of a domestic violent assault / carjacking that occurred in the 18900 block of E. 37th Terr. The victim said she arrived home and found the suspect, her ex-boyfriend, inside in her apartment. He assaulted her, took her keys and then took some items he left there when he previously had stayed the night. One of these items was an AR-15 rifle. The victim stated the suspect threatened to shoot her before fleeing in her vehicle. Officers were able to track the suspect into Kansas City, MO and, with the assistance of KCPD, were able to locate and take him into custody. On April 28, officers stopped a vehicle in the area of US 24 Hwy and Sterling, based on information that the driver/suspect had an active felony warrant for drugs. After arrest, drug paraphernalia, approximately 50 grams of methamphetamine and a loaded 9mm handgun were located in the vehicle. The suspect was found to be a convicted felon.

On April 29, officers responded to 19700 block of E. 47th Drive in reference to a possible armed disturbance. Upon their arrival, they contacted the suspect who was screaming on the front porch, believed to be under the influence of methamphetamine. Due to the suspect's actions, officers attempted to detain him. The suspect failed to comply and resisted the officers. The suspect was taken to the ground and continued to be combative and took hold of one of the officers holstered firearms. The suspect was taken into custody.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The month of April brought a six-month fundraising period to a close. Since November 2018, IPD has held a special monthly fundraiser to raise money for various charities and causes. Donations to this fundraiser have allowed police officers and staff to grow beards and/or wear jeans on Fridays. For those not aware, it is against our police department's policy to have more facial hair than a mustache, so that's why this is unique. Each month, a different charitable organization has been selected to receive the funds:

- In November, we raised \$3,175 that went to our 'Shop with a Cop' program with the Community Services League.
- In December, we raised \$2,200 for our Chaplains' Officer & Employee Wellness Program.

- In January we raised \$2,270 for K9's For Freedom & Independence, the organization that donated "Josie", our therapy dog.
- In February, we raised \$1,666 for Ross's Foundation and the Shadow Buddies Foundation. They each received a check for \$833.
- For March, we raised \$1,574 for a charity associated with Pierson Phillips, a young man who recently passed away who did a lot of work in youth mental health awareness, and other charities the IPD supports.
- In April, \$1,405 was raised for an ALS organization associated with KCPD Officer Sarah Olsen.

In total, the men and women of the Independence Police Department raised \$12,290 during this last six month to benefit those in need in our community.

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