

memo...

Mayor
Arthur Draut

Council Members

Bernard Bowling Jr.
R. O. Dorsey
Millard French
Harry Hargadon

Robert Hart
William O'Connell
Martha Schade
Richard Tonini

from St. Matthews City Hall

FROM THE MAYOR

St. Matthews can be proud of its parks

Several weeks of pleasant weather are left for enjoying activities outdoors. And we residents of St. Matthews are lucky to have plenty of recreational facilities at our disposal.

In recent years your city officials have shown much interest in the St. Matthews "parks system" because we believe it's an asset of our community.

Are you aware of the park properties that are maintained and operated by the city of St. Matthews? Let me tell you a little about them.

Brown Park: This property was deeded to St. Matthews by Brown Foundation in 1977 for perpetual use as a park. It is located near Baptist Hospital East. The entrance is at the intersection of Bowling Boulevard and Browns Lane.

Brown Park is a passive park, which means it's ideal for leisurely strolls under the canopy of tall shade trees and for relaxing family picnics.

Wood-chip covered trails wind through the 27-acre park. And recently a picnic pavilion was completed. Plenty of picnic tables, benches and even some barbecue grills have been purchased for the park.

Brown Park isn't the place for softball or basketball games, but activities like badminton or horse-shoes are well suited for the passive park.

St. Matthews Community Center: Baseball leagues, picnic grounds, playground equipment and a community center building that can accommodate events for up to 250 people—that's what you'll find at the St. Matthews Community Center located on Ten Pin Lane next to Stein Mart on Shelbyville Road.

We owe much thanks to Ray Voll, president of the St. Matthews Community Center Board, and board members Skip Thorpe, Ray Howard, Ray Roederer, Carl Boyd, John Riley, Henry McCoy, Mary Siler, Millard French, Donald Armstrong, Larry Boram and Rick Schuster for seeing to it that we have such fine facilities.

Voll's service to the community deserves mention since he has been a member of the community center board for 33 years and has served as its president since 1962.

Much attention has been paid to the community center in recent years. Now there are volleyball and tennis courts, practically new playground

equipment and picnic tables and barbecue grills. In 1982, the attractive, brick building with kitchen facilities, a meeting room and a large hall, was completed.

The community center building has become a popular place for wedding receptions and meetings of all kinds. Call St. Matthews City Hall, 895-9444, for information about renting the building.

Though the baseball season has concluded for 1986, parents of young athletes may be interested to know that there is a very active baseball league that operates in the community center.

More than 800 youths participate in Tee-ball, Little League, Babe Ruth, and 16- to 18-year-olds baseball programs at the center.

Warwick Villa Park: This recreational facility could be one of our best kept secrets in St. Matthews. But we don't want it to be!

Warwick Villa Park is surrounded by houses in the vicinity of Washburn, Kentucky, Virginia and Columbia avenues, off LaGrange Road. The nine-acre park has a picnic area, playground equipment, basketball court and a football/soccer field.

This area falls under the supervision of the St. Matthews Community Center Board, too.

While Warwick Villa Park may not be used as much as other parks, it certainly has a lot to offer.

Bauer Park: This "park" likely is the best-kept secret in St. Matthews. I only learned of it myself a couple of years ago.

It seems that a triangular-shaped tract of land between two residences on Dayton Avenue actually was dedicated as park property some years ago. The area is a beautifully treed setting that St. Matthews works department employees maintain. But I don't think it's ever used for park purposes.

In fact, this city's works department spends a lot of time caring for all of the St. Matthews parks. According to George Clephas, our works department foreman, four to six men work as much as three days a week during the summer to keep the parks well maintained.

We've got a lot of recreational facilities to be proud of in St. Matthews. Be sure to check them out.

—A. K. Draut, Mayor

1986-87 budget includes plans for capital improvements

A new fiscal year for the city of St. Matthews started on July 1. In June, the city council finalized a budget for the 1986-87 year.

Several months of work by city employees goes into the budget preparation process. Past records and current expenditures are used to estimate the income and expenses in the coming year.

Once the figures are determined, the council has a hearing, then must pass ordinances establishing the budget and setting a tax rate. With those procedures completed, the city now is operating on a budget with estimated revenues totaling \$2,280,013.

Of that amount, the revenue estimates account for \$1,078,200 from property taxes; \$132,000 in garbage collection fees; \$352,839 from licenses and permits; \$45,000 from a state-funded police incentive program; \$12,000 in fines and forfeits; \$6,000 for services; \$62,000 in interest; \$19,780 from other miscellaneous sources, and \$400,000 from the recently approved occupational tax.

In addition, there are other anticipated sources of revenue including \$21,822 in revenue sharing funds, down from \$90,876 budgeted for last year, and \$150,372 in municipal aid funds.

Budgeted appropriations are set as: \$297,879, general government, up from \$228,380; \$707,727, police, up from \$688,080; \$371,425, public works, up from \$285,000; \$328,630, sanitation, up from \$263,850; \$9,000, parks and recreation, up from \$5,280; \$46,828 for costs relating to city-owned

properties, up from \$34,127; \$21,460, sign officer, up from \$19,150, and \$200,000 in capital improvements.

The amount set aside for variable fees and services rose significantly because of a \$50,000 appropriation for a possible upgrading of the pension system for city employees.

An eight percent raise for city employees is accounted for in this budget. This pay increase is much-deserved after several years of minimal wage increases.

Funds allocated for capital improvements will be used for projects such as street resurfacing, new equipment, storm sewers, additional employees and new signs. City officials encourage citizens to notify city hall with ideas for capital improvements that would benefit the entire community or a large number of residents.

Revenue sharing and municipal aid funds will be spent during the current fiscal year, but decisions regarding how the money will be used must be made after public hearings that will be held later in the year.

The city's property tax rate for 1986-87 is 29.95 cents per \$100 property valuation, and the garbage collection fee is \$32. The amounts are the same as last year.

Remember! The face value of your St. Matthews tax bill can be paid through August. But after Sept. 1, a penalty of 10 percent plus 1½ percent per month will be added to late tax bills.

Eline library gets facelift with city's help

Improvements totaling \$15,000 will be made at the Sidney Eline Memorial Library following approval of the refurbishing project by the St. Matthews City Council.

Officials of the Louisville Free Public Library system requested the financial assistance since the city of St. Matthews owns the Eline Library building.

The funds will pay for improved lighting, painting of the library's interior, purchase and installation of carpeting and new gutters. Funds left over from those major expenditures will be used to purchase some chairs or repair worn furniture at the library, according to Councilwoman Martha Schade, who served on the committee that studied the library system's request.

Also, a letter will be sent to the mayors of other area small cities asking that they contribute to a special library fund that would be used when maintenance and future improvements are needed at the Eline Library, which serves citizens throughout the St. Matthews area.

Woman's club sponsors town meeting Sept. 29

The Woman's Club of St. Matthews has invited St. Matthews Mayor Arthur Draut, Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and Jefferson County Judge/Executive Harvey Sloane to attend a town meeting on Monday, Sept. 29.

The meeting will be held at the St. Matthews Woman's Club, 4124 Shelbyville Road, at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of this program is to discuss the immediate and long-range plans for our area of the state. Each panelist will be asked to offer opening remarks and then field questions from the floor.

Fall trash pick-up scheduled for October

The second special trash pick-up of 1986 will be held during the month of October.

St. Matthews residents will be notified one week prior to the day of the special pick-up on their particular route, and it will be scheduled on a regular sanitation collection day.

Make sure your street address is visible

Imagine the frustration of being a police officer or a firefighter or an ambulance driver who cannot locate the residence or business where an emergency is occurring.

It happens all too often because street addresses are not posted in visible, conspicuous places. And if you do not have your address visibly displayed, you are not only endangering yourself and your family, but you also are breaking the law!

Both Jefferson County and the city of St. Matthews have laws requiring the visible display of street addresses, particularly to aid emergency services personnel.

The St. Matthews law, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1986, has the following requirements:

Single family residences: The address must be placed at the front of the residence or so that it is visible from the nearest fronting road, free from obstructions. The numbers must be at least three inches by two inches or larger if necessary to be seen from the nearest road. The numbers should be a color distinguishable from the background on which they are placed. Existing posted numerals are acceptable only if they adequately identify the single-family dwelling.

Apartment buildings: The address must be placed to ensure prompt identification of apartment buildings from the nearest fronting road or parking area. The address must be clearly visible and free from obstructions. The standard Arabic

numerals must be at least three inches by two inches or larger if necessary to be easily seen. Also, they must be of a color easily distinguishable from the background on which the numbers are placed. Existing posted addresses are acceptable if they adequately identify the apartment buildings. If the owner of an apartment building wants to propose a reasonable system of identification for his property, he may contact the St. Matthews engineer or sign officer.

Commercial or industrial structures: The law for commercial and industrial structures is similar to the rules for apartment buildings, except that the Arabic numerals must be at least five inches by three inches if not larger. Owners of this type of structure also may contact the St. Matthews engineer or sign officer to propose a reasonable system of identification of their property.

St. Matthews Police are given authority by the law to issue citations for violations of the ordinance. Persons or businesses not complying with the address law may be fined not less than \$10 or more than \$25 each day during which the violation exists.

In appropriate situations, police officers may issue warning citations.

While there are no plans at this time for police to patrol the city in search of violators of this law, city officials encourage property owners to comply with the ordinance.

Occupational tax goes into effect

As of July 1, St. Matthews' occupational tax became effective. The funds generated by this three-fourths of one percent tax are expected to total about \$400,000.

However, city officials won't be able to accurately gauge how much the new tax will bring in annually until one or two quarters of tax receipts have been collected.

Since St. Matthews should be financially secure with this income, city officials hope to be able to pursue some needed capital improvements. In fact, suggestions from citizens regarding improvement projects to pursue are welcomed. If you have any ideas, call St. Matthews City Hall at 895-9444.

Also, persons concerned about the new occupational tax should realize that there is a chance the amount paid to St. Matthews will be subtracted from the occupational tax due to Jefferson County government.

At press time, a judicial review of this issue was still underway. Regardless of the outcome of the review, the St. Matthews occupational tax still will be in effect.

New law prohibits frames on license plates

A new law enacted by the 1986 General Assembly makes it unlawful for vehicle license plates to be obscured by a frame, rim, covering, any lettering or decal.

St. Matthews Police will notify motorists stopped for traffic violations if they are not in compliance with the new law.

Police watch houses for vacationers

Before you back out of the driveway for a much-desired vacation, be sure your home and property are as safe as possible. Take precautions to secure your belongings—and call the St. Matthews Police Department.

Police officers will patrol by your home while you are gone for added protection. Call St. Matthews police at 893-9000 to request the vacation house watch.

DIRECTORY

Keep these numbers for quick reference should you have any questions about city services:

Public Works and Sanitation

George Clephas _____ 895-9444

Property Taxes

Mary Whittler _____ 895-9444

Business License

Doreen Stopher _____ 895-9444

Zoning Information

Marion Comstock _____ 895-9444

Sign Regulations

Sterling Weyrich _____ 895-9444

Police (administration, non-emergencies)

Chief Wilbur Bilyeu _____ 893-9000

Police Emergencies _____ 911

General Information

Gretchen Kaiser _____ 895-9444

Mayor Art Draut
895-9444 or 893-2751

Building permits are needed; don't forget to trim shrubs

Fair weather means lots of work outdoors. If you are planning to build any structures on your property, be sure to check with city hall before you hit the first nail or turn the first shovel of dirt.

You are required to obtain a building permit from St. Matthews before pursuing any building projects. The permits don't cost anything, but it's important for city officials to check plans to be certain that right of ways are not obstructed and that zoning laws are not violated.

Also, it is the responsibility of property owners to see that trees and shrubs do not obstruct the view of motorists or block signs.

Keep those limbs trimmed!

Council meetings will start at 7 p.m.

Take note! As of the Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1986 St. Matthews City Council meeting, the starting time for the city's regular meetings moves to 7 p.m. from 8 p.m.

The council meets the second and fourth Tuesday every month. And citizens are encouraged to attend to find out what is going on in their community.

FEEDBACK WELCOMED

Mail to: St. Matthews Memo
201 Thierman Lane
St. Matthews, Ky. 40207

We invite you to let us know what you think about this newsletter. We also would welcome your questions and suggestions regarding articles you would like to see in this publication.

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