

St. Matthews Líving

City of St. Matthews 3940 Grandview Avenue P.O. Box 7097 St. Matthews, KY 40257-0097 Hours: M-Th 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. F 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 2019

Karen Hight retires from SMPD after 20 years

For many years now, St. Matthews residents who have visited the St. Matthews Police Department have seen the same smiling face—that of police secretary Karen Hight. Karen will retire October 31 after 20 years as the face of the SMPD.

"When I came here in 1999, I was looking for a change in my career and thought I'd enjoy working for the police department, and I have," said Karen. Karen started out as former Chief of Police Norman Mayer's secretary, answering calls, keeping records, and making the Chief's appointments. Regarding Karen's service, former Chief Mayer said, "She was always a step ahead of me—if I asked her to do

something, she already had it done. She worked late without complaint and was always on time. She was very intelligent and the best secretary I ever had."

Over the years, Karen's responsibilities changed. Early on, she gathered information regarding offenses, arrests, and tickets to create reports. Today, that data is

typed into computers located in police cruisers by the officers at the in the window seen by the public. scene and then uploaded to SMPD's database. Through the years, the department has grown, adding a Special Response Team

(SRT) and more officers and detectives. The department has also become a more proactive presence in the community, talking to students in their schools and to community groups about safety and crime prevention. "I have so much respect for the officers," said Karen.

What hasn't changed is the face "I've probably seen and heard it all through the years," she said. "People can be hesitant to say what they need, but I try to let

them know they can tell us anything, and we will help them find the answer," she said. "If I don't have the answer, I will find an officer or someone else who does."

Karen continued, "Most people are very nice and polite. Sometimes it's their first encounter with the police so it's important that the encounter be a good one. People are grateful that we have an actual person rather than a phone that says press 1 for this or that."

"It's important," said Mayor Rick Tonini, "that Karen is not only the face of the St. Matthews Police Department, but that she is very knowledgeable, which makes her efficient when it comes to taking care of residents who come to the police department. If you need something, she gets it

Current Chief of Police Barry Wilkerson said that Karen has been the foundation of the department.

done."

Continued on page 11

A Message From...

Property tax discount

The Oct. 31
deadline for a
40% discount
on your real
estate property
taxes is rapidly
approaching.
Residents may
want to contact
their mortgage
companies to



remind them of the date to take advantage of the 40%

discount. Contact City Hall if you are unsure if the tax has been paid.

Shop St. Matthews

As you begin to shop for your holiday gifts, don't forget to check out your local merchants. Supporting local St. Matthews

businesses is a way to give back to the City that provides so many services to you.

And don't feel you have to wait for the holidays— shopping locally at any time helps enrich the economy, making St. Matthews an even better place to call home.

Sign up for Reach Alert notifications

St. Matthews would like to better communicate with you by providing immediate information regarding a number of potential situations. If you register for REACH Alert, you will be able to receive messages from the City via multiple formats.

To register, go to www.reach alert.com and click on the blue text, "Create an account."
When prompted, please use the following information to register for our Network:
Network Name: St. Matthews (city); Role: Resident or Business; Address: Enter the

address in first box and the street name in the second box.

Keep safe and informed by getting connected with your City!



Hometown History 1948

This feature spotlights a moment in time when our city looked a lot different. Where do you think this picture was taken? See page 11 to solve this issue's Hometown History mystery.



Louisville Gas & Electric

502-589-1444

Fast path options are: 1-1-1 (gas) and 1-1-2 (electric).

Emergency Contact Numbers

Louisville Water Company

502-583-6610

To report emergencies like water main breaks or broken fire hydrants.

Easy Being Green



Tree recycling

Live Christmas trees can be disposed of with your

regular yard waste. Place your tree at the edge of the road or in the area where your trash and yard waste are usually picked up. It is not necessary to cut the tree up. Trees should be free of decorations such as lights, ornaments, or other trimmings.



Holiday wrapping paper

A common mistake many people make around the holidays is loading their recycling bins with wrapping paper, tissue, ribbons, and more. Unfortunately, the shiny, laminated paper is, in fact, not recyclable in most circumstances. Including it in the bin with other paper products can make an entire load unrecyclable.

If wrapping paper is metallic, has glitter on it, or has a texture to it, it is not recyclable. However, unlaminated paper-based wrapping paper and pre-recycled wrapping paper are usually recyclable. A good way to test is to crush wrapping paper into a ball. If it stays bunched up, it is more than likely recyclable.

Other decorations, such as ribbons, bows, and glitter-laden holiday cards, are likewise not recyclable.



An eco-friendly practice is to reuse wrapping paper or to forego wrapping gifts in paper at all. Why not consider presenting your gift in reusable materials such as scarves, fabric gift wraps, and gift boxes and bags? It's a gift to loved ones AND to the Earth as well.

Recycling is collected every other week on the same day as trash on weeks highlighted in red. Holidays are marked in blue and will delay recycling and trash one day.

November 2019							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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December 2019							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

January 2020							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

Police Beat

National Night Out and Helmet Smart programs successfully concluded

The St. Matthews Police
Department once again
participated in the National
Night Out event, held this year
on August 6. This event
brought many area businesses
and residents together with
the Police, Fire and Works
departments to build
neighborhood camaraderie
and relationships. A thank you
goes out to all those who
attended or participated in the
event.

The Police Department finished its 3rd year of participation, along with American

Automobile Association East Central and McDonalds of Louisville, in the Helmet Smart program. This program allows SMPD officers to write a "safety citation" to kids who are wearing a helmet while riding a bicycle. The child can take the completed citation to an area McDonald's for a free Happy Meal.

With the help of the City of Louisville and the Bike Louisville program, officers were able to give a free bike helmet to any kid found riding without a helmet. Each month of the program, participants

> from St. Matthews and other jurisdictions were entered into a drawing for a free bicycle. One of this year's monthly

winners was from St. Matthews.

School Resource Officer role evolves

Recently, Jefferson County Public Schools made a decision to reduce the involvement of police (School Resource Officers) in their schools. This change has allowed the St. Matthews Police Department to begin using its SRO position as a wider community resource. The department now has the flexibility to have an officer available for meetings with businesses and citizens to talk about crime prevention. If interested in having a police officer available for this service, call 893-9000 and leave a message for Officer Troy Armstrong.

Crime Buzz

Use holiday travel house checks to prevent crime

Preventing crime during family travel starts with making sure your home is protected while you're away. The key is to make

it look like you never left:

- Keep shades and blinds in their normal positions.
- Stop mail and newspapers, or ask a neighbor to pick them up every day.
- Put several household lights on timers so they turn on and off at appropriate times.

- Arrange to have grass mowed (or snow shoveled) while you're gone.
- Make sure all your door and window locks are in working order—and use them.
 - ■Activate
 your home
 alarm (if you
 have one).
 ■You might
 even leave a

radio on or put one on a timer. Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway overnight—anything that might suggest someone's home. And don't forget to lock all doors and windows when you leave.

Also remember that you can call the St. Matthews Police Department at 893-9000 and request a free home watch while you are away.

Watch out for holiday scams and scam artists

Scams happen all year round, but are especially prevalent during the holidays.

One of the newest scams involves gift cards. Scammers are getting gift card numbers off cards in stores and waiting a few days until they are activated. Once the number has been loaded with money, the scammer goes online to use it

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4



to buy things on the store's website. It's better to buy gift cards behind the store counter or ones that require you to scratch off the gift card number.

A tried and true scam is one where someone calls or emails pretending to be your bank and asking for your bank account or credit card number. NEVER give your bank account or credit card number to someone over the phone or email if THEY contacted you. Your bank would not ask for it because they already have it.

For those of you who buy and sell on eBay, Craigslist, and similar websites, do not accept cashier's checks or money orders as payment. If you do, wait at least seven business days after the check is deposited into your account to make sure that it clears at the bank's headquarters.

Keep alert while shopping

The following tips can help you be more careful, prepared, and aware during the holiday season:

- Try to shop during the day, but if you do shop at night, do not do it alone.
- Dress casually and avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- If possible, do not carry a purse or wallet. Those who do are prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, at bus stops, and on buses and

- other modes of transit.

 Consider bringing a security travel pouch instead.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card, and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
 If you do carry cash, put it in your front pocket.
- If you discover that a credit card is missing, notify the credit card company right away. Don't assume that you misplaced it and will find it later. Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.

ID This Person



New pictures are posted daily. Anonymous tipsters may receive a \$25 reward.

Good Neighboring

Keep storm drains clear

As you rake leaves to the edge of your property in preparation



for the annual leaf pickup, make sure you do NOT cover storm drains. Likewise, do not cover up any pyramids that have been placed along the edge of the street. Clogged storm drains cause unnecessary flooding, and the pyramids get sucked up in the leaf equipment, causing extensive and expensive damage.

Regarding pyramids, remember that the grassy area near the

street edge is a right-of-way and not personal property. Therefore, if you place any object, such as pyramids, along that area, you are responsible for any injury or damage that occurs involving that object.

Appliance and junk pick up

As you acquire new things over the holidays, remember that Rumpke is only contracted to pick up one large item at the time of your regular garbage collection. If you have several items to dispose of, please contact Rumpke directly at 800-828-8171. They will schedule a special junk pick up and advise you of any additional charges that you might

incur. Please note that Rumpke's local number is no longer working properly, and they have asked residents to use their 800 number.

In the event of snow...

First, remove cars or other obstructions from the streets so that Works Department snowplow drivers can get through. Next, clear snowy sidewalks, steps, and porches so that pedestrians and postal workers can navigate easily. And finally, after heavy snowfalls and when side-walks are icy, carry garbage cans out to the street for pickup. Otherwise, Rumpke will not pick up your waste.

Code Words

Parking by the book

As we watch squirrels and other little critters stockpile nuts and prepare for winter, we are reminded that it's time to winterize and store our campers, boats, and trailers. City Code Section 78.09 provides the ordinances that govern parking these types of vehicles.

The City allows homeowners to store one camper, boat, or trailer on their residential lot, but does not allow these vehicles to be parked between the house and the street. For residences on a corner lot, this applies to both streets. In order to park this "summer" vehicle, you may need to

rearrange other vehicles on your property. Passenger vehicles may be parked on a residential driveway no wider than 20 feet, in a garage, or on the street in most areas. Parking in the grass between the house and the property line is not allowed. Section 78 of the City Codes addresses parking regulations in St. Matthews and identifies



rearrange other vehicles on your those streets where there are property. Passenger vehicles parking restrictions.

Where parking is allowed along a street, the vehicle must be parked parallel to the edge of the roadway, facing the same direction as the traffic flow. If parked in this manner, the vehicle may also be parked on the unimproved portion of the right-of-way in front of a lot (usually the area between the roadway and the sidewalk).

For further clarification, see both Section 78 and Section 92 (Streets and Sidewalks) at www. stmatthewsky.gov. Choose the Government tab, drop down to Ordinances, and click on the link in the middle of the page.

Hot Off the Press

"Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" was the theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week, held October 6–12. This year's campaign celebrated people of all ages who learn about home fire escape planning and practice, bring that information home, and spur their families to action. These people truly are heroes because they're taking steps to make their households much safer from fire.

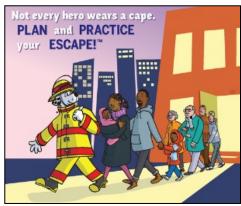
This year's theme also focused on what a home escape plan entails and the value of practicing it. These messages are more important than ever, particularly because today's homes burn faster than ever. Synthetic fibers used in modern home furnishings, along with

the fact that newer homes tend to be built with more open spaces and unprotected lightweight construction, are contributing factors to the increased burn rate.

People underestimate their risk to fire, particularly at home. That over-confidence lends itself to a complacency toward home escape planning and practice. In a fire situation, it has been proved time and again that advance planning can make a potentially life-saving difference.

A home escape plan includes placing working smoke alarms on every level of the home, in every bedroom, and near all sleeping areas. It also includes identifying an outside

meeting place and finding two ways out of every room (usually a door and a window) that have a clear path to that meeting place. For the meeting place,



choose something simple like a tree, light pole, or mailbox that is a safe distance from the home. Home escape plans should be practiced twice a year by all members of the household.

St. Matthews-Eline Library: Check it out!

New branch manager speaks

New St. Matthews-Eline Library Branch Manager Kate Leitner took a moment to tell us about herself. Kate came to St. Matthews from the Jeffersontown branch and was at Shawnee and Portland before that. The move brought her to the neighborhood where she lived as a small child.

Kate is proud to be a part of a

newly renovated branch and would like to keep the fresh spirit going while keeping library workflows efficient. She said. "I



envision the library as being a welcoming place for people in the community and want them to feel that this is their library."

Friends of the Library

St. Matthews Friends of the Library meets quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in January, April, July, and October at 10:30 a.m. The meeting gives



those who are interested in

and advocating for the library opportunities to do that. Come sit in on a meeting and learn how you can help!

Mad Hatter Tea Party

You are cordially invited to wear your wackiest costume and join us on October 31 at 2:30 p.m. for a retelling of Alice in Wonderland, followed by tea and snacks. Ages 5-12.

Cemeteries of St. Matthews

On November 20 at 6:30 p.m., cemetery historians Jack Koppel, Ellen White, and Steve Wiser will present an informative discussion of burial sites within St. Matthews. They will also touch on other notable cemeteries such as Cave Hill, The Temple, and St. Louis, among others.

The Art of Film

From November 23-December 1, the Library will feature an amazing collection of alternative film art. Posters will range from golden age movie classics to Disney masterpieces to Marvel movies and more.

A visit with Mrs. Claus!

Ho, ho, ho! Wouldn't you know-Santa's busy in his workshop making toys for boys and girls, so he's sending Mrs. Claus on the





road for special meet and greets! Mrs. Claus will be at the Library on December 10 at 7:00 p.m. Hear stories about the North Pole, sing Christmas carols, and tell Mrs. Claus what you'd like for Christmas!

The program is presented by professional entertainer Julie Engelhardt, who has appeared as Mrs. Claus at Light Up Louisville, Churchill Downs, Macy's, Dillard's and at the Santa Claus Museum.

Computer repair

FREE computer tune-up and repair service will be offered the first Saturday of the month from 1-4 p.m. Help will be limited to the first five persons to make a reservation at taylor rae@ hotmail.com. Participants should bring a mouse and charger if they have a laptop.

SeniorCare Experts holds holiday food drive



Holiday food drive Senior Care

Experts is

collecting items and donations to help seniors November 11-December 12. They are accepting all non-perishable, sealed, unexpired food products as well as toiletry items, paper products, household items, pet supplies, and blankets. Senior Care also needs volunteers to deliver the items on December 17.

Other volunteers needed

Senior Care Experts is always looking for volunteers to drive meals to seniors, transport seniors, perform office work, and more. Call 896-2316 for more information.

Season's Greetings

Free trick-or-treating in Brown Park



The Chamber of St. Matthews and the City of St. Matthews will present their annual Halloween in Brown Park event on October 26 from 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Held for more than 20 years, this event provides safe, **free** trick-ortreating for area children. More than 60 area businesses will be on-site to hand out

candy to an estimated 5,000 kids.

In an effort to be as inclusive as possible, the event organizers have encouraged vendors to provide alternative nonfood treats for trick-ortreaters who may suffer

from a food allergies. Booths that provide non-food treats will be marked with a Teal Pumpkin Project logo.

In addition to trick-ortreating, Halloween in Brown Park includes inflatables, a hayride, and good music.

Parking for the event is located at 4007 Kresge Way, a part of the Baptist Health

Louisville campus located directly across from the hospital.

For more information about the event, call the Chamber office at 899-2523 or visit the City website at stmatthews ky.gov.



Light Up St. Matthews set for December 7

This year's Light Up St.
Matthews will be held
Saturday, December 7, from
3–6 p.m. in Brown Park.
Sponsored by the Chamber of



St. Matthews and the City of St. Matthews, the event kicks off the holiday season by lighting up the park with holiday figures that shine each night through the month of December.

The event includes **free**, fun activities for the entire family, including train rides, ice skating, the opportunity to have a picture taken in an inflatable snow globe, and fun craft activities.

The event also includes pictures with Santa, along with cookies and hot chocolate. In addition, letters to Santa may be mailed directly from Brown Park to the North Pole.

The event concludes at 6 p.m. with Santa and St. Matthews Mayor Rick Tonini

flipping the switch to light up the park.

Parking for the event will be at 4007 Kresge Way, a part of the Baptist Health Louisville campus, located directly across from the hospital.

For more information about the event, call the chamber office at 899-2523.



Alexander Hamilton Historical Society of Kentucky

The Alexander Hamilton Historical Society of Kentucky meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. The location of the meeting place changed in September to the Masonic Home at 3701 Frankfort Avenue. At the gatehouse, turn right at the stop

sign. Take the first right into the Meadow building parking lot. The meetings take place in the Artisan room. As always, AHHS meetings are open to the public.

November 16

Lecture to be announced.

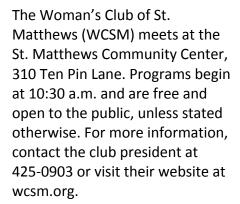
December 2

Scott Miller will present on a topic to be announced.

January 18

Dr. John McLeod will present on a topic to be announced.

Woman's Club of St. Matthews



October 28

The club invites anyone who is interested in knowing more about

the WCSM to an Open House from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Stop in to see what the WCSM does in, and for, the community and why the WCSM has been around for over 80 years. Light refreshments will be served.

November 25

Join club members as they participate in a field trip to Bernheim

Arboretum and Research Forest. The group will be greeted by

Bernheim staff, who will give a private presentation about the wonderful attributes of the forest, including the addition of the new "forest giants." Participants will be charged a park entrance fee.

January 27

Each January, the WCSM offers a free program on a subject important to community residents. See the club website as more information becomes available.

St. MAM offers a chance to give for the holidays



Scouting for Food drive

Participate in the annual Scouting for Food Drive by

leaving food donations on your doorstep on November 23. Donations will go to St. MAM or your local Dare to Care distribution center.

Thanksgiving baskets

On November 25, St. MAM will be collecting Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families. Bring the following items in a reusable bag to the St. MAM office in Beechwood Baptist Church at 201

Biltmore Road: stuffing mix, 5 lbs. bag of potatoes, 2 lbs. bag of onions, 2 cans of carrots, 2 cans of cranberry sauce, 2 cans of yams, turkey gravy, and dessert. Attach the food list to the bag to show it is complete. Items will be accepted ONLY on Monday, November 25, 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Consider making a \$25 donation to cover the cost of turkeys and other perishable items. Contact Sarah Banks at 893-0205 or



sarahbanks@stmam.com for more information.

Holiday gifts and hams

Help St. Matthews Area Ministries (St. MAM) provide a bit of Christmas magic to families in need. November 1–22, St. MAM is looking for people to adopt a St. MAM child and provide holiday gifts or to sponsor a child for \$75. Contact Sarah Banks at 893-0205 if you are interested.

St. MAM will also be taking \$10 donations until December 13 to help cover the cost of a ham to be provided to families for Christmas.

Your Works at Work

Leaf Collection

As leaves begin to fall, you can depend on your Public Works crew to perform their annual leaf pickup program. Residents are encouraged to keep an eye out for signs placed along the streets indicating the pickup area the following week. This notice will allow residents time to rake leaves out to the edge of the street in front of their property.

A tentative schedule will be placed on the City's website



that will be updated weekly to give St. Matthews residents a tentative idea of when the leaf pickup trucks will be in their area. It is likely that trees will hold onto their leaves a little longer due to warmer weather. The Public Works crew will make every effort to pick up leaves in a timely fashion and to follow the schedule as closely as possible.

Each area is scheduled to be covered just once. Leaves in

yard waste-only containers are also picked up at regular trash collection times; free "Yard Waste" stickers for your containers are available at City Hall.

Snow Removal

The City of St. Matthews operates a comprehensive snow removal program. All streets within the city receive snow removal service. Naturally, main thoroughfares receive attention first, then all residential streets are treated. During this time, we ask that all vehicles be moved off the roads to allow snow plows and other equipment to maneuver safely and properly clear your roads.

Projects

The following projects have been completed this period:

Completed Projects

- Trimmed, landscaped, mulched, and planted throughout City.
- Filled in several sink holes that developed in the public right-of-way.
- Replaced culvert pipe on Cherrywood.
- Patched pot holes on many City streets.
- Installed 4 new radar speed limit signs on Massie and Winchester.
- Replaced the stairs for two press boxes at Community Park.

- Made playground and restroom improvements at Brown Park.
- Removed and replanted trees along Bowling Blvd.

Current Projects

- Conducting drainage improvement studies on 4000 block of Winchester Road and 3600 block of St. Germaine Court.
- Jointly with MSD, making drainage improvements in the rear of the 500 block of Kentucky Avenue.
- Improving Trinity Hills ditch design.
- Working to eliminate sidewalk tripping hazards.
- Replacing street signs (ongoing project).
- Grinding stumps and replanting trees in the public right-of-way.
- Replacing roof on the 201
 Thierman Lane building.
- Improving roadway on Primrose Drive.

Future Projects

- Saturated soil has prevented the clean-up of some storm debris in the parks. This will be done as soon as possible.
- Stream restoration project in Draut Park.
- Culvert replacement on Trinity Hills Lane.
- Drainage and sidewalk improvements in the 4000 block of Massie Avenue.

Karen Hight Continued from page 1

He added, "Her many years of experience and her knowledge of department history have been invaluable to me as I learned to navigate my role as Chief."

Another of Karen's duties is to show St. Matthews residents how to use the prescription drug disposal box located in the department. She also empties the

box, storing the medicine in the department's lock down drug box until it can be destroyed.

Some of the best memories for Karen are the times when parents bring in their grade school children to meet a police officer. "It's heartwarming to see officers, who have to be tough on the job and ready to respond in difficult circumstances, being so kind and patient with children who come in. The officers not only talk to the kids, but also show them their cars. The kids always leave with a big smile on their face. It's important to know that officers are people just like you and me, but who are willing to risk it all to keep us safe. You are never going to find a



better bunch of men and women than at SMPD."

Karen said she feels the same way about the St. Matthews
Works Department and the men and women of City Hall. "It has been a pleasure working with all of these outstanding people," she said.

Karen, who has a grown daughter and grown granddaughter, plans to start her retirement by getting some things done around her house. She also hopes to start volunteering again as an assistant to physically challenged people who use therapeutic horseback riding to strengthen their muscles. No doubt that whatever she's doing, she'll be doing it with a smile on her face.

Not receiving the newsletter?



If you do not currently receive a copy of this

newsletter, *St. Matthews Living,* by mail, and would like to do so, please submit your mailing

address to City Hall via the City website "Contact Us" link or call 895-9444.

Hometown History - 2019

THEN

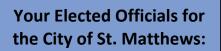
The photo featured on page 2 shows Ms. Katie Kaelin with a harvest of pumpkins at the Andy Kaelin, Jr. farm on Rudy Lane.

NOW

The Kaelin farm was sold and developed and is now the Windsong neighborhood in St. Matthews.



City of St. Matthews 3940 Grandview Avenue P.O. Box 7097 St. Matthews, KY 40257-0097 STD PRST
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Mayor Richard J. Tonini

City Council

Bernard Bowling

Cathi Clark

Frank Flynn

Tim Holland

Stuart Monohan

Mary Jo Nay

Amy Olson

Tony Weiter

City Council meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

City Council meeting minutes are online at www.stmatthewsky.gov.

Reach Alert

To receive
emergency and/or
community
service notifications
through
St. Matthews'
Reach Alert system,
sign up at
www.reachalert.com
or call
1-877-307-9313.

Government Access

City Hall Office: 895-9444

Code Enforcement: 899-2512

Police Department: 893-9000

City Engineer: 899-2518

Public Works: 899-2517

Property Taxes: 899-2511

Police Records: 899-2537

Emergency: 911

