



Everman Community Newsletter

November 2019

City Hall 817-293-0525 www.evermantx.net

Mayor's Corner

Dear Everman Residents,

Voting

On November 5th, we voted on various items which included 10 state amendments, TCC Bond package, Everman ISD Bond package and 8 Charter Amendments for the City of Everman. The only item that did not pass was one state amendment.

Back in February 2019, the Everman City Council voted in a committee of residents to look at several sections of our City Charter and recommend possible changes to go before the voters. The following Charter Amendments were approved on November 5th;

1. Proposition 1 has increased council terms from 2 years to a 4 year terms (effective May 2020).
2. Proposition 2 will move council to staggered terms. Places 1, 3, 5 will run in odd numbered years. Places 2, 4, 6 and the mayor will run in even numbered years. This means that our next council elections will be in May 2023.
3. Proposition 3 was to increase the compensation of council members. Council members will receive \$1,200 per year and the mayor will receive \$6,000 per year starting October 1, 2020.
4. Proposition 4 was to place the City Secretary under the supervision of the City Manager. The City Secretary had been supervised by the city council.
5. Proposition 5 is to assure that all councilmember's (present or future) are in full compliance with city codes and are not behind in city utility bills or city taxes. This assures that councilmember's are following the same rules that every other resident is expected to follow.
6. Proposition 6 will allow the Everman City Council to remove a council member who is not code compliant or up on city utility bills or city taxes.
7. Proposition 7 requires all board members that are currently serving on a city board to be code compliant and are current on city utilities and taxes.
8. Proposition 8 is a change in how we do elections. We have always been following the "majority system". In this case, you must have more than 50%

of the votes to win your seat. If you did not have more than 50%, then we would be required to have a run-off election. Going to a "plurality system" states that whoever has the most votes, wins. No run-off election is required. This saves the city the cost of a run-off election, which typically runs anywhere from \$7,000-\$10,000 for most elections.

I would like to thank all members of the Charter committee for taking time out of their lives to serve on this committee, and making recommendation for the betterment of the city.

EDC

The Everman Economic Development Committee has been busy, making improvements around our fair city. First, they have been given much needed updates to Johnson Park.

They started with replacing all the fencing at Johnson Park, around the baseball fields and making upgrades to the Pittman Park Splash pad. Next was the approval for a basketball court at Johnson Park, similar to the one at Pittman Park. Then the parking lots will be rebuilt on the east and west sides of the baseball fields, at Johnson Park.

Next they are replacing the floor in the future City of Everman Museum, on Trammell Ave. And lastly, they are starting the work on a Veterans Park dedicated to our Military, Police, Fire Fighters and EMS.

Everman Events Committee

As usual, things have been extremely busy in the City of Everman. The Everman Events Board has been busy planning events for us. The first was the Hallo-glow Event for Halloween. We had a huge crowd show up to Trick-or-Treat. Every booth ran out of candy before the scheduled end time. Next year will be even bigger and better. The event will have to be relocated from the Annex due to the size of the crowd.

On November 2nd, the Everman Events Board had a breakfast for our Veterans. We had a nice turn out and had a Mexican breakfast that was donated by

Loan Officer/ Veteran Rich McDowell of Synergy One Lending.

We also have the Annual Tree Lighting on December 5th at 6 P.M. at the City Hall Annex. All singing will be performed by students from the Everman ISD. We will also have a visit from Santa Claus, after the tree lighting. Come out and unite with our resident and enjoy the evening festivities.

Everman Flooding

The City of Everman has been working on our flooding issues, ever since our flood on September 21, 2018. We have been meeting with various agencies over the past 13 months, including Tarrant County. We have been waiting for the Army Corps of Engineers to come in and start a study that is required to be eligible for federal funding. We were informed that it could be four years or longer before they can start this study. Because of this timeline, we have been looking for alternatives. The county has come up with a possible plan to help with our issues and will speed up the process considerably. It is still in the early stages but sounds promising. I will give more information at a later date, if everything pans out.

We also are working on an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). This is an agreement stating that the City of Everman, Fort Worth and Tarrant County will cooperate with each other, on flood mitigation. This is also required for grant funding.

Developments around Everman

Over the next five years, we will be seeing growth around our city like we have never seen before. Fort Worth has plans for approximately 3,500 new homes and several apartment complexes, which will surround our city. The Carter Foundation is also planning the development of the property that sits between Enon, Wichita, Joel East and Oak Grove Roads. This will be 556 acres of development and is being referred to as the Carter Distribution Center. It will be large warehouses with lots of truck traffic. Currently the only entry ways to the project will be off of Joel East and Oak Grove Road. We will not allow any entry ways in our city. There is also three detention ponds planned for this project.

We are also working with Tarrant County, Forest Hill and the City of Fort Worth to widen Wichita Street from two lanes to four lanes. This will be from Interstate 20 to Roy

C. Brooks. This will also include a turn lane at Roy C. Brooks. We are already experiencing heavier than usual traffic because of the construction that has already taken place. The situation is only going to get worse, as time goes on. We will be looking at this issue, and see what we need to do to handle the traffic.

New City Ordinances

The Everman City Council has passed two new ordinances that relate to trees. The first is an ordinance that will help to have trees removed on private land that are a hazard to life and property. With the weather that we have had over the past few years, we have had numerous trees that have fallen. Fortunately, no one was hurt by these trees but there has been some property damage.

The second ordinance is to outline a clearance requirement for trees that hang over the roadway. This requires that trees are trimmed to allow for 15 feet of clearance over the roadways. The primary reason for this is to allow safe passage of fire trucks, when they are responding to your neighborhoods.

Census 2020

The 2020 census will start on April 1, 2020 and end on July 31, 2020. We need every resident in the City of Everman to be counted. Much of the programs that Everman receives are based on these numbers, such as CDBG Grants. The higher our population, the more funds we will receive. Please do the census online, or answer the door when they show up. The city has created a "2020 Census Complete Count Committee", and we are looking for volunteers with this committee. Spanish speaking volunteers will also be needed. If you are interested, please contact City Secretary Mindi Parks.

Everman Parkway

The City of Fort Worth should have started on the concrete work on Everman Parkway in October, but they are still working on the Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County (Big Surprise there). After speaking to Tarrant County, it will be January before the City of Fort Worth can start the concrete work on Everman Parkway. This in turn will move

the road replacement start date back to somewhere between June and August of 2020. This moves the entire project back approximately four months. I wish the City of Fort Worth would get their act together. It has taken us six years to get to this point, but we are finally getting somewhere with Everman Parkway.

Tarrant County Mayors' Council

I have been active with the Tarrant County Mayors' Council, from the start. This committee is all 41 cities that make up Tarrant County. My attendance determines the amount of CDBG grant funds that the City of Everman is eligible to receive. We have been using this money to do water line replacements throughout the city. That's why it is important for me to be present at all meetings.

I have been serving on the Mayors' Council Executive Committee for the past two years. On December 2, 2019 I was voted in as the Chair of the Mayors' Council for the upcoming year. I'm hoping that this will bring even more attention to our city and some of the issues that we have been experiencing.

Respectfully,

Mayor Ray Richardson

NSF CHECK POLICY

All NSF checks will be charged a service charge, the price to be adjusted periodically to reflect banks charge. All NSF checks are to be paid for with cash or money order, no checks will be accepted for a payment of an NSF. Once the City gets the NSF check back, it will not be re-sent to the bank. The bank presents the check two (2) times before returning it to the City. If a customer gives the City an NSF check two (2) times in a one (1) year period, then that customer forfeits the right to write checks for a one (1) year period, ending a year after the date of the second NSF check given. Customers that have given an NSF check will be notified of such and given three (3) working days to pay for the NSF check and the service charge. If on the Fourth (4th) working day, the NSF check has not been paid for, the water will be cut off and an additional service charge will be added to the account.

CODE COMPLIANCE

ORDINANCE #753 TREES: TREE OR SHRUBS, BRANCHES OR LIMBS THAT OBSTRUCT LIGHT,

OBSTRUCT THE VIEW AT INTERSECTIONS, AND THAT CAN CAUSE DAMAGE TO VEHICLES OR PERSONS DUE TO INADEQUATE CLEAR SPACE FROM THE SURFACE OF STREETS, ALLEYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND UTILITY EASEMENTS CONSTITUTE A NUISANCE AND A DETRIMENT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE. ARTICLE III SECTION 17-41 – TRIMMING, CORNER CLEARANCE: A CLEAR SPACE OF 15 FEET IN HEIGHT IS REQUIRED OVER STREETS, ALLEYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND UTILITY EASEMENTS. THIS ORDINANCE GIVES AUTHORITY TO THE CITY TO TRIM SUCH TREES OR SHRUBS IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS AND TO ORDER PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH PROPERTY TO ABATE SUCH CONDITIONS, ON PUBLIC AND/OR PRIVATE PROPERTIES.

ORDINANCE #564 PARKING OF COMMERCIAL, LARGE AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES:

TRAILERS, BUSES, RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ARE PROHIBITED IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS. RV (RECREATIONAL VEHICLE) CAN ONLY BE PARKED OR STORED ON A PORTION OF A FRONT OR SIDE YARD OF ANY SINGLE FAMILY OR MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IF *THE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IS WHOLLY CONTAINED AND ENCLOSED IN A GARAGE OR *IS PARKED: WHOLLY ON A HARD SURFACE DRIVEWAY OR PARKING AREA PERMITTED OR REQUIRED BY THE ZONING ORDINANCE, AND THE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE DOES NOT EXTEND WITHIN TEN (10 FEET OF THE CURB OR STREET LINE: *OR ON A HARD SURFACE BEHIND THE FRONT BUILDING LINE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING: LARGE, COMMERCIAL, BOAT/TRAILER, TRAVEL TRAILERS, 5TH WHEEL TRAILERS, BUMPER PULL TRAILERS, MOTOR COACHES, MOTOR HOMES, JET SKI/TRAILER

ORDINANCE #679 (SECTION 6.6 SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS):

NO VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED ON AL OT OR TRACT LOCATED WITHIN AN AREA ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL OR MULTI-FAMILY UNLESS THE AREA UPON WHICH SUCH VEHICLE IS PARKED

IS PAVED WITH A HARD SURFACE. HARD SURFACE IS DEFINED AS ASPHALT OR CONCRETE.

(J) NO VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED ON A LOT OR TRACT LOCATED IN AN AREA ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL OR MULTI-FAMILY WHEN SUCH VEHICLE IS SITUATED ON BLOCKS, JACKS OR ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE WHEEL OR MECHANISM THAT ARE ORIGINALLY DESIGNED TO EQUIP SUCH VEHICLES FOR TRAVELING PURPOSES.

(Q) OVERSIZED VEHICLES – NO VEHICLE RATED TO HAVE A CARRY CAPACITY EXCEEDING ONE (1) TON SHALL BE PARKED ON A LOT OR TRACT LOCATED IN AN AREA ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL OR MULTI-FAMILY UNLESS SUCH VEHICLE IS BEING ACTIVELY LOADED OR UNLOADED.

SECTION 6.8 VISIBILITY TRIANGLE: NO FENCE SCREEN WALL OR VISUAL BARRIER SHALL BE LOCATED OR PLACED WHERE IT OBSTRUCTS THE VIOLATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS APPROACHING ANY STREET OR DRIVEWAY INTERSECTION. AT ALL STREET OR DRIVEWAY INTERSECTIONS CLEAR VISIBILITY SHALL BE MAINTAINED ACROSS THE LOT FOR A PROPER DISTANCE ALONG BOTH STREETS AND DRIVEWAYS.

SECTION 7.2 SCREENING AND FENCING:

A PERMIT SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR ANY NEW FENCE OR SCREENING WALL CONSTRUCTION AND WHEN THERE IS ANY CHANGE IN LOCATION, MATERIAL AND/OR HEIGHT TO AN EXISTING FENCE.

REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED IN GOOD REPAIR.

Code Enforcement Official

LIBRARY LORE

From the Librarian's desk,

Greetings from the Everman Public Library, we hope your holiday season has started with great memories and great learning from your favorite book. The year is almost gone and we want to wish you an incredible 2020 full of plans and great opportunities.

We at the Everman Public Library have had a great 2019. This year we have been able to serve our community and provide assistance in many aspects of the everyday life. We want to encourage you to come and visit the friendliest library in North Texas.

We have added about 100 new titles to our DVD/BLUE RAY collection. These new titles are available to check out by our patrons in this holiday season. The weather is getting cooler everyday, take advantage of our video collection and watch a movie at home.

Our Staff has been working really hard to catch up with all our new books so they can be put in our shelves as soon as possible. We are including new titles every week. Please come to the Library and ask someone in our staff to point you to the new additions to be checked.

We want to wish you an amazing holiday season and we hope to see you soon at the Everman Public Library.

Remember that a good book is a great friend.

Obed Rodriguez, Librarian

**POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Everman Animal Control

From your Everman Animal Control Officer's

Everman Animal Control and all the furry tails at the shelter, would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year! As we prepare for another year, we would also like to remind citizens of the importance of having proper shelter for your furry family members outside. Remember that the definition of "shelter" means a structure with 3 sides and a roof that is raised off the ground. Also most of the time the cold air comes in from the north so please angle the entrance of the shelter accordingly so that the animal is protected.

Additionally we would like to remind our citizens that chickens are not permitted in Everman. If animal control finds that you do have chicken or fowl on your property, you will be asked to remove them from the residence. If you receive a notice to remove the chickens and you do not, a ticket may be issued.

Lastly, if you are interested in adopting a new dog or cat to be a part of your home, please give us a visit at the shelter and see the wonderful dogs and cats we have available.

The shelter is open 7 days a week, 8am- 5pm (except holidays), located at 3961 Bluebell Dr. Everman, 76140.

To report animal abuse or neglect call 817-561-5495 or email animal control, evermanaco3961@gmail.com

Martin Zeider and Paul Hazelip

NOTES FROM PUBLIC WORKS

You may have noticed, the city is making some improvements in the parks. The old rusty ball field fences at Pitman Parks have been replaced. This is something that needed to be done for years, but there were no funds to support such a task. But with the help of our Economic Development Committee, the funding was made available. Also, you may notice work being done at the old Johnson Park basketball courts. The two unfenced half courts have been removed so that a fenced in regulation size court can be constructed. There are other plans for Johnson Park as well, such as making sure the volley ball pits are regulation size, and repainting the pavilion and out buildings to make them more aesthetically pleasing. Pittman Park is also going through some changes. The underground tank at the splash pad is being replaced with a bigger tank. This will help keep a constant flow of water through the system. The fence at the Pitman Park basketball court is being changed from a four foot to ten feet. This is being done to ensure safety and convenience to all who use it. We are also replacing the back boards and doing some minor paint to the court. The shade covers on the walk track rest station should be complete in the next few weeks. All these improvements should be complete and the parks should be ready for complete enjoyment by this spring. So, please appreciate our improvements, and as always be safe please follow the park rules.

Jeff Reed
Director of Public Works

I want to take this opportunity to advise the citizens of Everman how to do their part to protect the waterways of Texas from contaminants.

Many of our daily activities can cause contaminants to enter the water, without us even knowing. This type of pollution is known as nonpoint source pollution,



because it comes from many different, sometimes unknown, sources. Nonpoint source pollution results when small amounts of contaminants from multiple sources are carried by rainfall runoff into lakes, streams, or bays.

Since it results from the everyday activities of many different people, it can be challenging to control this type of pollution. Sources of nonpoint source pollution can include activities like fertilizing a lawn, using pesticides, or constructing a road or building. For example, pollutants may be washed off lawns, construction areas, farms, or highways during a heavy rain and carried into a nearby creek.

How You Can Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution

Although nonpoint source pollution is often a result of our everyday activities, there are many ways you can reduce your impact and help keep the Texas water clean!



Check your car for leaks. If you find any leaks or spills, make repairs as soon as possible. Don't hose them into the street, where they can travel down a nearby storm drain. Clean up any spilled fluids with an absorbent, like cat litter or sand.

Apply lawn and garden chemicals

sparingly. Misapplication of fertilizer poses a significant threat to surface water and groundwater. More is not always better—apply fertilizers and pesticides according to the label's directions and only use the recommended amount. Applying mulch, leaving grass clippings on the lawn, and using native plants can reduce the need for fertilizers.



Pick up after your pet. Dog waste is a contributor to bacterial pollution in urban watersheds. Even if you are in your own yard, pick up your pet's waste. It does not make a good fertilizer and will not wash away on its own.

Pet waste can affect water quality and animals' and people's health by carrying diseases into our bodies of water. The presence of too much bacteria can make it more hazardous to swim or wade in our lakes, creeks, rivers, or bays. The lack of oxygen during waste decomposition can threaten the health and lives of fish and other aquatic animals.

Always pick up your pet's waste whether on a walk or home in your backyard. Even if you're not near water, storm water and runoff water can carry pollutants into drainage ditches, lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and underground sources of water. Try to walk in grassy areas, parks, and undeveloped land as opposed to near streams and other waterways.

Keep street gutters and storm drains clear. Litter, chemicals, or other waste can travel down street gutters and storm drains, which will carry it directly into lakes, streams, and rivers.

Dispose of used oil properly. Never pour used motor oil down storm drains. The used oil from just one oil change can contaminate one million gallons of fresh water—a year's supply for 50 people! Whenever you change your oil or other vehicle fluids, make sure you recycle them.

Locate a recycling center.

Lisa Minnis, Director of Public Works

Economic Development news

