Winter 2024 Volume XXIV, No. 1

Watterson Park Word

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY

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Watterson Park Council and Officers

Mayor	Linda Chesser
Councilman	Jay Bourke
Councilwoman	Becky Ewan
Councilman	Steve Fortwengler
Councilwoman	Gina Garrett
Councilman	Todd O'Bryan
Councilwoman	Marlene Welsh
Treasurer	Jean Hall
Clerk	Aggie Keefe

LMPD 6th Division E-Newsletter

Major Mindy Vance's monthly LMPD 6th Division E-newsletter contains an abundance of information, including crime trends, outreach programs, safety tips, Officer of the Month recognition, and much more. To subscribe, go to: louisville-police.org, click Our Department from the drop-down menu, then Sixth Division under Patrol Divisions. Look for the E-newsletter sign-up link. In addition, there is a direct link to sign up on the Home page of our website: WattersonParkKy.com. You can choose to receive the newsletter via text or e-mail, and you can easily unsubscribe at any time.

From the Mayor



This year is going to be a busy one for your Watterson Park Council. We're excited about the projects and issues we will address in 2024, and we will keep you apprised of our progress via our website and newsletters. For now, however, I would like to highlight a few of our many achievements in 2023.

 We have recently implemented REACH Alert, a notification system that allows us to immediately share valuable

information and alerts with our residents and businesses. See page 2 for more details and for instructions on how to sign up.

- We passed an ordinance relating to the use and hours of operation of city parks and similar public amenities, including the penalty for violation. (See page 3.) A sign outlining the parameters of this ordinance will be installed on the Lillian Wild Walking Path within the next few weeks.
- Your City Council reduced your real property tax rate to 5.7¢ per \$100 of valuation, down from 5.8¢ for the previous fiscal year. The tax rates for tangible personal property and motor vehicles/watercraft both remained the same. All three tax rates are among the lowest in our entire Commonwealth.
- Watterson Park was approved as a Tree City USA for the twenty-first year!
 We are one of thirty-one cities in Kentucky to receive this recognition.
- Your Council and City Attorneys have been working closely with MSD to remediate the flooding that has been occurring on Stober Road. We hope to have a solution to this problem soon.
- We repealed old nuisance ordinances and replaced them with a new one that gives our Code Enforcement Officer a much broader ability to prosecute certain actions as necessary within the legal system.
- We have been working closely with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Louisville Metro to build a sidewalk on Newburg Road from Larkmoor Lane to Louisville Metro Animal Services. We're hopeful that construction will begin soon.
- Councilman Jay Bourke and I attend meetings of the LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board to stay familiar with the officers assigned to our area, keep abreast of crime, and assist with community outreach programs.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to improve the quality of life for our residents and businesses. Together, we are making Watterson Park an ideal place in which to live and work!

CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE

The candidate filing deadline for nonpartisan elections of the City of Watterson Park's Mayor and Councilmembers is

Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at 4 p.m.

YOU CAN FIND FILING FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS AT ELECTIONS.JEFFERSONCOUNTYCLERK.ORG.

Happy Retirement!



After serving as Treasurer of the City of Watterson Park for 43 years, JERRY WILD retired from that position in April 2023.

Jerry began serving as Watterson Park's Treasurer in 1981. In this position, he was responsible for ensuring sound fiscal policies related to the use of City resources. He handled the deposit, investment, and disbursement of all municipal funds. Jerry attended monthly City Council meetings, where he presented financial statements for the City Council's approval. He also worked with our Mayor and City Attorney related to forecasting for the annual budget. Jerry collaborated annually with our CPA to ensure our annual audit was performed correctly and efficiently.

After tendering his resignation, Jerry stayed on as a consultant for several months, training and working closely with his replacement to ensure a smooth transition.

The Watterson Park Mayor, Council, and Officers thank Jerry for his many years of exemplary service and wish him the best in the years to come.

Sign Up to Stay Informed!

We understand the importance of communicating with you and ensuring that we keep you in the loop regarding events affecti



we keep you in the loop regarding events affecting the City of Watterson Park. With that in mind, we are pleased to announce that we have implemented **REACH Alert**, an alert and notification system. This system allows us to immediately share valuable information such as sanitation delays, power outages, and upcoming events with our residents and businesses.

We are providing this service at no cost to our Watterson Park residents and businesses. In order to receive notifications through REACH Alert, however, you need to register. You can decide if you want a text message, a voice call, or an e-mail. Each residence or business in Watterson Park can register as many phone numbers and e-mail addresses as necessary.

The registration process is simple.

- Go to www.reachalert.com, or use your smart phone to scan the QR Code to the right.
- Click on Sign Up (upper right-hand corner).
- For Network Name, type Watterson Park and click on our name when it appears.
- Follow the prompts and enter your preferred contact information. When you enter your address, click on it when it appears in the drop-down list.



REACH Aler

REACH Alert will send a confirmation message to your cell phone or computer immediately upon completion of your registration. If you do not receive this message, please call REACH Alert at 877.307.9313.

If you do not have access to a computer or if you experience any difficulty registering, please contact REACH Alert at 877.307.9313.

~ Submitted by Linda Chesser, Mayor

Large-Trash Pickup – Friday, April 12 PLACE ITEMS AT THE CURB NO LATER THAN 6 A.M.

Acceptable Items:

- Furniture and appliances. NOTE: All mattresses, box springs, and upholstered furniture must be wrapped in plastic.
- White goods (A/C units, refrigerators, freezers, etc.) must have Freon® removed by a licensed technician and must be tagged.
- Outdoor goods, such as patio furniture and grills.
- Broken down boxes (bundled and tied).

Unacceptable Items:

- Commercially generated brush and landscape materials.
- Bricks, concrete, dirt, shingles, and tree trunks.
- Remodeling, construction, and demolition debris.
- Cardboard boxes filled with debris.

For general sanitation guidelines, go to **WattersonParkKy.com/services** or call Republic Services at **502.638.9000**.



City of Watterson Park Ordinance No. 274, Series 2023

An ordinance relating to the use and hours of operation of city parks and similar public amenities; penalty for violation

Be it ordained by the City of Watterson Park:

Section 1. The following provisions apply to all City Parks, city-owned walking paths, and all other similar public spaces and amenities owned by the city for public use and recreation (collectively, "City Parks"):

- (A) City Parks are constructed and maintained for the use of the public at large. City Parks shall be open daily to all citizens on absolutely equal terms. No person shall be given special privileges in any City Park or be permitted to make use of them for any illegal purpose.
- (B) No person shall be present in any City Park after 9 p.m. prevailing Eastern time or before 7 a.m. prevailing Eastern time except as follows:
 - (1) When attending or participating in an activity authorized by a permit or permission issued by the city.
 - Any employee or person conducting official city business.
 - (3) Any person walking, jogging, or running through, or otherwise actively traversing, a City Park. No standing, sitting, sleeping, or loitering of any kind is permitted in City Parks between 9 p.m. prevailing Eastern time or before 7 a.m. prevailing Eastern time except as provided in subsections (B) (1) and (2) of this Ordinance.
- (C) It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully enter upon or remain within any City Park during such hours

- as City Parks are closed to public use or on another property owned by the city that is closed to the public.
- (D) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or use skateboards, bicycles, or any form of motorized transportation within any City Park.
- (E) It shall be unlawful for any person to deface, damage, steal, mark, or graffiti any city property, tree, public art or sculpture, or other city-owned item within any City Park.
- (F) Persons using City Parks do so at their own risk.
- (G) It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, chase, tease, or shoot at any animal, reptile, or bird in City Parks unless it is for official city business.
- (H) Persons using City Parks shall clean up any area that was occupied or used.
- (I) No fires, fireworks, or other open flames or explosive or incendiary devices are permitted in City Parks.
- (J) It shall be unlawful for any person to camp in any City Park.

Section 2. Any violation of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a criminal violation punishable by a \$250 fine.

Section 3. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to publish this Ordinance as required by law. It shall become immediately effective upon publication as required by law.

Adopted this 13th day of November 2023 by 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Meet Your New City Council Member

Mayor Linda Chesse administered the Oath of Office to **TODD O'BRYAN** at our January 8 legislative meeting. As the newest member of our City Council, Todd will finish the term of former Councilman Phil Johnson, who resigned when he moved outside our City limits, as he was no longer eligible to serve.



Welcome to Watterson Park's New Treasurer!



Following the resignation of Treasurer Jerry Wild in April 2023, **JEAN HALL** was appointed by Mayor Chesser as his replacement. She was officially sworn in as City Treasurer on January 8, 2024.

Jean graduated from Assumption High School and earned her BSBA from the University of Louisville with a major in accounting. She retired from Humana in 2021, after various accounting/finance positions at AEGON and Brown & Williamson.

Jean realizes that she has some big shoes to fill, but she is definitely up to the task. Please join us in welcoming Jean to our Watterson Park family.

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire:

It is the time for home."

~ Edith Sitwell

City of Watterson Park

P.O. Box 35334 Louisville, KY 40232 PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
UNITED MAIL



When significant snowfall or ice is forecast, please park your vehicle in your driveway so that brine can be applied and snow removed safely and quickly.

On sanitation pick-up days, please park your vehicle in your driveway to give our sanitation workers easy, safe access to the carts.

Thank you!

Address any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to: Aggie Keefe, Editor • clerk@wattersonparkky.com

Find services, crime tips, ordinances, City data, meeting agendas and minutes, contact information, and much more on our official website:

www.WattersonParkKy.com

January - June 2024 Watterson Park Sanitation Calendar

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ALL PICKUPS ARE ON FRIDAY. RECYCLING IS COLLECTED EVERY OTHER WEEK (HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE).

YARD WASTE IS COLLECTED THE OPPOSITE WEEK. IF REGULAR SERVICE FALLS ON A HOLIDAY,

SERVICE WILL BE DELAYED ONE DAY. *LARGE-TRASH PICKUP IS FRIDAY, APRIL 12.