

# MONROE CITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018

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## Mayor's Message—Johnny Parsons

It's that time of year, when it starts to get warmer and things turn green. Again this year the city council has set May 21-30 as our clean up week. Dumpsters from White's Sanitation will be located at the south end of town. (See flyer)

As we all know our winter was mild and with very little moisture. We always encourage conservation

when it comes to using your irrigation water, however this year we are asking that you be mindful of the conditions and water only as needed. Our water department is not placing restrictions on watering, if the irrigation pond gets low the water will be turned off and will remain off until the pond level comes up.

Our city office renovation is now complete. I would like to thank our city employees for the work they did on the office, this helped us save money and complete the project quickly. Also I need to thank you as our citizens for your patience while we were working out of the old fire house. If you have not been in, please come in and check it out.

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## STREET DEPARTMENT—COUNCILMEMBER MATHIE

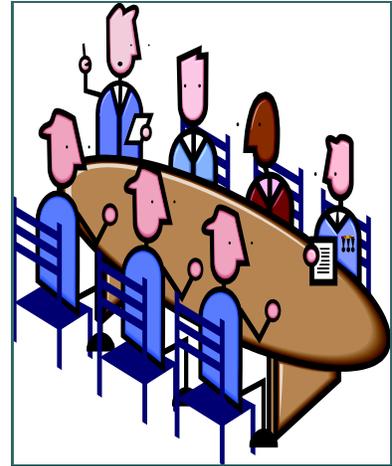
In this edition of the newsletter I want to talk about something nearly every citizen uses in Monroe on a daily basis. It's not our national award winning water, or our locally produced electricity: it's our roads. We drive on them to get to work, school, the grocery store, our neighbors house, and so much more. I was surprised to learn that Monroe City has 24 miles of roads within its city limits. 24 miles!! I am the city councilman for Monroe City assigned to our street department. This year Mayor Parsons tasked me with comprehensively evaluating our road needs and making it a priority to propose a project to address them. Monroe City has done our best to maintain our streets, but due to factors such as higher costs of materials and increased road miles in the city we are seeing some significant deterioration. Working with Jones & DeMille we have evaluated our roads for service life and maintenance needs to develop a comprehensive street plan. This plan

makes recommendations for current road projects and ongoing maintenance over the next 15-20 years. Some roads are in great shape and recently were treated, some roads are in need of more expensive repairs, and others are dirt that will need to be paved. We now feel like we have a clear picture of what needs to be done. The total project will cost nearly 7 million dollars. Repairing, maintaining and paving roads is expensive!! A public hearing was held on April 24, 2018 to discuss and receive citizen input regarding our street needs and potential plans. Thank you to those that attended. Those in attendance did express support for our plans and we have moved forward accordingly. The next step is to secure funding for such a project. As we evaluated the cost it became clear that our current revenue sources for streets are insufficient not only for the project, but also to keep up with

our current maintenance needs. We are actively working on a proposal to present to the Community Impact Board (CIB) for grant funding to assist in funding the project, which will go along with a request for loan funding. We are intensely reviewing our budget and options for funding including an increase to the city property taxes which have not increased in excess of 35 years, transportation fees which are common in other communities, and other funding options. Your input as citizens is important to us with such a major project, but please be ready to propose solutions so that we can move forward in a positive direction for Monroe City and keep our Little Green Valley the best place to live.



Monroe City is accepting Youth Council applications until May 31st. You must live within Monroe City limits, will be in grade 8-12 this coming year, have at least a 2.0 GPA, and are interested in serving your community and learning about city government and leadership skills.



SPRING

## Other News:

### **Open Burn—Ends May 30th**

Open burn will end on May 30. No burning permits will be issued until September 15—October 30. Until May 30 you may access a burn permit at our website [littlegreenvalley.com](http://littlegreenvalley.com).

Irrigation water is now on, please remember to be conservative as you are watering.



Be safe this summer!! Always wear the safety gear recommended for the activity you are participating in, such as a helmet, life jacket, and seat belt.

### **FISHING POND**

The fishing pond is now open. Please help keep this a nice place for everyone, so take out what you bring in. And good luck fishing.