



The City Manager's Monthly Report is intended to provide a brief summary of City activities, with links to additional information where possible. Due to the variety and complexity of City functions, however, the report is not all-encompassing. Please always feel free to [contact the City of Bloomington](#) for more information or with questions or concerns. View past and upcoming events on the City's [calendar](#).

CONSIDERED IN SEPTEMBER

City Council Regular Agenda Items

- Consideration of: a) Analysis of Bids and Approval of the City Hall Annex Demolition Contract with Stark Excavating, Inc. for City Bid 2018-11 in the amount of \$681,403 for Base Bid 1 + Alternate 1.1; and b.) Approve an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget in the amount of \$91,403.00. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of a Resolution adopting the Downtown Design and Branding Concept recommended by the Downtown Signage Committee. **[Motion by Alderman Buragas seconded by Alderman Bray that this item be delayed to a future Work Session Council Meeting. Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of a Resolution approving a Change order for the Contract with Kerestes Martin Associates Inc. (aka KMA Design) (RFQ# 2017-10) for continuing Professional Services for Downtown Branding and Wayfinding in the amount of \$28,095.10. **[Motion carried.]**
- Approve Reappointments to the Downtown Signage Ad Hoc Committee for a term of one year. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of approving awarding the Request for Proposal (RFP# 2018-03) submitted by TD Equipment Finance, Inc. for the Taxable Capital Lease. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of an ordinance Amending Chapter 37 of the City Code to increase the sanitary sewer and stormwater rates. **[Motion carried.]**

City Council Special Session Items

[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]

- Presentation and discussion on unfunded general capital projects and available and alternative funding sources.
- Presentation and discussion on proposed sanitary/storm sewer rates.
- Presentation and discussion on the Budget Calendars for the FY2019 Operating Budget and 5-Year CIP Budget.

[City Council Record of Motions and Votes](#)

SEPTEMBER NEWSMAKERS

- [Drop-Off Facility Hours Change Starting October 2](#)
- [Arena Announces Cirque Dreams Holiday](#)
- [Coffee with a Cop](#)

SPOTLIGHT

- [Two New Exhibits Open at the Zoo](#)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

[View Monthly Financial Report](#)

[FY 2018 Adopted Budget](#)

FACILITIES

[View Facilities Monthly Activity Report](#)

CITY CLERK

[View City Clerk Monthly Activity Report](#)

[View Monthly FOIA Report](#)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Safety

- There were 622 construction permits issued in September, a small decrease over September 2016. This includes four new single-family dwellings. Overall permits are up 3.5% for the first three-quarters of the calendar year, compared with the same period in 2016. The value of construction initiated in September approached \$5,274,000, almost a five percent improvement over August.
- About 602 building inspections were performed in September, down from August and from September last year.
- Nine permits were issued in the downtown for a total investment of \$205,700. The tuck pointing at 115 Jefferson Street, at \$160,000, is the largest of the downtown projects.

Code Enforcement

Code enforcement inspections conducted in September numbered 879, up 28% over the same month last year. Nearly half of these inspections were tall grass and weed complaints or observed violations, a seasonal—and newly proactive—program that officially wraps up at the end of September, as tall grass complaints typically dwindle quickly into October. The new fire systems inspector joined us at the end of August, so productivity for fire related inspections improved.

Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation

The Planning Commission met once in September, with three rezoning cases, the Brick Streets Plan and the Zoning Ordinance update on the agenda. The Zoning Ordinance consultant proposed consolidation of the C-2 district with the B-2 districts, as the two were virtually identical. Also, the C-3 district was rolled into the B-1 district for similar reasons. The existing downtown district, known as B-3, is proposed to be eliminated in favor of three new districts. The D-1 district would provide standards for the downtown core, the D-2 district would establish a transition area between the core and the adjacent residential districts, while the new D-3 district would serve the warehouse district. Use tables were modified to reflect these changes and eliminate certain inappropriate uses from certain districts. Bulk and design characteristics for each district were defined, along with site plan review requirements for any new development occurring in each of the business districts.

The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in September. The Historic Preservation Commission considered one Certificate of Appropriateness and two Funk Grant applications.

FIRE

[View Expanded Monthly Fire Statistics](#)

- August saw the department responding to 882 calls for service. This was a decrease from July when we ran 913 calls for service. Of the 882 calls 176 were fire responses which was a decrease of 33 calls from the previous month.
- We had two structure fires this month which accounted for the majority of our fire loss for the month, which was \$132,600. The first fire was at 811 W. Grove Street. This was a single family residence that was under renovation which did approximately \$50,000 in damages. The second fire was at 306 Mecherle, a 12 unit apartment building. Fire damage was limited to one apartment, however there was smoke and heat damage throughout the rest of the building, this loss was approximately \$65,000.
- The department responded to 706 EMS calls which accounted for 80.05%, of our calls for the month. This was almost the same amount of calls as the month of July where we had 704 calls.
- The department provided mutual aid 30 times this month and received mutual aid 2 times.
- Our EMS personnel provided 319 hours of training time to EMS students in the month of June.
- Hydrant inspections and testing continued in August, our personnel inspected and tested 924 hydrants.

Public Education

Training provided to community

- Ext Training provided on August 17th (Flexitech 2nd Shift)
- Ext Training provided on August 18th (Flexitech 1st Shift)
- Ext Training provided to IWU RA's (50)
- Ext Training provided to IWU Library (12 adults)

- Ext. Training provided on August 25th (Flexitech 3rd Shift)
- CPR Training provided to CIRA employees (13 adults)

Fire, Lockdown, and Shelter in Place drills

- Safety walk through provided to Bloomington Rehab
- Fire Drill at St. Mary's School

Social Media

- FB page is now at 6280 likes
- Worked on updating City website Fire page

Personnel Training

- Webinar for igniting the spark in fire behavior

Community Events

- KinderCare Fire Safety (30 kids)
- McFamily Day Event (500 kids and families in attendance)
- First Christian Church School Prep Day (500 people in attendance)
- Prep for Sound the Alarm with American Red Cross
- Car Seat Installation Day
- 100 Caring Adults at Evans Junior High
- Milestone's Day Care Fire Safety Education
- American Red Cross Blood Drive at 2 station

Fire Department Training

- For the month of August 2017 the fire department held training which totaled 1866.8 hours.
- Training topics have been grouped into eight categories. They are Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue, Safety, Hazmat, & Officer. ([September 2017 Training Report](#))

HUMAN RESOURCES

- [Apply for current job postings](#)
-
- [View Safety Report](#)

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL ARTS 

Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts 

[View the BCPA calendar for past & future event info](#)

- Brian Regan, Catapult
- Total Attendance for all events and classes: 2,600
- Facilities Usage: Auditorium Public Events 2; Auditorium Non-Public Events 0
- Ballroom and Other Space Public Events 2; Non-Public Events - 14
- Community Interactions: Radio Interviews 8; Outreach 1

Golf Courses 

- The golf courses were busy once again in September hosting over 7,850 golf rounds. This is an 8% increase in play over last year.
- The Den at Fox Creek celebrated its' 20th Anniversary with a week full of events, specials and promotions. More than 650 golfers took part in the celebration.
- While we do not host as many charity and corporate golf outings as we do in the early summer, the courses still hosted a large amount of outings in the fall. They included: ET Moore Invitational, Motion Industries, Central Illinois Senior Tour, IESA Junior High Sectionals, Boys Intercity, Big 12 Conference Tournament, the Arnie Classic, and the Peoria Sandtrappers.
- The golf course maintenance crews were busy as they continue to renovate sand traps at The Den. This work should return large dividends as staff will need to spend considerably less time putting bunkers back together after a large rain.
- Greens aerification was performed at both Prairie Vista and Highland Park. The long process of aerifying fairways was undertaken as well.
- With the new aerification equipment that was purchased this fiscal year, the process went extremely well with all courses completing their fairway aerification by the end of the month. To the knowledge of our current golf staff, this has never been accomplished before. Hats off to our golf maintenance crews who put in many long hours to complete this extremely necessary task. Completing aerification this early in the year will allow the course to completely heal in before the end of our playing season which is a great thing for the turf.
- High school golf season continues. With eight teams using our courses as their home course, the afternoons this month were very busy with a variety of practices and matches.
- The Den at Fox Creek and Prairie Vista have begun preparations for hosting the IHSA Golf Finals in October. This is a highlight of the year for the courses and we look forward to seeing all the contestants and coaches next month.

Miller Park Zoo 

- Revenue from admissions was down .7% for the current fiscal year. Last year, the revenue from admissions broke the all-time record for the Zoo in a fiscal year. This represents the sixth consecutive year the all-time attendance revenue record was broken. Attendance was up .1% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's attendance. This represents the second consecutive year the all-time attendance record was broken. Revenue from Education Program Fees and Rentals was down 1.4% for the current fiscal year.
- Revenue from Concessions, Carousel, and Animal Food Sales was down 1.9% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers. The Zootique sales were up 8.6% for the current fiscal year, and overall Zoo revenue was down .6%.
 - Acquisition: 1 Male Eurasian Eagle Owl, 1 Female Black Necked Stilt, 1 Male Salmon Pink Birdeating Tarantula
 - Disposition: 1 Female Malayan Sun Bear, 1 Male Budgerigar, 1 Female Eastern Box Turtle, 1 Male Fairy Bluebird
- Other:
 - Miller Park Zoological Society hosted Zoo Do at Miller Park Pavilion with guests from the Zoo

- Opened "The Mix" exhibit
- Hosted the Bloomington-Normal Realtors After Hours Event
- Attended Association of Zoos and Aquariums Accreditation Hearing
- ATTENDANCE
 - September 2016: 9,516 (Down 9.1%)
 - September 2017: 8,649

Recreation 

- There were 38 people who attended two free Obstacle Race Clinic's held in Ewing Park. These clinics were open to participants to learn more about the Hill of a Race event and train using some of the obstacles that will be part of the course.
- The Wine, Cheese, & Chocolate Program for older adults was held at Prairie Vista Golf Course. Many of the participants had never been to the golf course and enjoyed games, bingo and snacks.
- Afterschool Volleyball, gymnastics, art programs, and tennis classes all began in September.

Pepsi Ice Center 

- Our themed public skate for the month was Frozen Princess Party with 53 participants.
- Two of our current skaters Sophie Upchurch and Alicia Han are participating in U.S Figure Skating's Upper Great Lakes Regional Qualifying Competition in Minnesota.
- Our Learn to Skate registration has grown over last year, and our Youth Hockey programs continue with similar numbers as the previous year.

SOAR 

- Three volleyball teams went to the Special Olympics Area Qualifier in LaSalle. Our modified team and one Unified team will advance to State in October.
- Our Special Olympics Softball team, the BATMEN, placed first at the State Softball Tournament in Decatur. This was exciting as this team moved up from playing tee-ball last year to learning the extra elements of swinging at pitched balls in softball.
- Volunteers were recruited for the Tootsie Roll Drive, which is the largest fundraising support for SOAR for the year. We had nearly 30 volunteers in three locations over parts of three days.

Parks Maintenance

Horticulture ([View pictures here](#))

- Annual flower watering and maintenance. 1,500 gallons of water applied daily as needed.
- Landscape design and installation at Water Department headquarters on Division Street.
- Mowing, grading and seeding of Pepperidge Basin in cooperation with Public Works Department.
- Mulching of trees and plant beds at Miller, White Oak, and O'Neil Parks.
- Completion of fall fertilization and weed control. 7,200 total pounds of granular product applied.
- Decrease in mowing rotation due to dry weather. Crews edging all curbs and sidewalks.

Forestry

- 37 total trees removed, 15 ash due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- 35 stumps removed, dirted and seeded.
- Acquisition of new stump machine and stump grinder training from Vermeer
- Regrinding of chips into useable park mulch.
- 42 preventative maintenance trims performed.
- Consistent appearance of the disease fire blight on Bradford Pears.

Utility

- Monthly light inspection and repair at all Parks and Facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspection and repairs at Parks and Facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repairs at the BCPA
- Completed the installation of new playground at Emmerson Park. Swings and fibar will be installed upon arrival
- Painted the shallow end at O'Neil pool
- Re-painted the floors in O'Neil locker room area

POLICE 

[Crime Maps and Statistics](#)

Crime Investigations Division (CID)

CID assigned 100 new cases. The case load carried by CID had the following dispositions: 28 cases were cleared by adult arrest, 1 cleared with juvenile arrest, and 38 were administratively closed, exceptionally cleared or were unfounded.

Cyber Crimes Unit

The Cyber Crimes Unit, which investigates crimes involving but not limited to child pornography, network intrusion and online scams, continued to operate in cooperation with the US Secret Service (USSS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The unit has four open/active cases.

United States Marshal Task Force

The Bloomington office opened 12 felony cases and closed 11 of them. Ten hands-on felony arrests were made. TFO Rena received information of a subject wanted for a murder committed 18 months prior to the warrant being issued. The Task Force was able to confirm a location and arrested him without incident.

VICE Unit

The Vice Unit opened 8 cases, closed 4, and served one search warrant. They purchased 19.8 grams of crack cocaine and 15.4 grams of powder cocaine. They seized 8.2 grams of crack cocaine and one vehicle.

Street Crimes Unit

Street Crimes made seven warrant arrests and 21 probable cause arrests. The Unit seized 78 grams of cannabis, 1.8 grams of crack cocaine, towed 8 vehicles, and issued one ordinance violation.

Criminal Intelligence & Analysis Unit (CIAU)

During the month of September, CIAU staff provided investigative support to two fatal automobile accidents as well as a double homicide/suicide. Staff also met with several federal agencies in reference to coordination of firearms cases and prosecutions. CIAU also dealt with numerous outside agency requests for data and/or Freedom of Information Act requests.

Communications**[View Police Communications Report](#)**

The Communications Center Manager continued work on Kronos/Telestaff and CAD Enterprise projects. He attended Illinois Emergency Management Agency Training Summit and attended a 2-day Emergency Planning Process course. Alarm Ordinance Violations issued to date -- 139.

First Shift 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

During September, there were 24 STEP details for distracted driver/speeding (7) and school zone (17). Several officers attended training including pistol qualification, POP conference and new detective class. Patrol also participated in the Labor Day Parade, Susan B. Komen 5K, Fire Truck Parade, IWU Campus Safety meeting, funeral detail, Sunday Market, and Coffee With a Cop.

Second Shift 3 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Second Shift had several notable calls for service including suspicious persons. Two teens were seen getting into a vehicle which turned out to be stolen. The juveniles were arrested. On September 24, an attempted vehicular hijacking occurred. A subject displaying a handgun attempted to force a teenage female to give him her vehicle. A passerby intervened and the suspect fled on foot. He was not located. On September 29, an officer attempted to get out on a stolen vehicle. The vehicle fled and struck a pedestrian and was later located on Roosevelt.

Third Shift 11 p.m. – 7 a.m.

- Third shift officers recorded ten DUI arrests.
- Notable calls for service include a report of females fighting in the street. A victim of a stabbing was located but there was little cooperation from the victim. On September 19, a call of subjects knocking on doors was received. When officers arrived they smelled smoke and it was determined that #14 Brittany Court was on fire. A male and two small children were found deceased. Investigation later determined it was a murder/suicide.

Administration

- Public Affairs Officer Mendiola submitted several news releases, posted on social media, conducted radio interviews, promoted Project with a Cop event, attended two job fairs for employee recruitment, assisted with production and promotion of posters and digital

media for police recruitment, attended ISU Safety Fair, promoted Coffee with a Cop event for Farmer's Market, gave safety talk/active shooter presentation for Galaxy 14 theater and Bloomington/Normal Relators Association, promoted BPD hiring at ISU Criminal Justice event, facilitated several community events held on weekends, gave a presentation for existing neighborhood watch group, and assisted with the promotion of City of Bloomington Dispatch hiring.

- SRO Day completed several reports of cyber bullying and bullying, assisted Project Oz with placement of one student, translated several times for Spanish speaking parents and students, spoke to several students about their improper use of social media, removed students from classes after emergency button was pushed, de-escalated several fights during passing periods and during lunch.
- SRO Wagehoft completed lock down drills at Benjamin, EJHS, Cedar, Fox, Pepper and Brigham schools. He also dealt with four disorderly conduct issues, three truancy issues, two medical issues, one animal complaint (bobcat), and one home visit.

PUBLIC WORKS

[View Expanded Public Works Department Reports](#)

- Approximately 24,500 residences are serviced weekly and an average of 27.22 pounds of household garbage were picked up each week at these locations during September 2017.
- One (1) alley and twenty six (26) medians were maintained during the month of September 2017.
- Fleet handled 1,098 phone calls

WATER

[View Expanded Water Department Reports](#)

[View 2016 Water Quality Report](#)

- Daily pumpage for September, 2017 was 10.9 million gallons per day, 0.3 mgd higher than the previous month. The higher pumpage can be attributed to much drier and warmer conditions, compared to long term averages. September 2017 was 1 degree F warmer than average (68 F avg for September, 2017 versus 67 F long term average). Rainfall for September was less than half of the average for the month. Average total rainfall for September is 3.1 inches. September, 2017 total from Accuweather.com was only 1.42 inches, high occurred in a single storm mid-month.
- Nitrate levels in the both the Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir remained below 2 mg/l nitrate-nitrogen throughout September.
- Water levels in both Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir decreased during September. Lake Bloomington level dropped to around 1.5 feet below spillway. Evergreen Lake started the month around 2.75 feet below spillway elevation and dropped to around 3.2 feet below top of the spillway. September and October often have the lowest reservoir levels for the year.

- Continued to replace and repaired water service lines and curb stops. Several of these were very old lead (the metal) service lines. Removal of lead from the system helps the City maintain safe water quality and is in accordance with lead water standards.
- The Department located/cleared 2,981 JULIES and issued 48 JULIES.
- Repaired 2 water main throughout the City.
- Replaced 4 fire hydrants throughout the City.
- Installed 22 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during September. The Department has converted approximately 97.6% of the total meter inventory.
- Staff installed 38 new residential water meters during the month of September and replaced 32 residential water meters.
- Staff installed 16 compound meters and replaced 5 meter measuring elements during the month of September.
- The Billing and Cashier representatives handled 4,788 incoming phone calls and placed 1,984 outbound phone calls in September 2017.
- Drilling for the St. Peter Aquifer - Test Well 1 began in August. The 24" casing and 18" casing are both completed. The 17" hole was drilled to about 1410' by the end of September. Completion to Total Depth, and well development, surging, and test pumping are anticipated to occur in October.

INFORMATION SERVICES

- Continued analysis/configuration meetings, with City Clerk's personnel, for the Accela Agenda/Legislative Management solution. Continued "submitter" training with two sessions designed to introduce departmental submitter staff to the system. Will continue training into October.
- Continued analysis/configuration meetings, with Human Resources personnel, for the Time Keeping/Scheduling (Kronos/TeleStaff) solution implementation. Set up a TeleStaff test environment for Fire department analysis, configuration and testing. Began permission setup for TeleStaff. Began city-wide accrual setup in the Kronos system.
- Continued analysis/configuration process for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts management software (MaxGalaxy). Analysis and configuration meetings have begun. Initial configuration for Park, Recreation and Point of Sale solutions is underway.
- Continued the process of working with the Police Department in testing the body worn camera solution. A second vendor was chosen for piloting. IS staff is now working with Police staff to prepare for and kickoff this pilot.
- Assisted Facilities staff in creation of Parking Access Control System improvements RFP. Assisted in crafting the technical specs for the RFP and participated in pre-bid meeting.
- Worked with Finance personnel to make substantial additions and changes to Local Tax Collection area of website (forms, FAQs, and menu navigation).
- Installed a digital signage monitor in the Parks Maintenance garage. This system runs the same set of slides as the unit in the Public Service garage, as created by the Human Resources department, communicating key information to staff that may not have access to City email.
- Updated video components in the Hepperly Conference Room in the Government Center

- Began a pilot for Windows tablets for the Public Works vector trucks. These tablets will give GIS information to staff while in the field, streamlining their operations.
- Began planning and preparation for upgrade of the City's internal virtual (cloud) server environment. Current plan is to upgrade from v5.x to v6.x in October.
- Servers supporting the Fleet management solution were moved into the virtual environment. City-wide server virtualization percentage now stands at 75%.
- Worked with Assistant City Manager and staff from Community Development, Facilities, Finance and Human Resources to plan and prepare for integration of Downtown Bloomington Association personnel into the Community Development department.

LIBRARY    

[Bloomington Public Library Website](#)

[September, October, November, December Program Guide](#)

Highlights:

- 135+ people of all ages joined us for our Star Trek Weekend full of events/programs including some that allowed people to try out Virtual Reality technology for the first time.
- 120 Toddlers joined us for two Kiddie Drive-In sessions, practicing their art and architecture skills by creating cars.
- We saw 750 kids at World Wide Day of Play.
- We published our [thirteenth podcast](#). This month's episode featured Bloomington residents who canoed the Mississippi.

Stats:

- 24,428 people visited the Library (a daily average of 872)
- 86,334 items were checked out
- 7,200 holds were filled
- 2,751 items added to the collection
- 4,212 people used our public computers
- 22,178 people used our online catalog and website
- 5,347 people used our online databases
- 2,963 people used our Wi-Fi for a total data usage of 3.04 TB
- 130 groups reserved our meeting rooms
- 55 programs offered for all ages
- 1,088 people attended programs
- \$9,958.60 was raised by the Book Shoppe since the beginning of the fiscal year

GROSSINGER MOTORS ARENA **Events Calendar**

- September kicked off a new season of Ice Hockey events at the Grossinger Motors Arena.
- We held 46 ice rental events in the evening or weekend hours for youth and adult hockey leagues.
- We also hosted 5 **Illinois State Hockey** games.
- One scheduled event was cancelled on short notice, so no other events could be scheduled in their place on the 20th and 21st.
- **Hank Williams, Jr.** headlined the first concert of the fall season on Thursday, September 28 with opening act, **Black Stone Cherry**. With hits such as "[Family Tradition](#)", "[Whiskey Bent and Hell Bound](#)", Hank Williams, Jr. brought a rousing good time to Bloomington.

Upcoming Events include:

- **Paw Patrol Live! The Great Pirate Adventure** is coming to town with four shows slated on October 21 and 22 and is now on sale for \$23, \$29, \$39, \$54 & \$114.
- **Central Illinois Flying Aces** face-off for the first time on October 28 against Dubuque. Single game tickets will go on sale soon.
- **Jim Gaffigan's Noble Ape Tour** is scheduled on December 3, 2017 and tickets are now on sale and range in price from \$35.75, \$49.75, & \$69.75.
- **Cirque Dreams Holiday** is scheduled for December 14, 2017 with tickets now on sale for \$38, \$48 and \$73.
- Season tickets are now on sale for the **Bloomington Thunder** hockey team and the **Bloomington Edge** arena football team.

We continue to work on the following major items:

- Development of promoter relationships in conjunction with VenuWorks Vice President of Event Programming and Content, Johnny Gimenez
- Suite and Sponsorship partnerships

Venuworks is pleased to be a partner with the City of Bloomington to present live entertainment and sporting events at the Coliseum. We appreciate your confidence in us.