



Sikeston Scanner

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Vol. 8, Issue 2

February 2011

Vision for Tomorrow Strategic Plan

Residents Receive Status Report

Sikeston's Strategic Plan Implementation Commission held its quarterly public meeting Tuesday, January 18. In remarks reiterating the "Vision for Tomorrow" mission, Chairman Geoff Posgate stated, "The community's strategic planning process established measurable and achievable long-term goals in the areas of education, economic development, housing and quality of life. The responsibility for achieving these goals does not rest in the Implementation Commission. It rests in the hands of our citizens working through state and local government, educational institutions, and religious, social and charitable organizations. The Commission's role is to motivate, mediate and support the accomplishment of the mission."

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

SIKESTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

5:00 PM – 105 East Center Street, Sikeston, Missouri

BUSINESS ITEMS:

- A. Second reading and consideration of Bill 5835, request for annexation from Three Rivers Community College
- B. Second reading and consideration of Bill 5838, Request to rezone a certain tract of land located near the intersection of Ables Road and State Route AA from Light Industrial to R-1 Residential.
- C. Second reading and consideration of Bill 5840, request to rezone a certain tract of land located near the northwest intersection of U.S. Highway 60 and State Route AA from Light Industrial to C-3 Commercial
- D. First reading Bill 5837, extension of Ward III boundaries to include newly annexed parcel
- E. Interim appointment to Housing Authority Commission
- F. Interim appointment to Tourism Advisory Board
- G. Other items as may be determined.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 2011

Meeting dates and times are subject to change

Tuesday, February 1

4:00 PM – Planning & Zoning Commission

Wednesday, February 2

11:30 AM – Special City Council Meeting

Monday, February 7

4:30 PM – Library Board of Trustees

5:00 PM – City Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 8

4:00 PM – BMU Commission

Monday, February 14

Noon – Housing Authority Commission

5:15 PM – Sikeston Park Board

Tuesday, February 15

11:30 AM – DED Executive Board

Thursday, February 17

11:30 AM – Strategic Plan Implementation Commission Meeting

Monday, February 21 - President's Day
City Offices Closed

Tuesday, February 22

4:00 PM – Tourism Advisory Board

Friday, February 25

Youth in Government Day

Monday, February 28

7:15 AM – City Council Work Session

11:30 AM – LCRA Commission Meeting

COMPOST SITE SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 12, 8 AM - Noon

Wed., Feb. 23, 7:30 - 1:45 AM & 1:00-3:30 PM



City hosts SACC Leadership Sikeston Program

On January 25, Mayor Jerry Pullen, members of the Sikeston City Council and City Staff hosted the SACC's Leadership Sikeston development program. During the four-hour session participants were provided with an overview of City operations and participated in discussions on Sikeston's strengths, greatest concerns, and the future of the community. Members also toured City Hall and Sikeston Public Safety Headquarters.

Leadership Sikeston participants included Erin Alcorn, Zac Black, Ellen Carlson, Krissi Crum, Michelle Felter, Jennifer Hartlein, Samantha Jarrett, Carrie Lape, Jay Leible, Ryan Lindsey, Rick Lovall, Kim Madigan, Christy O'Neal, Tiffany O'Neal, Mackenzie Scherer, Nathan Simpson, Matt Drake and Garth Fuchs, Leadership Sikeston Coordinator.

Legislative Update

The following is an overview of municipal issues currently before the Sikeston City Council:

Bill 5835, Request for Annexation from Three Rivers Community College: Three Rivers Community College has submitted a petition for the annexation of 38.28 acres into the Sikeston city limits. This property is located in the southeast quadrant at the junction of Highways 60 and 61. No written or oral objections to the annexation were received following the public hearing conducted on January 3. Council will consider Bill 5835, which upon approval; will formally annex this parcel into the City Limits.

Bill 5838, Request to Rezone: The City received a request to rezone a tract of land, located near the intersection of Ables Road and State Route AA, from Light Industrial to R-1 Residential. This request was submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further study and recommendation. The Planning and Zoning Commission issued a favorable finding. The second reading of the bill and Council action is planned for the February 7 meeting.

Bill 5840, Request to Rezone: The City received a request to rezone a tract of land located near the northwest intersection of U.S. Highway 60 and State Route AA from Light Industrial to C-3 Commercial. This request was submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further study and recommendation. The Planning and Zoning Commission issued a favorable finding. A second reading and Council action is planned for the February 7 meeting.

Extension of Ward III Boundaries: Upon the annexation of the 38.28 acres (Bill 5835 above), the legal boundaries of Ward III will be extended. Bill 5837 will be read for the first time on February 7. The second reading and Council action is planned for the February 28 Special Council Meeting.

Interim Appointments to Housing Authority Commission & Tourism Advisory Board: One vacancy currently exists on each of these boards. Council will be making an interim appointment for a resident member to the Housing Authority Commission for a term expiring in September 2011. Likewise an interim appointment will be made to the Tourism Advisory Board for a term ending in September 2012.

Delisle, Martin Honored

Public Safety Officer Brian Delisle and Public Works Skilled Worker Darren Martin were recently recognized as the City's Employees of the First Quarter.

Delisle was honored for his positive attitude, initiative and professionalism. He routinely volunteers for extra duty, in addition to monitoring for loud music, speed and other traffic infractions.

Martin, a very versatile employee, supervised crews that painted curbs and striped parking areas in Downtown Sikeston. He was also the leadman for repairs to Downtown's brick streets, and assists with building maintenance projects.



Brian Delisle
Sikeston Public Safety



Darren Martin
Sikeston Public Works

Vision Update *(Continued from page 1)*

During the course of the meeting attendees were briefed on a newly proposed route to connect I-55 and I-57 with I-24 at Paducah. In an update on the area's demographics, it was reported 30% of the Sikeston-area population is under the age of 19. Persons 20-34 years of age make up the smallest segment of the area's population at 18%. In regard to educational attainment, 37.4% of area residents have earned a high school diploma. This exceeds the State-wide rate of 33.1%. 21.7% of Sikeston's residents have attended college, with 9.2% having a bachelor's degree and 5% earning a graduate or professional degree. The influence of education on an individual's quality of life and the economic development of the region were discussed. In related discussions the group explored the influence of mentoring on both students and young entrepreneurs.

Attendees also received an update on employment and occupational trends. Labor statistics as of November 2010 indicate Scott County's unemployment rate is 8.7%. This compares with New Madrid County at 9.2% and Cape Girardeau County at 7.4%. During the second quarter of 2010 (most recent figures), the top high growth industries in the 13-county region were educational services (19.7% growth) and service industries (12.9% growth). Data compiled by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center for the Southeast Region forecasts the top occupations by projected growth for 2008 through 2018 will be network systems/data communications analysts, heating, air conditions & refrigeration mechanics, medical professionals and technicians, and medical equipment repair technicians followed by personal financial advisors and computer software/systems engineers.

City Manager Doug Friend updated the group on housing issues. Over the past five years the City and Land Clearance Redevelopment Commission have removed 230 blighted structures from the community. In his report, Friend compared the City's efforts to improve the quality of housing to a "weed and seed" program. "Before improvements can be recognized, we (the City) needed to remove (weed) unsafe houses from the community. Once accomplished, the seeding process; construction of new homes will start." When asked what the greatest roadblock to this process has been, Friend stated, "Without a doubt acquiring a clear title to the property has hampered our progress. We are dealing with properties that have been abandoned by their owners, foreclosed upon, or held by out-of-state family members. In these instances it is difficult to acquire a marketable title. We have legal staff working on these issues and hope to add more lots to the group being re-platted for sale and development." The group also received an update on the proposed community park to be constructed on the former Compress property located on North Street.

Megan Looney, Quality of Life co-chairman, announced Dr. Joe Blanton will be heading the group's Beautification Committee. This committee will be working with the City to locate appropriate areas for new plantings. Volunteers are welcomed and should contact either Ms. Looney or Dr. Blanton.

The next "Vision for Tomorrow" quarterly meeting will be held in March. The public is invited to participate.



Honors Board Nominations Sought

Since 1986 the Sikeston Park Board has recognized local volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to Sikeston's scouting and athletic organizations. To date, 38 individuals have been honored with a commemorative plaque. Sikeston's Honors Board is located on Campanella, near the Ingram Street entrance to the Recreational Complex.

Nominations for the 2011 award will be accepted until February 16. Nomination forms may be obtained from Jiggs Moore, Sikeston Parks and Recreation Director, at the Clinton Community Building, 501 Campanella Drive. They are also available on line at www.sikeston.org.

What's Happening?

Feb. 5

Hometown Hoedown – St. Francis Xavier Dinner/Auction

St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, 217 West Center Street
Contact Debra Pollock, 573-471-0841 for more information

Feb. 8

Rotary Bucks and Ducks Chili Supper

11 AM-2 PM and 4-7 PM, Cost: \$6 – Chili, hot dog, drink & dessert. Carry-outs available
VFW Hall, 709 Smith Street

Feb. 12

Medieval English Feast

7 PM, First United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 1307 N. Main Street
Tickets \$25, Available at Collins Music, Downtown Sikeston
The Sikeston High School Chorus presents a musical feast in Madrigal diner style.
Each dinner course will come with traditional music performance and dramatic play.
Contact Robin Stoner, 472-8833, for additional information.

Feb. 14

Kenny Rogers Children's Center Benefit Bingo

6:30 PM – Early Bird; 7 PM – Bingo, Eagles Lodge, 219 W. Trotter
Hosted by Sikeston Eagles Club

Feb. 26

Texas Hold 'em Tournament – House of Refuge Benefit

1 PM, American Legion Hall, 333 South Kingshighway

March 2

Lions Club Chili Dinner

11 AM-2 PM and 5 -7 PM, VFW Hall, 709 Smith Street

March 5

Saving 2nd Base – Indoor Triathlon

Sprint triathlon consisting of 300 yard swim, 5-mile bike course, and 2-mile run.
YMCA of Southeast Missouri, 602 Tanner Street
Proceeds go to the Scott County Relay for Life.
Entry fees: \$35 per person, \$50 for 2-person team, \$65 for 3-person team. Participants receive t-shirt, finishers receive medal