

Sikeston Scanner

105 E. Center Street, Sikeston, MO 63801 ; Phone 573-471-2512; e-mail cityhall@sikeston.org

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Railroad Quiet Zone to be Discussed

Studies indicate the use of train horns to be a significant deterrent to vehicle/train crashes. Should Sikeston establish a "quiet zone" modifications, such as those above, are required to make motorists aware no train horn will sound, and to prevent them from driving around closed crossing gates.

September 12

City Council Schedules Public Hearings

The Sikeston City Council will be conducting two public hearings during their September 12, 2011 regular meeting. The purpose of these hearings is to provide residents with information on 1) railroad quiet zone, and 2) redistricting of municipal wards following the 2010 Census.

RAILROAD QUIET ZONES: Following a request from local residents the City Council began discussions with Burlington Northern Railroad on the creation of a quiet zone through the City of Sikeston. The U.S. Congress, upon receiving evidence that warning devices (the loud train horn) have successfully prevented many at-grade crossing accidents, adopted 49 U.S.C.A. § 20153 which mandates trains must sound horns 15-20 seconds prior to and until the train arrives at an at-grade crossing. Horns are required to be at a level of 96 to 110 db. (equivalent to a siren) 100 feet forward of the locomotive in its direction of travel.

(See *Public Hearings, Page 2*)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 2011

Meeting dates and times are subject to change

Monday, September 5 - Labor Day
City Offices Closed

Wednesday, September 7
4:30 PM – Library Board of Trustees

Friday, September 9
7:30 AM - DED Executive Board Meeting

Monday, September 12
Noon – Housing Authority Commission
5:00 PM – Regular City Council Meeting
5:15 PM – Park Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13
4:00 PM – BMU Commission Meeting

Thursday, September 15
11:30 AM – Strategic Plan Implementation
Commission

Monday, September 19
6:00 PM – DPS Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, September 26
8:00 AM – Boards & Commission Oath of
Office Ceremony
11:30 AM – City Council Work Session
11:30 AM – LCRA Commission Meeting

Tuesday, September 27
4:00 PM – Tourism Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, October 3
4:30 PM – Library Board of Trustees
5:00 PM – Boards & Commissions Oath of
Office Ceremony
5:00 PM – City Council Meeting

TENTATIVE AGENDA - SIKESTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Creation of Railroad Quiet Zone
- B. Redistricting of Municipal Wards based on 2010 Census Results

BUSINESS ITEMS:

- A. Historic Downtown Sikeston, Presentation of Petition Calling for Creation of Community Improvement District
- B. First and Second Reading and Consideration of Emergency Bill 5856 Providing for the Re-districting of Municipal Wards based on 2010 Census
- C. 2nd Reading and Consideration of Bill 5858 Seeking approval of North Grove Estates Subdivision, 1st Addition
- D. Council consideration and action on 2011 Boards & Commissions Appointments
- E. Award Bid for Acquisition of Wireless Communication System for Fire Apparatus
- F. Other items as may be determined during the course of the meeting.
- G. Adjournment

Public Hearings *(Continued from Page 1)*

A Federal Railroad Administration rule sanctions the establishment of "Quiet Zones" where the conventional train horn may be silenced at the grade crossings. Flashing light signals with gates, as the minimum level of protection, are required at all grade crossings within new Quiet Zones. The grade crossing warning devices must be activated by constant warning circuitry. Each highway approach to every public and private grade crossing within a Quiet Zone must have an advance warning sign that advises motorists that train horns are not sounded at the crossing. In addition, the installation of one of several FRA-approved Supplemental Safety Measures or Alternate Safety Measures may be required at all or some grade crossings within the Quiet Zone.

Following on-site inspections of Sikeston's crossings, Burlington Northern officials presented the City Council with a list of mandatory modifications to be made at each of the City's railroad crossings. An initial investment of approximately \$340,000 and the closing of the William Street crossing will be required. For more information on railroad quiet zones visit www.quietzonesd.info/qzusa/index.html.

REDISTRICTING OF MUNICIPAL WARDS: Sikeston's City Charter requires the redistricting of the City' Wards within six months of the receipt of decennial U.S. Census data. Article III, Section 3.2(b) of the Charter states: "Each ward is to be as equal as possible to the others in terms of compactness, population and representation of the interests of the citizens within. All Federal and State mandates and principles of equality shall be observed." The following table reflects the population shift since early 2000 and the proposed population of each ward. Diagrams of the proposed Ward boundaries are on display at the Sikeston Municipal Library and Sikeston City Hall.

| | Ward Population 2000 Census | Ward Population 2010 Census | Difference | Proposed Ward Population |
|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Ward I | 4,384 | 3,802 | -582 | 4,054 |
| Ward II | 4,146 | 3,524 | -622 | 4,150 |
| Ward III | 4,149 | 5,694 | +1,545 | 4,109 |
| Ward IV | 4,275 | 3,429 | -846 | 4,075 |

Sikeston City Council Legislative Update

The following issues will be considered by the Sikeston City Council during their September 12 meeting:

Historic Downtown Sikeston, Presentation of Petition Calling for Creation of Community Improvement District: The Historic Midtown Development Group d/b/a Historic Downtown Sikeston is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the economic revitalization of Downtown Sikeston, and the preservation of historic structures, both commercial and residential. Historic Downtown Sikeston has been the City's lead organization in the State of Missouri's DREAM (Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri) Program and has developed a Downtown Strategic Plan for this revitalization process. Dedicated funding, such as that provided by a community improvement district, is needed to achieve these goals. In a plan being proposed to Downtown property owners, a 59-acre district will be created, which has taxable retail sales of approximately \$4.6 million annually. Upon creation of the CID, a one-cent (\$.01) sales tax would be imposed on all taxable sales within the district for a period of 15 years. These funds would be used exclusively to improve and market Downtown Sikeston. Upon Council's acceptance of the petition, individuals with real property located within the proposed district will vote on the creation of the CID.

First and Second Reading and Consideration of Emergency Bill 5856, Providing for the Re-Districting of Municipal Wards based on the 2010 Census: Following the public hearing on this issue, the Sikeston Council will take formal action to establish new ward boundaries.

Second Reading and Consideration of Bill 5858 Seeking Approval of North Groves Subdivision, 1st Addition: The Alice Van Horne Huff Family Limited Partnership has requested approval to subdivide a 6.06 acre tract that generally lies north of the Scott County Health Department on North Main Street. It will be known as North Groves Estates, 1st Addition. The Planning and Zoning Commission passed a favorable recommendation on this request on August 16, 2011.

Council consideration and action on 2011 Boards and Commission Appointments: Council will be taking action on 31 appointments to 14 of the City's Boards and Commissions. Appointments become effective Monday, October 5, and following completion of an oath of office. The City Charter requires all appointees to take this oath of office prior to assuming a new or second term.

Bid Award – Purchase of Wireless Communications System for DPS Fire Apparatus: Last year Sikeston DPS received a grant for the purchase of new communications equipment. This purchase, for hands-free intercom systems between the driver and officers riding in fire apparatus, will fulfill the last of the grant requirements. Two vendors submitted bids to place wireless intercom systems in five DPS fire apparatus. Council will be asked to award this bid.

Sikeston's Fall Clean-up Campaign

Curb/Alley Pickup

Monday/Thursday Trash Pickup Schedule

Sept. 12 & Sept. 15

Tuesday/Friday Trash Pickup Schedule

Sept. 20 & Sept. 23

September Compost Site Schedule

Wednesday, Sept. 7 8 AM – Noon, and 1-3 PM

Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 AM- Noon

Sikeston's Fall Clean-up Program Scheduled for September

Dates for the City of Sikeston's Fall Clean-up, which gives residents an opportunity to dispose of bulky rubbish during their regular solid waste pick-ups, have been set for two weeks beginning September 12. Residents with Monday and Thursday trash collection will have their Fall Clean-up pick-up services on Monday, September 12 and Wednesday, September 15. Residents with Tuesday and Friday solid waste pick-up will have their Fall Clean-up pick-up services on Tuesday, September 20 and Friday, September 23. Citizens wishing to use this service should place their bulky items at the same location as that of their weekly trash pickup.

This is a residential service, no commercial or construction waste will be removed by Sonny's Solid Waste during the Fall Clean-up Program. Should residents need to discard construction waste (drywall, flooring, paneling, windows, cabinets), or appliances they should contact Sonny's Solid Waste, Inc., 451 Smith Street, Sikeston (Office open Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM-4:30 PM), or call 471-2869. Special removal services including the disposal of used oil and batteries are available on a fee basis. Payment must be made in advance of the pickup date. Sonny Solid Waste drivers and collection staff will not take special pick-up requests or payments on these collection days.

Please note discarded 55-gallon barrels must be empty at the time of pickup. Additional information regarding the Sikeston's Fall Clean-up Program may be obtained from Jiggs Moore at 475-3725.

Other Disposal Programs:

Yard Waste Disposal:

Sikeston's Compost Site, located on Compress Road, is operated approximately 12 hours each month for the deposit of yard waste including limbs, leaves, shrub trimmings, grass, and garden waste. The Site's schedule is published on www.sikeston.org. This site is manned and proof of residency is required.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources bans the deposit of hazardous materials, chemicals, asbestos materials, shingles paint, LP tanks, fuel containers, and batteries at most landfills. For other alternative disposals methods visit the DRN website, www.dnr.mo.gov.

Major Appliance Disposal:

When buying a refrigerator or other appliance, ask the retailer if the store or the distributor will take it back when its life span ends. Ask if they will take your old appliance, too. If the appliance still works, consider selling it or donating it to a charitable organization such as the Salvation Army. Otherwise, contact scrap metal collection centers or other recycling centers in your area and ask if they take major appliances. Some landfill operations, such as Sonny Solid Waste, Inc., accept major appliances for a small fee.



Residential Oil-Based Paint - Proper Disposal Methods:

If an oil-based coating container is empty, it may be disposed of in the trash. A container is considered empty if nothing pours out when it is held upside down and if chipping or scraping cannot remove any product remaining in the container. Aerosol cans are considered empty if no propellant is dispensed when the pressure-sensitive valve is pressed down on an aerosol can. When no collection services are available, leftover paint may be placed in the household trash if properly prepared for disposal. For small amounts, apply the paint to cardboard and place in the trash after it's dry. For larger amounts, try one of these methods: 1. Stir in kitty litter or sawdust; allow time for the material to absorb the liquid paint until dry. Discard the can and the dried paint in the trash. 2. Pour the paint in layers about a half-inch thick into a cardboard box lined with plastic bags. Let each layer dry before adding another. Discard the box with the dried paint in the trash.

Scrap Tire Disposal:

When you buy new tires, Missouri retailers are required to take the tires you are replacing. They usually charge a fee to cover their handling costs. If you are not buying new tires, another arrangement will have to be made for proper disposal. For more information about where to bring waste tires in your area, contact local tire dealers. Retailers and storage sites accepting waste tires may charge a fee to cover disposal costs.



Continued on next page

Used Oil Disposal Continued:

Waste oil including lubricating oil, transmission oil, transformer oil, hydraulic oil, fuel oil and heavy viscosity oil can no longer go to landfills. If a service station or quick change business changes your oil, they will dispose of your oil and oil filter for you. If you change your own oil, ask retailers where you buy oil if they will take your old oil. Some retailers, services stations and quick change businesses accept oil even if you do not make a purchase. Oil filters are not prohibited from landfills if they have been well drained. To do this, turn the filter upside down and let it drain into a pan or jug for at least 24 hours. Oil drained from the filters should be collected and recycled to prevent groundwater contamination. For more information about where to bring waste oil, contact the retailer where you purchase oil, or contact Sonny Solid Waste at 471-2869.

Lead-acid Battery Disposal:

Retailers are required by law to accept a used lead-acid battery in exchange for a newly purchased battery. Lead acid batteries, those used in cars, boats and other vehicles, contain sulfuric acid that reacts with lead and lead oxide to generate electricity. If you want to get rid of a battery without buying a new one, ask a retailer near you if they will accept it, or contact Sonny Solid Waste at 471-2869 regarding their fee-based disposal service.

Computer/Electronics Battery Disposal:

Because of the large amounts of batteries being used with computers and other electronics, it is important that you dispose of batteries not only properly but safely to help the environment and other beings. In addition, there are now over 500 recycling laws in the United States and not disposing of the batteries appropriately may cost you. A few companies providing recycling programs are [Best Buy](#), Office Max, Office Depot and [Radio Shack](#).

Computer and Computer Hardware Recycling:

If you have a computer or computer equipment that you believe is beyond repair or is too old to be useful we recommend one of the below services, which can dismantle the equipment properly to obtain all usable parts and materials. If you have a usable good computer you may want to consider [donating the computer](#) instead of dismantling or recycling it.

<http://www.apple.com/environment/recycling/nationalservices/us.html>

<http://www.dell.com/recycling>

<http://www.epson.com/recycle>

http://www.gateway.com/about/corp_responsibility/env_options.php

<http://www.hp.com/go/recycle>

<http://www.pc.ibm.com/www/lenovo/about/sustainability/index.html>

<http://www.lexmark.com/recycle/>

<http://www.necdisplay.com/Programs/Partner/TradeIn/>

Sources: www.dnr.mo.gov , <http://www.computerhope.com>



What's happening?

Looking for something to do? Check out these local events.

- SATURDAYS SIKESTON DEPOT FARMERS' MARKET** Legion Square, Downtown Sikeston, 8 AM
Area gardeners, bakers, beekeepers and crafts vendors will be in Legion Square of Historic Downtown Sikeston every Saturday, weather permitting. Enjoy healthy fresh fruits, vegetables, and homemade goodies while shopping to music provided by local musicians.
- SEPT. 1 – OCT. 29 27TH ANNUAL BOOTHEEL REGIONAL JUDGED ART SHOW,**
Sikeston Depot Museum, 116 W. Malone, Downtown Sikeston; Open Tues.-Sat., 10 AM-4 PM;
Public Awards Reception, Sunday, September 11, 1-4 PM – open to artists, friends and family
- SEPT. 2-4 RETURN-2-SUNSETHOMECOMING – *Enjoy all the activities planned for this weekend***
Friday, Sept. 2, 6 PM Clinton Community Building - Return-2-Sunset at a Glance, Live Music
Saturday, Sept 3, 8 AM Roberta Rowe Park; Parade starts at 10 AM
Sunday, Sept. 4, 10 AM Homecoming Church Service, West End BM Church
- SEPT. 9 DOWNTOWN ARTISTS' RECEPTION,** Downtown Sikeston, 5-7:30 PM
Visit each of these locations: Sikeston Depot Museum, Sweetgum Gallery, Front Street Studio & Gallery, Tradewinds and Here We Go Again. Author Shirley Coleman will be presenting her book, "You Can't Go Back".
- SEPT. 10 7th ANNUAL JAYCEE HORSEPOWER FESTIVAL** Malone Park, Downtown Sikeston, 9 AM
This isn't just another car show – it's a HORSEPOWER FESTIVAL! Classes include: antique cars/trucks, street rods, street machines, stock production, truck stock, race cars, sports compacts, high school class, military vehicles and motorcycles. Registration 9 AM-Noon; awards 4 PM, Swap meet, concessions, novelties and sound system round out the event held in Malone Park. Restroom facilities and playground on site
- SEPT. 10 DUCKAPOLOOZA DUCK'N RUN,** YMCA of Southeast Missouri, 602 Tanner St
Enjoy a full day of fun . . .
8 AM 5K Walk/Run sponsored by the Sikeston Area Chamber of Commerce
Throughout the day watch 5,000 "yellow Duckies" compete in heats down the YMCA's 15 foot water slide. Prizes awarded to the sponsor of the winning "Duck". Miniature golf and other family activities will be on site. Open to the general public.
- SEPT. 17 FALL IN LOVE WITH DOWNTOWN WINE FESTIVAL** Downtown Sikeston, 6-10 PM
Relax and enjoy the very best wines from more than five of the region's top wineries. Live music by Caney Creek and light hors d'oeuvres compliment this outdoor event being held in Downtown Sikeston. Must be 21 to attend Tickets \$20 per person, available at Susie's Bake Shop and Restaurant, Pizza Inn, Sikeston DED (128 N. New Madrid) and at the Office of Historic Downtown Sikeston, 105 E. Center, 2nd Floor
- SEPT. 27- OCT. 1 AMERICAN LEGION COTTON CARNIVAL,** Rodeo Grounds, 1220 N. Ingram Road
Tuesday-Friday 5 PM to midnight; Saturday Noon to midnight
Enjoy the 66th Annual American Legion Cotton Carnival – its offers something for everybody; mouthwatering foods and snacks, beauty contests, music, games of skill and carnival rides
- OCT. 1 AMERICAN LEGION COTTON CARNIVAL PARADE,** 10 AM
Parade route: Pine Street north to Malone Avenue; Malone Avenue west to Scott Street
- OCT 1. ALL MALE YARD SALE,** 417 N. Main Street, 6 AM-3 PM - Call 573-472-0828 to reserve space
Sponsored by the Sikeston Lions Club, Proceeds benefit the American Red Cross