

“THE LINC”

Your connection to the news, decisions, and services from City Hall.

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Did you know?

The City Clerk is the Local Registrar for birth and death certificates for Logan County. Certified copies of birth and death certificates are available in person or by mail. The City Clerk’s Office is located on the first floor of the Lincoln City Hall at 700 Broadway Street (adjacent to the Lincoln Fire Station). The birth and death certificate application is also available at the City website www.lincolnil.gov. The cost is \$17.00 for the first certified copy and \$6.00 for each additional certified copy of the same certificate. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at 735-2815.

PASSING OF MAYOR SCOTT COOPER

The unfortunate passing of Mayor Darren “Scott” Cooper, on Friday, August 14th has left a tremendous void in the leadership in City Hall. Mayor Cooper was an extremely approachable individual, who relished his short time as Mayor, and had a love for Lincoln. After his appointment in June, Mayor Cooper approached the job with fervor and enthusiasm.

As the City strives to move forward, the vacancy in the Mayoral office must be filled. Earlier this Spring, the City passed an ordinance that requires the City to follow the state statutes when a permanent vacancy in the Mayor’s role occurs.

Illinois law refers to the appointment of an “Acting Mayor” who would be able to fill this vacancy. An

Acting Mayor must be elected by the alderman from a member of the council, and the action must be taken at a public meeting. Once appointed, the Acting Mayor then has two options. The individual can retain their aldermanic seat while serving as Mayor, but can only vote once as an alderman and cannot veto ordinances. Therefore, issues can arise where tie votes occur without a tie-breaking vote. The individual could also resign as alderman and assume the role as Mayor. This person would then be able to cast a tie-breaking vote, veto ordinances, and



appoint a member to the vacant aldermanic seat. In either case, the Acting Mayor will have the capability to appoint individuals to any of the City’s boards and commissions.

PUTTING THE “NEW” IN NEWSLETTER

It’s been a strategic goal of the City Council to work to better inform Lincoln residents of the happenings in and around City Hall. This newsletter is the newest way for the City to begin that conversation with everyone who reads it. “The Linc” will be delivered in paper form in your sewer

bill, but it can also be viewed online at the City’s website, www.lincolnil.gov. Through “The Linc,” it is the desire of the City Council and staff to pass along important information about public projects, services, or policy decisions that may affect you.

We view “The Linc” as an informational *and* conversational piece. Being conversational, the most important component we need—you. Please contact your alderman or the City staff if you have any questions about projects, services, or other concerns that you may have.

2015 FALL LEAF COLLECTION

Before you realize it, it will be time again for the 2015 Fall Leaf Collection. This is a service provided by the Lincoln Street Department. The collection generally takes place from mid to late October through the middle of November depending on the season. Please remember that leaves should be placed in biodegradable paper bags and placed at the curb for pickup. The collection is for leaves only. No brush or other landscape waste will be picked up. Leaves should be free of litter and other

trash such as plastic, metal and paper. If residents would rather handle the disposal themselves, leaves can be taken to the Landscape Waste Facility at 957 Broadwell Dr. at no cost. The facility will have extended days of operation to make it more convenient for residents. Keep a lookout for more

information and specific dates and pickup schedules.



Have your leaves ready for the City’s 2015 Leaf Collection!

2015 Fall Leaf Collection begins mid-October, picking up leaves in a ward per day. Collections start in Ward 1.

DISPOSAL OF LEAVES, THE RIGHT WAY

With fall quickly approaching, residents will again be faced with the disposal of leaves and other landscape waste. Pursuant to Section 8-3-8 of the City Code, it is the duty of every person owning or occupying any lot or parcel of land to keep the alley and gutter adjoining their property clean and free from leaves and other landscape waste.

Leaves and landscape waste cannot be raked or blown in any of the public street gutters, as such a practice will prevent the free flow of water to the sewer drains. Residents may dispose of leaves and other landscape waste free of charge at the City landscape dump or they can be set out for collection by the City on the designated collection

days. Should it be discovered that leaves and other landscape materials are being improperly raked or blown in the street and gutter, a notice will be left at the property to have the material removed and if material is not removed or the offense occurs a second time, the result may be a citation and a fine.

“Leaves and other landscape waste cannot be raked or blown in any of the public street gutters.”

IS IT FLUSHABLE?

A number of sanitary products available for purchase by the general public are marketed as “flushable”. Most sewer systems across the country are experiencing issues with “flushable” products such as bathroom wipes. In comparison, regular toilet paper is designed to break down rapidly when it comes into contact with moving water. Bathroom wipes break down at a much slower rate, so they can

become problematic in the sewer line. When these wipes come into contact with other items in the sewer such as grease, roots, and other foreign debris, they become hung up and create blockages affecting not only the homeowner, but an entire neighborhood on occasion. Not only are the wipes making their way into the sewer, but other items are as well. Products that should never be flushed

down the toilet are common paper towels, feminine products, baby wipes, diapers, etc. These will not break down and have to be mechanically removed prior to treatment at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. This in turn leads to unnecessary maintenance and increased operational costs that can be reflected in the sewer rates customers pay. Remember, a golf ball is “Flushable”, but it doesn’t mean that it belongs in the sewer system.