



February 2021 Newsletter

Mayor's Message



The new year's weather seems unpredictable to say the least. With these highs and very cold lows make sure you're not susceptible to getting sick while the ongoing COVID crisis is still with us. Unfortunately I don't think we are anywhere close to seeing the end of this situation until later this year. Please continue to exercise caution when out and around other people in our community or surrounding areas.

Your City Council, City Administrator and I recently met in Milton for a full day work session retreat. The day consisted of discussions about "Yesterday Today & Tomorrow" that included what we learned during the incredible year we had last year. Being the first year for the newly elected individuals we talked about what they felt worked and didn't work for them and how to more effectively bring about any changes they feel strongly about. We also discussed our current challenges such as public meetings during the COVID crisis, our relationship with Roswell and how to address the 911 Public Safety issues. Lastly we talked about what we see as goals for the future in Mountain Park that serve the best interest of all the citizens and our future. It was very productive and beneficial for making sure we are all on the "same page" as the leadership of our community.

Many of the usual events of this time of the year are still up in the air so I will let the Civic Club report what they will be doing in the month of February.

Please keep our former Mayor Peter Packard in your thoughts and prayers as he is struggling with an ongoing health issue.

Thanks and stay safe.

Jim Still, Mayor



Civic Club News

The Mountain Park Community Pantry: Is up and running 7 days a week 24 hours a day. Non-perishable foods are available in containers on the City Hall porch facing on the Green. We are stocked to capacity right now. We will let you know when we need more donations.

Watch for News of a Virtual Tasting Party coming up This Month!!

We welcome people to join us in serving and supporting Mountain Park and invite you to join us. Our Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month.

Civic Club Meeting

February 9th, 2021 at 7:00pm

Community Building

Masks required and room set up for Social Distancing

If you wish to attend by Zoom, please contact Sally Wiley by email at sallywiley9@gmail.com
no later than 6:00 pm for the link.

Business License Renewals

Do you have a home business that operates in Mountain Park? It's time to renew and complete a new application for your business license this year. All business license applications are due to City Hall by March 1st. The application can be found in the City Hall office or online at www.mountainparkgov.com.

Here are the fees to be paid:

Administrative Fee = \$10.00

Regulatory Fee 1-10 employees = \$20, plus
\$20 for each employee above 1

Occupation Tax 1-10 employees = \$50, plus
\$50 for each employee above 1

So the fee is \$80.00 for a one person business.

If you have over 10 employees please contact City Hall for the fees.





MPVFR MESSAGE



So... 2021 seems to have gotten off to a rocky start. But even though it seems as if this great country of ours is struggling to hold itself together at times, I still believe that we had made tremendous progress. Frederick Douglass said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Progress is not linear people. We all want to progress, although some more than others. I believe that the attitudes and perceptions we have about progress determine to a large degree how effective we are in making progress and how much we profit from it.

Progress can't always be made in the same degree as we would like. It doesn't happen the same way in one area as it does in another. Not even the trees in a grove will grow the same. Each will grow at different rates to different widths and heights. Some trees in that same grove may not even make it at all. This holds the same for us all. We all go through setbacks as a normal part of life. It is how we respond to those setbacks that determine if we are going to spiral downwards, stagnate, or grow and develop. Throughout the rest of this year, we may go through long periods of progression or periods of regression. The progression or regression may be lightning fast or extremely slow and daunting but as long as we hold true and steadfast to reaching our goals and fulfilling our purposes, we will prevail no matter what. If we work together as a people, we can lengthen the period of progression for those that are progressing. In working together, we can also shorten or even eliminate the period of regression for those going through it.

Desmond Tutu said, "My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together." Key word is TOGETHER. Through constant understanding, support, and love we can strive together. Humanity will prevail.

Let us not be hindered in progress by negativity and be held stagnant by fear. Ms. Rosa Parks said, "I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear." Let us make up in our minds, our hearts, and our spirits that we will continue to thrive as a people. No matter how this year has started. No matter what obstacles may impede our progression. We as a country will progress prevail. There were many things in the beginning of this year that I will not mention that pulled at the seams of our country's unity. Whether you believed any of these things to have been right or wrong does not matter. At least doesn't matter to me. I want us all to continue to live, push forward, and progress towards more growth, better health, peace, and happiness. Fear, hate and despair will not conquer us. We will be unconquered. We will be victorious.

Before I go, I want to share with you one of my favorite pieces by William Ernest Henley called Invictus. Invictus is Latin for "unconquered."

*"Out of the night that covers me, black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be for my unconquerable soul.
In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance my head is bloody, but unbowed.
Beyond this place of wrath and tears looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years finds and shall find me unafraid.
It matters not how strait the gate, how charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."*

Continue practicing social distancing as much as possible. Wear your masks while in public. Wash your hands. Cover your coughs and sneezes into the bend of your elbow. Check on the elderly in your families. And please, please, PLEASE stay positive. Stay strong.

As always, we at MPVFR stand for you, beside you, and behind you. We are here if you need us and always will.

Lieutenant Michael Peck
EMS Lieutenant
Mountain Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue

Code Enforcement in Mountain Park

NEW for 2021: CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK FISHING AND BOATING PERMITS ONLINE!

New for 2021 is a project that City hall has been working on for several months: online fishing and boating permits!

This new system is a far cry from several years ago when only a small number of permits were issued and non-residents would be required to spend an all-nighter in line at city hall on the eve of the first business day of the New Year just for the chance at a permit. No more!

Now in 2021, purchasing your fishing or boating permit can be easily done via the City of Mountain Park website, or at the following link:

<https://mountainparkga.governmentwindow.com/estore/permits-and-licenses.html>

No rules have changed as a result of this action. And no need to wait until City Hall opens to secure your permit! The requirements to have a permit remain the same; they are just a whole lot easier and more convenient to obtain online 7/24/365. Permits can be obtained by day, week or season.

If you have purchased an annual permit online, it will be necessary to complete the process by picking up your City Hall issued permit (boat sticker and/or fishing license) in person, but the online receipt for your permit will be recognized temporarily during the enforcement process.

As a reminder of some of the big picture rules:

- Residents and non-residents alike must obtain a permit – although the fees are substantially less for residents of the city.
- No gas powered motors on either Lake Garrett or Lake Cherful
- No electric (trolling) motors on Lake Garrett. (They are allowed on Lake Cherful, with the right permit covering trolling motors).
- Fishing is “catch and release” only.
- Only artificial bait/lures may be used.

Other rules are detailed in the Mountain Park Codebook located on our website, and City Residents will notice fresh signage in both English and Spanish prominently positioned near access points to both lakes.

The service is already successfully deployed and I have already checked one angler who had his 2021 fishing permit in hand. So it works!

Philip W. Engle
Code Compliance Officer



Know Your City Code



RECENT CODE UPDATES

Section 58-125. - Prohibited vehicle parking

(5) Park a vehicle overnight in a designated public parking area, including paved or unpaved parking areas that are in or adjacent to any park, city swimming pool, dam, city hall or city-owned building, unless the vehicle is being parked by a city officer, employee or agent in the course of city business, without prior approval from the mayor or city administrator. The mayor or city administrator may approve overnight parking of private vehicles in public parking areas upon a finding that the parking will not unduly interfere with city business, will not be a nuisance, and may assist in limiting traffic congestion or interference on the public roads of the city.

Section 58-126. - Restricted vehicle parking

(a) Within the residential districts of the city, passenger vehicles and noncommercial trucks shall be parked within a garage, carport or accessory structure or on a paved driveway providing ingress and egress to a residential lot on which an occupied dwelling exists. Vehicles shall not be parked on unpaved areas of the lot, or on lots upon which there is no occupied dwelling unit. For the purposes of this section, the term "paved driveway" means a driveway surfaced with either asphalt, concrete, gravel, brick or other approved material. Natural materials, such as, but not limited to, wood chips, stones, crushed seashells and mulch may also be used as paving, provided that such material is contained on three sides by secured landscape timbers or finished masonry and is of a depth sufficient to prevent exposed soil and/or erosion. In all cases, the property owner shall be responsible for maintaining the driveways and parking areas of a residence in such a manner as to prevent any of the surfacing materials from crossing the property boundaries or entering the rights-of-way of roads and streets, streams, lakes or waterways of the city.

Section 117-10. - Appearance of property; parking of recreational vehicles.

(a) No land within the corporate limits of the City, whether or not used for residential structures, shall be used for the collection and deposit of garbage, trash, debris, equipment, appliances, furniture, or derelict or inoperable vehicles. Violation of this section shall be deemed a health hazard and a public nuisance.

(b) No automobile, vehicle or trailer of any kind or type, which is inoperable or without current and valid license and registration, shall be parked or kept on any property unless it shall be in a completely enclosed building, or except as expressly provided herein.

(c) Functional and operational recreational vehicles, campers, boats and trailers may be parked in the side and rear yards of properties. Such vehicles may only be parked in the front yard of properties with a special permit issued by the City council upon consideration of the following factors:

- (1) is there a feasible side or rear yard or an enclosed structure in which the vehicle may be parked; and,
- (2) is there a suitable location in the front yard where the vehicle may be parked, considering traffic safety and the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood?

(d) In all instances where the owner of any junk, inoperative, unregistered, or abandoned motor vehicle and/or trailer refuses to remove, enclose or register (or, if requested, refuses to give consent for the City to remove) any such vehicle or trailer currently in violation of this ordinance, the City shall be empowered to seek an order from a court of competent jurisdiction authorizing the City to remove and dispose of such vehicle or trailer. Such orders shall be authorized if the vehicle has been in violation of this ordinance for more than 20 days.

(e) For purposes of repair or restoration, one inoperable or unregistered vehicle may be kept in the rear yard of a property, provided it is not visible from the street, is screened from all neighbors by a privacy fence in the rear yard, and is repaired or restored, removed, or placed in a fully enclosed building within six months. Such vehicle shall not be stored in any side yard or any setback or buffer area; provided that the City Council may grant a special permit for repair or restoration of one vehicle in a side yard for up to six months after considering whether there is a feasible alternative location and whether there is appropriate screening available or proposed to protect the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 3rd.....Siren Testing @ 12pm

February 3rd.....City Court @ 7pm

February 6th.....Dumpster Day 7am-10am

1. Must provide proof of residence in the City of Mountain Park.
2. ONE TRUCKLOAD OR TRAILER LOAD PER RESIDENCE.
3. All yard debris must be cut into 3 feet sections or less.

Please note that this is a service provided by Waste Pro as a courtesy and the City of Mountain Park does not have any control over what time they arrive/depart or the rate which the dumpster fills and the amount it can hold. Please plan accordingly. Thank you!

February 15th..... City Hall Closed

February 17th.....Work Session @ 7pm

FOR CITY COUNCIL: Citizen Participation is welcome – Please give at least 24 hours advance notice if you wish to be added to the agenda by contacting City Hall.

February 22nd..... Regular Council @ 7pm

UPDATE ON COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City of Mountain Park will now have audio recordings of work session and regular council meetings available on our website at www.mountainparkgov.com. We are working to have them posted 48 hours after the meeting occurs, but there may be times it could take longer. If you are unable to attend any meetings please visit our website to stay up to date on what is going on in the City. You can find the recordings on the home page under the posting of the agenda. You can also go the City publications tab, then to council minutes and you will see an audio folder there.

****REMINDER****

Water bills are due by the last day of every month. Please use the drop box at City Hall or pay online at https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign_in. Payments received on the 1st of the month or later will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

****REMINDER****

Please ensure you put your cans out the night before after 6pm or by 7am on Wednesday and leave them at the curb until they are picked up. Please remove your cans from the curb by 8am on Thursday. No yard debris is allowed. If your trash or recycle pick-up is missed please call City Hall at 770-993-4231 or email City Hall at utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com on Thursday morning by 12pm.

The fourth phase of MARTA's Track Replacement Project (TR-IV) will replace heavy rail between Lindbergh Center, Buckhead, and Lenox Stations beginning *Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 9 p.m. and concluding Monday, Feb. 22 at 4 a.m.* **All rail service between Lindbergh Center, Buckhead, and Lenox Stations will be suspended during this time.** Buses will replace trains and customers should allow extra time for trips through the area during this time. See details at <https://www.itsmarta.com/trackreplacement.aspx>



track replacement

Rail service will be temporarily suspended between Lindbergh Center, Buckhead and Lenox Stations beginning at 9:00 PM on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 through 4:00 AM Monday, February 22, 2021.

Buses will replace trains between these stations. 

REOPENS FEBRUARY 22, 2021

 @MARTAservice
#MARTAbackontrack
[itsmarta.com/trackreplacement](https://www.itsmarta.com/trackreplacement)

 Have a question?
Need help?

404-848-5000
Connect with MARTA through our customer call center.



reemplazo de vías

El servicio de ferrocarril estará suspendido temporalmente entre las estaciones Lindbergh Center, Buckhead y Lenox a partir de las 9 p. m. del martes, 16 de febrero de 2021, hasta las 4 a. m. del lunes, 22 de febrero de 2021.

Los trenes se reemplazarán con autobuses entre estas estaciones. 

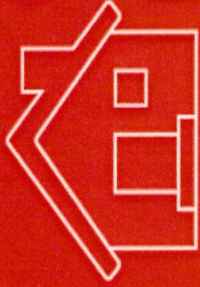
REABRE EL 22 DE FEBRERO DE 2021

 @MARTAservice
#MARTAbackontrack
[itsmarta.com/trackreplacement](https://www.itsmarta.com/trackreplacement)

 ¿Tiene alguna pregunta?
¿Necesita ayuda?

404-848-5000
Comuníquese con MARTA a través de nuestro centro de llamadas del cliente.

COVID-19



QUARANTINE

for people with
no symptoms

Full
14-days
SAFEST

Quarantine at Home

After
10-days,
no test

Quarantine at Home

Released from
quarantine, monitor for
symptoms, wear a mask,
social distance

After
7-days,
with test

Quarantine at Home

Released from quarantine after negative
test result, monitor for symptoms, wear a
mask, social distance

Day 0
Date of
most recent
exposure

Day 5
Earliest day
to get a test

Day 7

Day 10

Day 14

dph.georgia.gov

