



La Vergne Chronicle

May

2021-22 Fiscal Year Budget Passes First Reading

The City of La Vergne Board of Mayor and Aldermen has voted in favor of the 2021-2022 proposed budget on first reading during the regular Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting on May 4.

The proposed budget moves \$5M into reserves, earmarking \$3M for the new Public Works building, using \$1M on requested capital projects, and providing city staff with a 6% raise.

The five capital projects that include the highest ticketed price include a new CAD system for police, 10 new police cars, \$200K towards engineering of the expansion of the police department building, new snow plow trucks, a K-9 officer as well as three new police officers.

Of note, capital projects will also include the design, acquisition of right-of-way and construction for widening of South Waldron Road, from I-24 to Rock Springs Road. The design for widening Old Nashville Highway is also included along with the design of a new fire station. This fiscal year will also see the city breaking ground on the new Public Works building which will include a walking trail and connection to the Hurricane Creek Greenway. Departments expected to be housed in the new building include water and sewer billing, economic development, codes, planning, stormwater, engineering, water, sewer, fleet, street and information technology.

The capital projects also include the design and survey required to expand the Hurricane Creek Greenway to the Hurricane Creek Boat Ramp as well as the City's portion of the sidewalks and crosswalks grant awarded to the city last year.

The board still needs to pass the budget's second reading during the June 1 Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting before becoming official.



Water Billing Software Upgrade

The City of La Vergne is preparing to undergo an upgrade to its Water and Sewer billing software in the Spring-Summer of 2021.

During the process of this upgrade the City will have to bring the billing service periods current. This will require the first month's usage to be combined with the second month's usage, resulting in a single bill

covering both service periods. This will be a one-time process and will allow current billing of utility services moving forward. This particular service bill will be issued during the month of May 2021.

We apologize for any inconvenience. Please contact the billing office at 615-793-5932, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with any questions.

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Movie in the Park



Movies in the Park



Movies in the Park

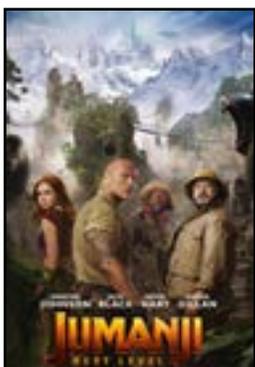


Movies in the Park

Movie in the Park Series

The La Vergne Parks and Recreation Department is hosting a Movies in the Park series at Veterans Memorial Park this summer.

The series occurs on the second Friday of every month from May through August. The movie for the month of May will be Jumanji: Next Level.



Admission is free. Concessions will be on sale for anyone interested in purchasing food or drinks. Everyone is encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs.

Contact La Vergne Parks and Rec with questions at (615) 793-3224.

Block Party, Summer Events

The second annual Block Party is just one of many great events scheduled for this summer. This year's Block Party is scheduled for May 22 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and will feature vendors, food, live music and much more.

The traditional Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for July 4. Gates open around 5:30 p.m. and the live music kicks off at 6:00 p.m. Concessions will be available and everyone is encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

The annual Howl at the Moon 5K is scheduled for August 27. The 5K will take its usual route from Veterans Memorial Park to City Hall and back.

This year's Old Timer's Festival is scheduled for September 17 and 18. The kick-off concert on the 17th starts at 7:00 p.m. The OTF parade kicks things off on the 18th at 10:00 a.m. with the festival and live music to follow until 3:30 p.m. The closing concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

All events take place at Veterans Memorial Park, located at 115 Floyd Mayfield Drive. For questions or to be a vendor contact Event Coordinator Kathi Melendy at (615) 793-3224 or email kmelendy@lavergnen.net.

COVID-19 Rental Relief Program

Rutherford County began accepting applications for the 2021 Rutherford County COVID-19 Rental Relief Program in March.

The program is funded through the U.S. Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and provides rent and utility assistance to prevent eviction and homelessness due to, directly or indirectly, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To qualify, you must be a Rutherford County resident impacted by COVID through a significant life-changing event such as job loss, reduced hours, or medical expenses. Your household monthly gross income must be at or below 80 percent of the area median income (AMI) depending on the number of members in your household (<https://bit.ly/3b82BDI>). Applicants will be reviewed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Assistance is based on availability of funding.

Landlords and tenants may both apply.

Applicants will be required to provide supporting documentation. For further information on the supporting documentation, please see our FAQs or contact us at the call center number below.

Online applications and more information can be accessed by visiting: rutherfordcountyttn.gov/rental-relief-program.



The county has also activated a call center to support this function. The number is 615-334-4777. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Annual Hurricane Creek Clean-Up

The annual Hurricane Creek Greenway Clean-Up has been scheduled and everyone is encouraged to come out and help. Every year the stormwater department hosts a clean-up event to beautify part of the Hurricane Creek Greenway.

The event, scheduled for May 8, begins at 8:30 a.m. and wraps up at noon. Breakfast and lunch will be provided as well as fun swag available for volunteers to take home with them. To help keep us safe from COVID we will be splitting off into smaller groups upon arrival, wearing masks, and not sharing equipment.



To sign up, visit the Hands on Nashville website at <https://bit.ly/3emjNpr>. Contact the stormwater department at (615) 793-7339 or email athompson@lavergnen.gov with questions.

FEMA Preliminary Flood Map

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently issued preliminary flood maps for Rutherford County.

Data from FEMA indicates hundreds of properties throughout the county either being removed from or placed into a flood zone.

Those in potentially affected areas should seek guidance.

FEMA states the flood hazard determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that Rutherford County is either required to adopt or show evident of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Before the new determinations are effective for floodplain management purposes, property owners will be provided the opportunity to appeal the proposed information.

Locations where the maps are available:

Planning and Codes Department, 5175 Murfreesboro Road, La Vergne, TN 37086 (615) 213-2624

2021 Communications Survey

The City of La Vergne public relations department is committed to finding the most effective way to communicate with residents and community members.

For the second year, the public information officer is conducting a communications survey to gauge how well information is disseminated among residents as well as look for new ways to inform hard-to-reach members of the community. The survey is available on the City's website at <http://bit.ly/3sMSTfX> and will be available to be filled out through June 1.



Board Appoints New Alderman, Vice Mayor at Regular Meeting

The La Vergne Board of Mayor and Aldermen appointed Magen Honeycutt to the board as a new alderman at the beginning of the regular meeting on April 6.

Alderman Honeycutt will replace former Vice-Mayor Melisa Brown who resigned in March and will serve out the remainder of the term, which ends in November 2022. In her letter of intent, Alderman Honeycutt stated she promises to "serve with honesty, integrity, and humility. I will complement this board well, so that work can resume for this great community." She is currently a Route Supervisor for Fedex Ground and first moved to La Vergne in 2010, leaving and returning in 2019. She has volunteered with the Rescue Squad, Box 100 and the La Vergne Fire Rescue Department.

Following Alderman Honeycutt's appointment, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted to name a new vice-mayor. Alderman Steve Noe was nominated and appointed following a four-one vote. He has served on the board since his appointment in 2018, later being voted in as alderman in 2020.

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Employee Spotlight

Lorna Cripps has worked with the City of La Vergne since 2006 and currently serves as the Public Library Youth Services Coordinator. Cripps was born in Indiana and moved to Tennessee when she was just 13 years old and has lived here ever since.

She says her favorite part about working for the Public Library is “getting to meet all the wonderful families who visit us.” Her favorite memory is talking to “so many people from all around the U.S. as well as other countries and finding out how much our library means to them.”

An interesting fact about Cripps is that she sewed and smocked outfits for her daughter when she was just a baby and a young child. She loves to sew and do crafts, especially any kind that involves needlework.



Lorna Cripps

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 14 - Movie in the Park
- May 22 - Block Party
- June 11 - Movie In the Park

NEW EMPLOYEES

- Juliet Williams - Executive Assistant
- Kiah Dougherty - Street Laborer

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Workshops (6:30 p.m.)	Meetings (7:00 p.m.)
May 27	June 1
July 1	July 6

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Court	615-287-8630
City Hall	615-793-6295
Codes Department	615-213-2624
Economic Development	615-793-6295
Finance Department	615-287-8629
Fire Department	615-287-5832
Human Resources	615-287-8622
Parks and Recreation	615-793-3224
Police Department	615-793-7744
Public Library	615-793-7303
Public Relations	615-287-8690
Public Works	615-793-9891
Tax Department	615-793-3388
Water & Sewer Billing	615-793-5932

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Jason Cole	615-308-3565
Vice Mayor Steve Noe	615-490-4602
Alderman Graeme Coates	615-400-1072
Alderman Magen Honeycutt	615-653-0787
Alderman Dennis Waldron	615-603-5122