

Louisburg

Speaks KS

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February - March 2022

Changes coming to city website


A new look will greet visitors to the City of Louisburg's website by early March.

Several changes are being made to the website that should make it easier for residents to find the information they need more quickly. One of the first things visitors will notice are the new links options that put the most searched information front and center. The search bar located in the upper right corner not only offers a traditional search feature but provides a shortcut to utility service and payments.


The quick links section, which also includes online bill pay plus the agenda center, the aquatic center and other shortcuts, is located directly under the main photo.

A Popular Links section is featured next and will provide another way to quickly find most-searched or seasonal information, such as pool passes or Santa sign-ups. This section will feature information on pool passes, FLIP, burn and building permits, reservations for Fox Hall and parks and a shortcut to virtual meetings when the revamped site launches.

A significant improvement allows residents moving in and out of the city or to another home within the city to start and stop their water and gas service with a few clicks on the website. This link, seen at right, will be available in the search bar of the new website.



Start Service

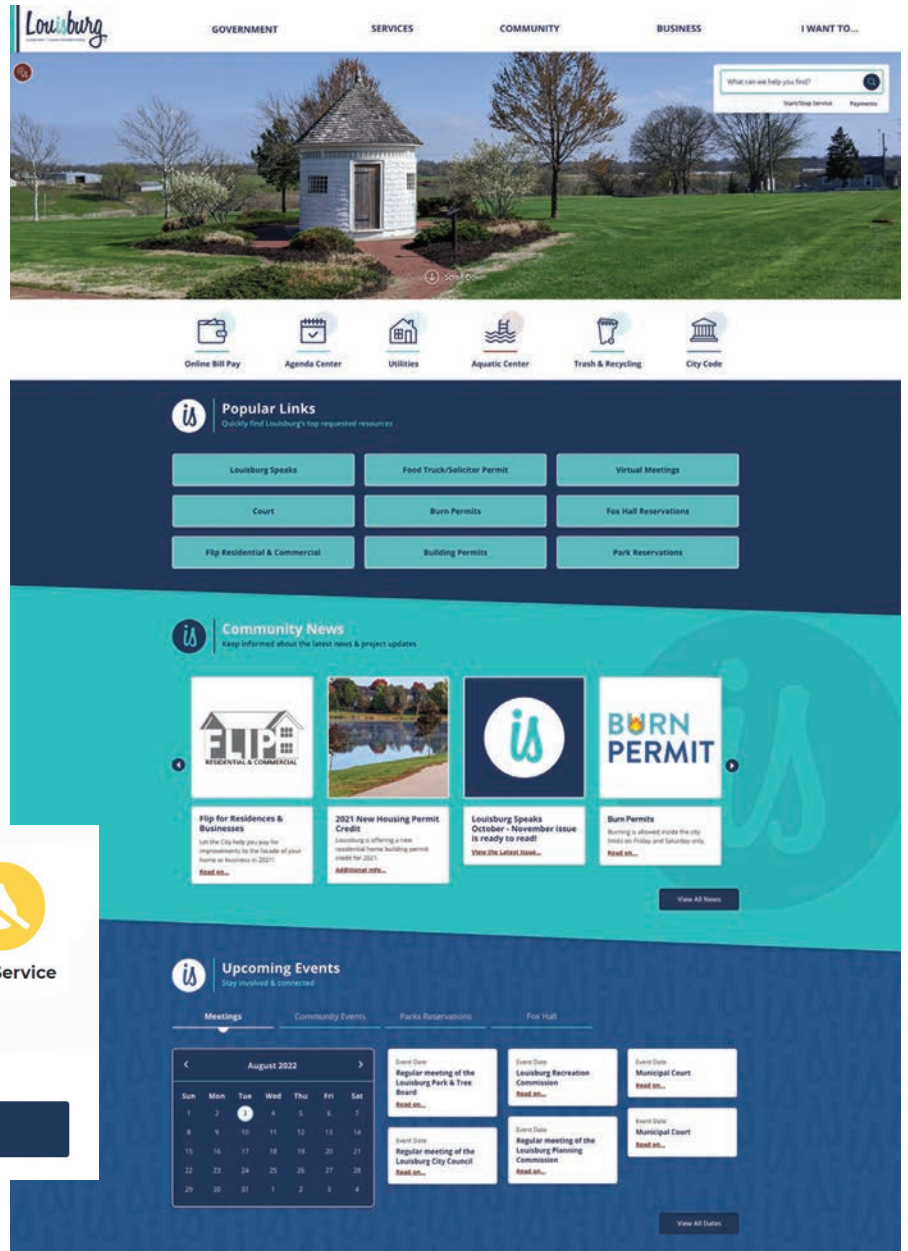


Stop Service

START/STOP UTILITY SERVICE

[READ ON...](#)

A new start/stop utility service form will be available to residents on the redesigned website.



See Page 3

The City of Louisburg will roll out a refreshed website in early March. Residents should find it easier to navigate and quickly find the most commonly used pages.



Mayor

Donna Cook
dcook@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 1

Scott Margrave
smargrave@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 2

open

Ward 3

Clint Ernst
cernst@louisburgkansas.gov

Ward 4

TJ Williams
twilliams@louisburgkansas.gov

At-Large

Steve Town
stown@louisburgkansas.gov

City Hall

Nathan Law
City Administrator
215 S. Broadway
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-5371
www.louisburgkansas.gov
Hours: 7 am - 4:30 pm
Monday-Friday

Police Department

Chief Tim Bauer
209 S. Metcalf Rd.
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-3191

Fire Department

Chief Gerald Rittinghouse
205 S. Metcalf Rd.
Louisburg, KS 66053
913-837-4700

Louisburg Speaks is published six times a year by the City of Louisburg for its residents. Please direct questions or comments to jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov

The City of Louisburg requires building permits. Please call the Building & Zoning Department at 913-837-5811 before beginning any construction project.

Avoid putting backflow in your drinking water supply

Residents and businesses who have a lawn irrigation system or fire suppression system will soon be getting a letter from the City's Building & Zoning department reminding them it's time for the annual backflow inspection.

The letters, coming out in early March, remind those with such systems that it's time to check the backflow prevention device per Kansas Department of Health & Environment guidelines and City Code. These regulations comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Backflow occurs when water flows in the opposite direction as normal. When a lawn or fire sprinkler system is con-

nected to the City's water distribution system, there is a possibility of contamination or pollution entering into the water system if a backflow prevention device is not present or working correctly.

Backflow devices keep hazardous contaminants such as herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, bacteria, organisms or other foreign matter from entering the water line and ending up in the water distribution system.

The annual inspection should be completed by a certified tester, often a plumber or landscape company.

If you do not receive a letter but your home or business has a lawn or sprinkler system, please call the Building and Zoning Department at 913-837-5811 for more information.

If you suspect that a backflow device has failed or if you notice a change in the smell, color, taste or the presence of a foreign object in your drinking water, call the City immediately at 913-837-5371 and follow the prompts.



This backflow prevention device is on the fire sprinkler system at City Hall.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Thank you for opportunity to serve

First I want to thank everyone for having confidence in me becoming Mayor of Louisburg. I am excited to begin and see what we all can do to bring more vibrancy to downtown Louisburg and the community.

There are lots of hurdles all over town to overcome with storm water runoff, street repairs, sidewalk repairs, etc. In some areas of Louisburg the projects have already started. We are currently working on sign regulations for Louisburg businesses. I believe small business is the backbone of our town, and we need to support them anyway we can. If that means changing some regulations, we need to listen to them and see what we can do to help.

Louisburg is a great town. I grew up in Bucyrus and have lived here most of my life running a wholesale food business. I remember the liveliness of the downtown and all of Louisburg while growing up. It is something people keep saying we need again. As your mayor, I'm ready to roll my sleeves up and see what I can do to help the city.



DONNA COOK

Donna

Hometown Heroes banners

Orders can be placed starting March 1

Due to the popularity of the Hometown Hero banners and by utilizing the green space between City Hall and Fox Hall, additional banners can be accommodated in downtown Louisburg.

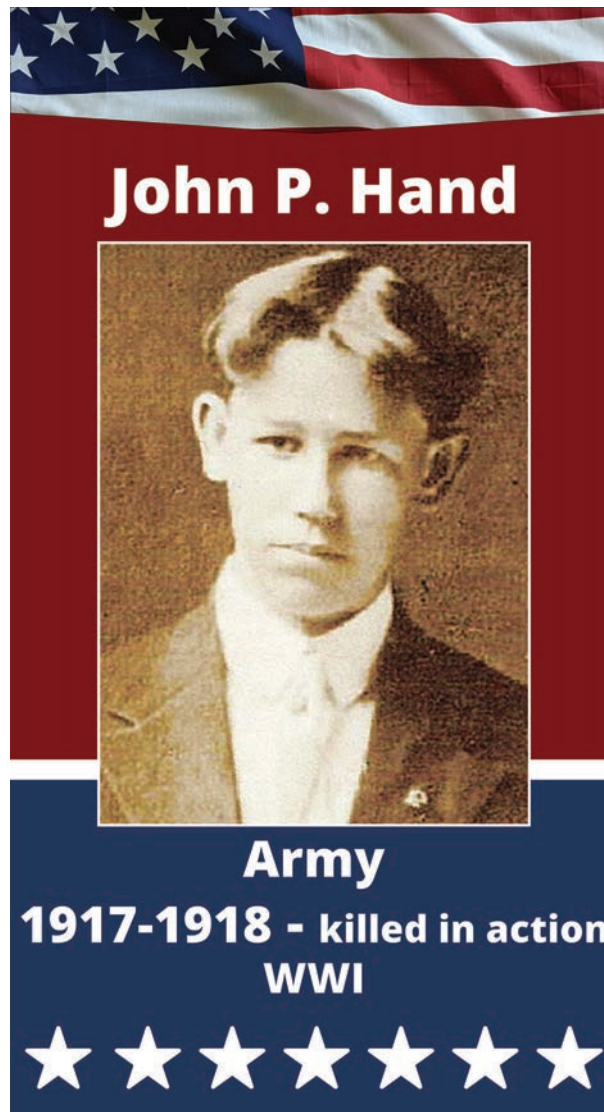
The program is a partnership between the Louisburg American Legion, the Chamber of Commerce and City of Louisburg. The program honors veterans (living or deceased) and active-duty military personnel who hail from Louisburg or the Miami County area with a banner that is displayed in the downtown area.

Additional banners will be displayed on flag holders in the green space between City Hall and Fox Hall as well as the light poles in the downtown area during the weeks surrounding Memorial Day and Veterans Day through May 2023.

Banners cost \$75 and may be ordered beginning March 1 on the City's website. More information is available at: <https://bit.ly/3L9leWV>.

After Memorial Day 2023, banners will be given to the family and at that time they have the option to purchase a new banner. The lifetime of a banner is about two years due to the wear and tear from Kansas winds.

Persons purchasing a banner may also submit a biography of the honoree's time in the military. These bios are then posted to the Chamber of Commerce's website under



This Hometown Heroes banner honors John P. Hand, the first Louisburg area resident killed during World War I and for whom the local American Legion chapter is named.

the Hometown Hero tab: www.louisburgkansas.com/hometown-heroes/

The program began last fall and quickly sold all 44 banner spots.

Website

From Page 1

New homeowners will be asked to upload a PDF copy of their settlement statement paperwork. A deposit is required for renters who are instructed to contact City Hall to make that payment.

This service, provided through a third-party vendor, offers a secure platform to upload your information.

There will still be a news and announcement section along with a easier to navigate calendar that has a quick search option for meetings and community events as well as parks and Fox Hall availability.

The popular links and calendar section can be changed seasonally to topics such as pool passes, pool parties and Holiday Magic on Broadway events.

UTV tags

Tag renewals are now due for residents who have tagged their UTVs with the City of Louisburg.

Renewals can be purchased at City Hall during regular business hours of 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. UTV owners must know their tag number and bring in proof of UTV insurance.

Residents who have not tagged their UTV and plan to drive their vehicle on city streets should contact the police department at 837-3191 to make an appointment to have their UTV inspected and complete a tag application. Appointments are available from 12:30-4 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays.

More information on tags and driving UTVs on City streets can be found on the Police Department's web page on the City's website.



Tree ornaments

Persons who made an ornament for the Mayor's Christmas Tree during the Holiday Magic on Broadway event are welcome to stop by City Hall to pick those up.

A \$5 donation was suggested for each ornament with funds going to the Louisburg Ministerial Alliance for its utility assistance program. Almost \$200 was raised.



Summer, pool season fast approaching

In about three months it will be warm enough to shed the winter coat and enjoy a day at the Louisburg Aquatic Center. The pool opens for its 24th season Saturday, May 28.

Pool passes remain \$25 per person. Children 2 and under and patrons over 65 get in free but seniors must have a pass to gain admittance.

LAC MARKETPLACE

New this season is the LAC Marketplace. This will allow residents to purchase passes and prepay for concession items online. A 5 percent transaction fee is applicable.

Passes will only be available for purchase using the online option beginning March 1. The link is available on the City's website in the Popular Links section. Just look for the Pool Pass tab.

A \$1 per pass and \$4 household fee is added to each pass purchase. Passes will then be mailed to the purchaser's home. Please allow two weeks for

delivery. A mail-in application option is also available on the website for an additional processing fee.

Beginning March 1, senior citizens may come to City Hall, 215 S. Broadway, during regular business hours of 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday to apply for a free pass.

While patrons may continue to use cash to purchase items at the concession stand, parents may find it helpful to pre-purchase tickets for concession purchases. The tickets may be printed and presented at the concession stand or scanned from an email.

Lost passes or concession tickets can also be claimed by logging back into the website.

DAILY ADMISSION & HOURS

Residents may also pay daily admission of \$4 at the pool. A 10-day punch card for \$30 can also be purchased at the pool.

Pool hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Lap swim is available from 8-9 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lap swim may be canceled on a Thursday or Friday evening due to a pool party. Please watch the information board at

the pool or follow the City's Facebook page for these notifications.

POOL PARTIES

The pool party agreement form is available on the City's website under the Aquatic Center department page. Pool parties should be reserved through City Hall at least two weeks prior to the party date. Party cost is based on the number of guests. Additional guests over the party package will be billed at \$5 per additional person. Pool parties range in price from \$250 for 10-50 persons to \$400 for 150 or more guests.

The pool may be reserved for parties from 8:30-10:30 p.m. Thursdays & Fridays and from 8-10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Parties are not considered scheduled until payment is received. Pool parties will be scheduled from June 2 through July 31.

The pool closes for the season at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Lockers are available for rent for a \$5 deposit, which is returned when the key is returned.
- If the pool closes in the event of severe weather, patrons will be asked to leave the pool. Walkers and bicyclists are required to shelter in the bathrooms unless they can get a ride home. Watch the City's Facebook page for cancellations.



The Louisburg Aquatic Center will open for the season at noon Saturday, May 28 and run through Saturday, Aug. 13.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Pool passes go on sale March 1

See information above

Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, March 2
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, March 7
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board

6:45 pm Monday, March 14
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission

6 pm Tuesday, March 15
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, March 21
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, March 30
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, April 4
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Citywide Garage Sales

April 6-10
Garage sale sign moratorium:
April 6-20

Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, April 6
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Park & Tree Board

6:30 pm Monday, April 11
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg City Council

6:30 pm Monday, April 18
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Recreation Commission

6 pm Monday, April 19
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

Louisburg Planning Commission

6:30 pm Wednesday, April 17
City Hall, 215 S. Broadway

An updated calendar as well as agendas and minutes for city meetings can be found at www.louisburgkansas.gov under the Agendas & Minutes icon.

TOTAL CITY BUDGET
\$15,036,310
 million

4.6%
 from the
 FY21 budget

32.441
 mill levy
 down from FY21

BOND
 RATING

A1
 Moody's says: "The A1 rating reflects the City's small, but affluent and growing tax base favorably located in proximity to employment in the KC metro area, above-average reserve position, moderate debt burden and low pension liability."

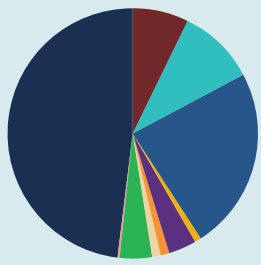
Where Does My City Property Tax Dollar Go?



WHERE THE MONEY GOES TO

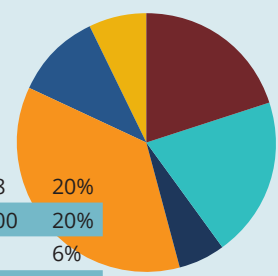
General Fund Budget by Department

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Administration | \$381,479 | 7.3% |
| Fire | \$521,012 | 10% |
| Police | \$1,228,214 | 23.6% |
| Court | \$52,500 | 1% |
| Streets | \$176,716 | 3.4% |
| Building & Zoning | \$53,856 | 1.1% |
| Building Inspections | \$67,856 | 1.3% |
| Parks | \$218,434 | 4.2% |
| Special Events | \$6,500 | 0.1% |
| Capital Outlay/Transfers | \$2,500,000 | 48% |
| TOTAL | \$5,206,567 | |



Budget by Type

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----|
| Salaries | \$2,78,378 | 20% |
| Contractual | \$2,826,000 | 20% |
| Commodities | \$814,000 | 6% |
| Capital Outlay | \$6,107,321 | 36% |
| Debt Service | \$1,533,611 | 11% |
| Transfers | \$465,000 | 7% |
| TOTAL | \$15,036,310 | |



Revenue by Type

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Utility Receipts | \$4,140,000 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | \$8,786,744 |
| Ad Valorem Tax | \$1,767,119 |
| Sales Tax | \$1,820,000 |
| Fees & Other Taxes | \$688,933 |
| Motor Fuel Tax | \$117,310 |
| Transfers | \$965,000 |
| Interest | \$113,150 |
| TOTAL | \$18,398,256 |

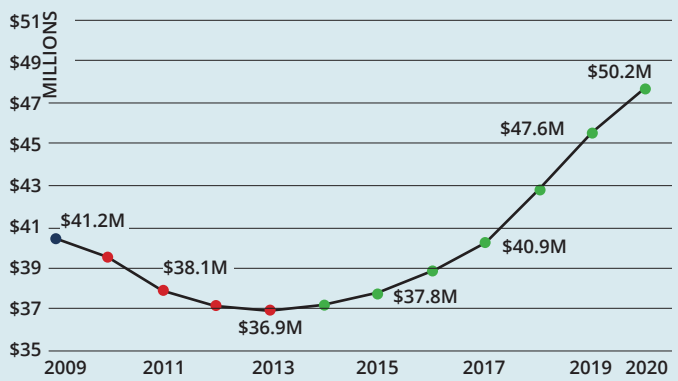
Budget by Fund

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| General | \$5,206,567 |
| Bond & Interest | \$1,507,211 |
| Special Highway | \$1,000,000 |
| Utility Funds | \$4,812,197 |
| Recreation Funds* | \$1,410,335 |
| Infrastructure Improvement | \$1,100,000 |
| TOTAL | \$15,036,310 |

Current vs Proposed Mill Levy

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | 2020 Mill Levy for 2021 Budget | 2021 Proposed Mill Levy for 2022 Budget |
| General Fund | 28.423 | 25.174 |
| Deb Service Fund | 4.411 | 7.267 |
| Total Mill | 32.834 | 32.441 |

ASSESSED VALUE TREND



NET ASSESSED VALUE increase over past 5 years **5.84%**
state average during same time 3.98%

What does the City budget mean to **HOMEOWNERS?**



\$200,000 home value = \$3,143.25 tax bill
City collects \$746.10

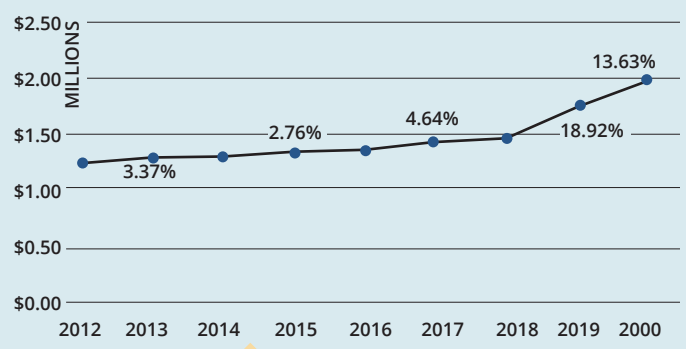
LOUISBURG AT A GLANCE

- Incorporated in 1868
- Population 4,969
- 53 full- & part-time employees
Police Department with 15 full- & part-time staff
Fire Department has 21 paid and volunteer firefighters
- Approximately 27.75 miles of paved roads
- City-owned water, wastewater and gas utility systems

MAJOR PROJECTS FOR 2022

- Metcalf 2.0 construction
- Continued stormwater improvements
- Continued sidewalk enhancement/replacement
- Utility meter replacement program
- Comprehensive Plan implementation
- Completion of grant projects at Lewis-Young Park
- Continued implementation of Master Plans
- Maintain/replace streets city wide

SALES TAX TREND



SALES TAX REVENUE has seen double digit growth since 2019

City of Louisburg's Budget Process Made Simple

A key component to developing the budget is hearing from you! To help you better understand how Louisburg plans its spending every year — and how you can get involved — we have broken down some of the key steps that go into developing the City's budget.

A four step process

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| 1 Prepare | 2 Draft | 3 Review | 4 Adjust | 5 Approve |
| February-March Department heads and Council provide budget wish lists. | March-April Staff develops draft budget. | April-May Council conducts workshop to review proposed budget. | June-July Council has Budget Hearing. Public may provide input. | August Council approves budget. |