



Frisco Line News

July 2016

City of Monett
217 Fifth Street
Monett, Missouri 65708

Mike Brownsberger,
Mayor

Jerry Dierker,
Commissioner

Al Dohmen,
Commissioner

Dennis Pyle,
City Administrator

Building Inspector
235-5306

Casino Reservations
235-3544

Cemetery
235-3495

City Administrator
235-3355

City Clerk
235-3763

Fire Non-Emergency
235-7799

Golf
235-6076

Human Resources
235-3763

Municipal Airport
476-5112

Municipal Court
235-4677

Police Non-Emergency
235-4241

Street/Sanitation
235-3495

Utilities
235-3300

Waste Treatment Plant
235-7455

Website
www.cityofmonett.com

AUGUST SALES TAX ELECTION, DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT, FIREWORKS ORDINANCES & A NEW ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY

The Monett City Council is asking voters to approve the continuation of an existing sales tax on purchases of out-of-state motor vehicles, trailers, boats and outboard motors. This election is for residents of Monett only and polls will be open from 6:00 AM until 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 2nd. Monett residents of Lawrence County can vote at the Presbyterian Church located at 700 Sycamore and Monett residents of Barry County can vote at the City Park Casino in South Park.

What is this sales tax? Cities in Missouri had always collected local sales tax on the sales of motor vehicles, trailers and boats whether they were purchased in Missouri or out-of-state. In 2012, a Missouri Supreme Court decision invalidated the collection of this sales tax on out-of-state purchases unless the City had adopted a Use Tax. The City of Monett does not collect a Use Tax, therefore, the City could not continue to collect the sales tax on out-of-state vehicle purchases. This placed our Missouri car and boat dealers at a competitive disadvantage with out-of-state dealers. Due to Monett's proximity to Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas, you may have received flyers from car dealers in these states promoting this inequity. The Missouri General Assembly recognized this and passed a law in 2013 that allowed cities and counties to continue collecting this tax until local voters could approve it.

How does this tax affect Monett residents? The tax only applies to you if you purchase a motor vehicle, trailer, boat or outboard motor from out-of-state. Similar purchases made in Missouri will be subject to the local sales tax regardless of the vote on this ballot question. A YES vote will not adopt a new Use tax, it only affects the purchase of out-of-state vehicles, trailers, boats and motors. It will not apply a local tax on other items purchased out-of-state and delivered to Monett.

What will happen if voters don't approve the continuation of this tax? According to estimates from city officials and the Missouri Municipal League, the local sales tax collected on out-of-state vehicles is approximately \$40,000 per year for the City of Monett. That is approximately the cost of one police officer or one firefighter. If voters don't approve the tax, it will not lead to reductions in staff but it will have an impact on the City's ability to purchase equipment and vehicles for the Police, Fire, E-911 and Public Works departments. The financial impact over a number of years could be significant and detrimental to the City.

What is the exact ballot language?

Shall the City of Monett continue applying and collecting the local sales tax on the titling of motor vehicles, trailers, boats, and outboard motors that were purchased from a source other than a licensed Missouri dealer?
Continuation of this measure will not result in a reduction of local revenue to provide for vital services for the City of Monett and it will not place Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, and trailers at a competitive disadvantage to non-Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, and trailers.

A YES vote means that the local sales tax will continue. A NO vote means that local sales taxes will only be collected on in-state purchases.

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DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT

The City of Monett and Monett Main Street, Inc. were awarded \$358,300 in state tax credits for the construction of a Community Events Pavilion to be located on the site of the former Jumping Jacks factory in downtown Monett. This was a partnership with the Monett Chamber of Commerce and we're proud to announce that \$740,011 has been donated to the project and all \$358,300 in state tax credits have been awarded to donors. Plans and specifications are being completed for the Events Pavilion and other amenities that will be located in the new downtown park with construction anticipated to begin within the next six months. We anticipate the new pavilion will be open in time for next year's Farmer's Market and Repurposed Faire Festival. Monett Main Street's goal is to raise \$1.2 million to complete the park. If you're interested in contributing to the Events Pavilion and new downtown park, please contact Dennis Pyle at 417-235-3355 or Jeff Meredith at 417-235-7919.

The redevelopment of downtown Monett is continuing with the exciting renovation of the historic Monett State Bank building owned by Bob and Debbie Berger. Located at the corner of Broadway and 5th Street, this historic building will be completely renovated inside and out and will be the future home of the Monett History Museum. The Monett Historical Society is currently raising funds that will pay for the interior renovations and will be applying for state tax credits through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). The Historical Society would like to hear from the public regarding their project through use of an online survey. If you'd like to participate, please go to www.surveymonkey.com and put in "monetthistory" as your Username with the Password, "Historical1". You'll be asked a few questions that will benefit the Historical Society in their planning for a new museum. If you're interested in contributing to the museum project, please contact Rod Anderson at 417-236-8766.

NEW FIREWORKS ORDINANCES

After several weeks of deliberation and public input, the Monett City Council approved ordinances in May to allow the sale and discharge of fireworks within the city limits of Monett. The ordinances permit the discharge of fireworks on July 2nd and July 3rd from noon to 10:00 p.m. and on July 4th from 10:00 a.m. to midnight. We've already received some feedback that midnight was late for a weeknight (July 4th was on a Monday this year). Depending on the feedback the City receives from the public, the Council may consider revising the ordinance for next year's Independence Day celebrations. Please contact us at www.cityofmonett.com or dpyle@cityofmonett.com with your comments or suggestions regarding the sale or discharge of fireworks within the city limits.

ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY

Have you seen construction of a new building behind the Monett Justice Center? If you've dropped off brush or limbs at the City's brush site, you certainly have noticed progress of the City's new Animal Control Facility. The new facility is being constructed primarily with City crews (thanks to the Public Works, Water/Sewer, and Electric departments) doing the labor and private donations paying for building supplies and materials. The project has raised \$108,836 thanks to the efforts of the fundraising committee comprised of Paul Wimsatt, Janet Wimsatt, Mary Sue Fox, Dr. Carol Dahlstrom, Claire Brock, Steve Brock, Mark Nelson, Glenn Palade, and Fred Savage.

The building is a wood-frame structure with pre-finished metal wall panels that includes 10 holding pens with outside runs, offices, and a 25' x 43' garage/storage area. The total square footage is over 2,740' and is a significant improvement over the City's existing dog pound. The City hopes that this new facility will be more inviting to customers and lead to more adoptions as well as providing a more humane atmosphere for the animals. Look for future announcements on the City's website and the Monett Times and the scheduling of an Open House.