



April 2021 *Newsletter*



Mayor's

Message

Mother Nature needs to make up her mind. It's impossible to know what to wear any given day with temperatures ranging for the upper 40s to the lower 70s. Unfortunately, of course with the rise in temperatures, so goes the pollen count.

I know a lot of citizens are interested in the status of our E911 Public Safety situation. On Tuesday March 23rd our City Administrator, City Attorney, Public Safety Director and myself meet virtually with the new Fulton County Sheriff Patrick Labat and Chief Deputy Antonio Johnson to discuss public safety protection for the City of Mountain Park. It was a very informative and encouraging conversation about how we can continue to provide a law enforcement presence for citizens in need of emergency assistance with an acceptable response time. Sheriff Labat has committed to having patrols in the

community as much as possible and stated he wants to add more deputies to his force. He said he would like to hire persons who live in this area of Fulton County so we may have a Sheriff's Deputy residing within in our community or in the general vicinity. There were a couple of legal issues that needed to be looked into by the attorneys and a Mutual Aid Agreement established with the City of Roswell before this is finalized. As a whole this can solve our regular policing needs in Mountain Park at no additional cost to us as Fulton County taxpayers. We appreciate their continued willingness to work out the details of this partnership to make sure that every citizen of Mountain Park has the protection they deserve.

We also continue to work hard on determining how to best enhance our MPVFR staffing needs and provide an even greater fire protection presence for residents in Mountain Park and the surrounding neighborhoods of Roswell.

I optimistic about our improving times from a year ago and look forward to seeing more people & activities on The Green and out in the community.

Stay safe and healthy.

Jim Still, Mayor



Civic Club News

Earth Day Celebration in Mountain Park Saturday, April 24th

Outdoor Activities on the Green, on the Lakes, and in the
Neighborhoods

Mountain Park Civic Club

Masks and Social Distancing
Contact us to Volunteer or Offer Ideas
civicclubmp@gmail.com



Civic Club Meeting
April 13th, 2021 at 7:00pm
Community Building

Masks are required and room is set up for social distancing.

If you wish to attend by Zoom, please contact Sally Wiley by text at (404)406-8753 with your name and email address no later than 6:00 pm.

The link will be sent out right before the meeting opens at 7:00pm.



MPVFR

MESSAGE

Hello beautiful Mountain Park. Three months into 2021 and it's already been pretty tough. Tough as 2021 may be, Mountain Park... you are tougher. Since the city's incorporation in 1927, it has been a source and home of healing and peace for all who have found their way to the area. For those that know the city's history, it is also a source and home for growth, development, and expansion. From the availability of electricity in the 1930's to the building of Lake Cherful in 1951, the Wildlife Refuge known as Mountain Park has always been a beacon of development and growth. Along with continued development and growth, there is a strong atmosphere of tradition. Do families still name their houses like in the days of the "Buzzard's Roost", the "Owl's Nest", and the "Park-Ur-Carcass"?

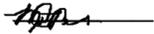
Another tradition is one that was started and incorporated during Ms. Joyce Ayers' term as mayor. Our beloved Volunteer Fire Department. Just as Ms. Ayers led the way as the first woman in Georgia to head a municipality, Mountain Park's Volunteer Fire Department leads the way as in progression as an ISO Class 2 rated fire department as well as being the last unpaid volunteer fire department in the greater metro area. The survival and progression of the department is due to the members' love of the residents and the community. Even after the near destruction of the station and civic building in 2009 due to weather and flooding, the department powered through and continued serving the city nobly and without question. The department and the city powered through some of the most difficult times. William Ellery Channing said, "Difficulties are meant to rouse, not discourage. The human spirit is to grow strong by conflict." The strong human spirit and resolve of the residents gives life and light to the city. Keep that light shining Mountain Park. Keep it shining.

Mountain Park, we must continue to build upon the strong human spirit and continue building upon the tradition of love and growth. We made it through 2020 with our heads held high, love in our hearts, and a strong resolve to prosper and move forward and upward no matter what obstacles are placed in our way. Andy Rooney said, "Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it." Let's continue climbing upward and moving forward. I am proud to serve the city and happy to be an adopted member of the Mountain Park family as a member of the fire department. The families here are nothing short of amazing and I have received nothing but love and respect from any and all of the

residents that I have had the pleasure of encountering. We at MPVFR love each and every one of you.

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 and remember to do something today that your future self will thank you for.

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

TREE REMOVAL: SOME CODE COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES

Trees are an important part of The City of Mountain Park. Not only are numerous code sections dedicated to Tree Protection and Preservation, but the city has been designated a “Tree City USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation. It’s safe to say the city cares about its trees.

Section 105-202 of the Mountain Park Code lays it out:

“The city deems it necessary and desirable in the interest of public health, safety and welfare to enact an ordinance for the conservation, planting and replacement of trees and to prevent the indiscriminate removal of trees in the city without denying the reasonable use and enjoyment of real property. The importance of trees is recognized for their shade, cooling, noise and wind reduction, soil erosion prevention, oxygen production, dust filtration, carbon dioxide absorption, aesthetic and economic enhancement of all real property, and their contribution to the general wellbeing and quality of life of the citizens of the city. Consistent with the expressed purpose of this article, all persons shall make reasonable efforts to

preserve and retain existing, self-supporting trees. It is also the intent of this article that all applicable lots within the city maintain or obtain a minimum tree density.”

This time of year is a busy one for tree cutting. This year there has been even more activity than normal because of the heavy weather we have been experiencing.

A permit is usually required to cut any tree which has its roots in the ground with more than a 4” diameter.

A permit is NOT required to cut up a tree which has been uprooted and has fallen down. Nor is permit required to saw up branches that have snapped off a tree as the result of an act of nature: a storm, for example.

I hear from citizens that say, the tree was “diseased” so they “had to” cut it down. Not so. The tree ordinance does not provide an exception to the permit requirement for diseased trees.

Tree permits are easy to apply for in advance of when the tree is to be removed. Technically the permit is called an “approval letter” in the Mountain Park code. The forms can be submitted, and in many cases are applied for by the tree cutting company. It’s always helpful to provide pictures in support of your application. The city arborist will then assess whether a permit should be issued.

With a permit in hand, the tree can then be lawfully removed.

Philip W. Engle
Code Compliance Officer



NO BURNING ALLOWED IN THE CITY

Sec. 30-35. Outdoor burning ban.

- (a) The fire chief, upon the advice and consent of council, may issue an outdoor burning ban.

- (b) After an outdoor burning ban has been enacted, said ban shall continue until such time as a majority affirmative vote of the mayor and city council ends the ban.
- (c) The outdoor burning ban shall apply to all areas within the geographic limits of the city, whether located in Cherokee or Fulton counties.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions contained herein, any county issued or state issued outdoor burning ban affecting property within the geographic limits of the City of Mountain Park shall supersede the city imposed ban.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an outdoor cooking fire,



provided that the cooking fire is contained in a properly constructed fire pit, grill or fireplace and that the cooking fire is attended by a competent adult in possession of a readily accessible and adequate means of extinguishment. For purposes of this section a functioning garden hose of such length to encircle the cooking fire and located within 50 feet of the cooking fire shall be considered an adequate means of extinguishment.

YARD SALE GUIDELINES IN THE CITY

Sec. 117-27. Outside sales and yard sales.

- (a) Outside sales are not permitted on any private lot, except as provided in this section. Yard sales (which shall include garage sales and estate sales) shall be permitted at any home within the city not more than three times per calendar year. Each such sale shall be for no more than three consecutive days, and shall be limited to Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and to Mondays that fall on a legal holiday. All remaining property for sale must be removed from the exterior of the lot by 5:00 p.m. on the next following business day. Consignment sales are not permitted, nor is the marketing of goods owned by individuals other than the residents of the lot on which the sale is being conducted.
- (b) The persons conducting the yard sale shall apply for and obtain a permit from the city clerk prior to the sale being conducted, and shall prominently display such permit at the property where the sale is being conducted during

all sale hours. The issuance of the permit shall entitle the permit holder to post not more than five 18" x 24" directional signs on the right-of-ways of the city, provided that such signs shall not obstruct traffic flow or traffic visibility. The permit holder shall remove such signs by 5:00 p.m. on the next following business day after the expiration of the sale permit. The fee for such permit shall be set from time to time by the city council.

[(c)] The fee for the issuance of yard sale permits shall be \$10.00. Such permit fee shall include the temporary parking permit fee provided for by section



58-128.

April 3rd.....Dumpster
Day 7am-10am

- Must provide proof of residence in the City of Mountain Park.
- 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!

April 7th.....Siren
Testing @ 12pm

April 7th.....City
Court @ 7pm

April 21st.....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.

April 26th..... 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 garbage will be taken that is left outside of the trash containers. No yard debris is allowed. If your trash or recycle pick-up is missed please contact City Hall Thursday morning before 12pm by calling 770-993-4231 or emailing utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com.