



MONROE THIS WEEK

August 14, 2015



Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas
gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Kevin Hanford
Patsy Cudaback
Jeff Rasmussen
Jim Kamp
Ed Davis
Jason Gamble
Kurt Goering
councilmembers@monroewa.gov

City Hall

806 West Main Street
Monroe, WA 98272
Phone: 360.794.7400
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

Appointment Openings

Ethics Board
Planning Commission
Salary Commission

Job Openings

Accountant
Customer Service Specialist
Entry Level Police Officer
Experienced Police Officer
(Lateral)

Events this Week

- 8/14** *Free MOVIES under the Moon, Maleficent, Lk Tye Park, 8PM*
- 8/18** *City Council Meeting City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM*
- 8/19** *Farm to Table Farmer's Market, Traveler's Park 3-7PM*
- 8/20** *Free MUSIC in the Park, Heart By Heart, Lk Tye Park, 6:30PM*
- 8/21** *Free MOVIES under the Moon, Guardians of the Galaxy, Lk Tye Park, 8PM*
- 8/22** *Gigantic Century Bike Ride, start: Woods Creek Rd, 7:30AM-4:00PM*
- 8/22** *Main Street Plaza Ribbon Cutting, NE Corner Main/Lewis 11AM*

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, "Monroe This Week." If you have any suggestions or questions regarding "Monroe This Week" or the stories below, please contact me at GThomas@MonroeWa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

Be In The Know!

Main Street Plaza Celebration

PLEASE JOIN US to celebrate Monroe's Main Street Plaza improvements on August 22nd at 11 a.m., northeast corner of Main Street and Lewis Street. THANK YOU to our Councilmembers, the Washington State Department of Ecology, Monroe's downtown business owners, the Chamber of Commerce, City Staff, Republic Services, SRV Construction, and Road Construction NW!

Monroe Main Street Program

The Monroe Monitor published an article about the State of Washington's Main Street Program in its August 4th Edition. On August 11th, about eight interested people met to discuss establishing this program in downtown Monroe. Through the Main Street Program, a non-profit organization can plan, promote, and assist with securing funds for downtown revitalization, programs, and events. I am excited about this downtown, grassroots organization. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me at gthomas@monroewa.gov; I will be happy to get you in touch with the organizers.

Fun Family Events!

FREE! Music in the Park & Movies Under the Moon

For the month of August, Music in the Park moves from Fridays to Thursdays, and Movies Under the Moon occurs on Fridays. Thank you to our event sponsors including the Monroe Chamber of Commerce for these weekly, free, events at Lake Tye Park. For more information, check out www.choosemonroe.com.

**City of Monroe
Year to Date Comparisons**

The following are year to date comparisons of a few

Sales Tax Revenues
'14 to 7/31/14: \$2,038,247
'15 to 7/31/15: \$2,255,167
UP \$216,890 or 10.64%

Real Estate Excise Tax
'14 to 7/31/14: \$226,021
'15 to 7/31/15: \$345,565
UP \$119,544 or 52.89%

Lodging Tax Revenues
'14 to 7/31/14: \$28,126
'15 to 7/31/15: \$29,285
UP \$1,159 or 4.12%

Business License Fees
'14 to 7/31/14: \$28,515
'15 to 7/31/15: \$28,414
UP \$101 or 0.35%

Building Permit Revenues
'14 to 7/31/14: \$116,819
'15 to 7/31/15: \$205,841
UP \$89,022 or 76.20%

Planning Fee Revenues
'14 to 7/31/14: \$17,140
'15 to 7/31/15: \$80,697
UP \$63,557 or 370.81%

New House Permits
'14 to 7/31/14: 8
'15 to 7/31/15: 39
UP 31 units or 387%

Multi-Family Permits (# units)
'14 to 7/31/14: 44 units
'15 to 7/31/15: 4 units
DOWN 40 units or -91%

Building Division Inspections
'14 to 7/31/14: 922
'15 to 7/31/15: 1,043
UP 121 or 13.1%

City Council Updates!

Utility Rates being Discussed at Council

On Tuesday, July 28th, the Monroe City Council was presented with the proposed utility rates for 2016. The proposed rates not only look at the rates necessary to support the operations of the utilities, but also look at how the rate structure is applied to different customer classes. Under the current proposal a single family account with average water usage would see a four percent increase in their City utility bill. The City Council will be discussing the proposed utility rates further at their August 18th Meeting.

Fireworks

City staff will present information on Monroe's fireworks code at the August 18th Council meeting. Following the presentation, there will be time for Council to discuss the code. If you have comments to share, you may email me at: gthomas@monroewa.gov, and Council at Councilmembers@monroewa.gov.

Project Updates!

Tjerne Place SE Extension

The project is moving along nicely. The contractor has cleared most of the project work zone in advance of the roadway excavation. The bulk of the excavation and haul off will be occurring during evening/nighttime hours to lessen traffic impacts during the busy commute hours. The contractor began the haul off yesterday and will continue to with this work element until the wet weather season sets in. Looking forward to next week, roadway excavation will be ongoing and retaining wall construction will begin along the frontage with Emerald City Athletic Club.

Main Street Plaza Phase II

The contractor will finish the paving this week and focus on miscellaneous cleanup efforts as they get closer to finishing up the project.