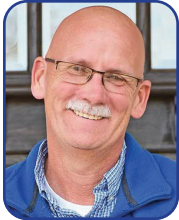




Love Your City!

FROM THE CITY OF BRYANT ARKANSAS

210 SW 3RD STREET | BRYANT, AR 72022 | PHONE: 501-943-0999 | CITYOFBRYANT.COM



Mayor's Corner MAY 2020

As I am writing this message, the Governor has just started to allow for elective medical procedures to begin again. As you read this, my hope is that we have seen marked improvements and that the Governor has lessened or removed the restrictions that he has placed during this pandemic. Only time will tell.

I want to take a moment and say thank you to everyone who has followed the Governors and the Center for Disease Control's social distancing guidelines. Without you, this pandemic could be much worse.

Once the decisions have been made to lessen the restrictions, I encourage everyone to continue following several of the guidelines that were put into place during this trying time. The most important of those being if you are sick take the necessary precautions to protect others. We have a good

portion of our community that is at a higher risk when it comes to sickness, and it is for their protection when we do this.

So If you are sick, remember to wash your hands frequently, cover your cough, and stay home if at all possible. If you cannot stay home, take precautions, so you do not potentially infect others with whatever illness you have. Bryant has always been a city with strong family ties and an even stronger community spirit. Continue to be vigilant, continue to support one another, and as always continue being Bryant Strong.

Thank you,

Mayor Allen E. Scott

CHIEF'S CORNER



Have you ever wondered why sometimes you see a fire truck parked at a business or store with no obvious emergency going on? There actually are two important things going on at the same time. The firefighters are there making sure that businesses and stores are following the Arkansas State Fire Prevention Code. We are mandated to perform these inspections each year. This ensures the employees and the general public are as safe as possible. We want everyone to go home when the store closes the door and there to be a door left to open the next day! We work with businesses to point out opportunities to be safer. We are in this together for one common goal.

While we are there, we are actually doing something else of major importance. The firefighters are doing a Pre-Plan of the building. That is where we do such things as draw out the floorplan, locate utility locations/shutoffs, gather contact info, identify any special hazards, and look at building construction type, etc. By doing this, if we were to have to respond to the location for an emergency in the middle of the night and possibly full of smoke and fire, we know our way around and it is not the first time we have been there!

Now you Know! Until next time...Stay Safe

J.P. Jordan

Bryant Fire Chief

312 Roya Lane | Bryant, AR 72022 | Phone: 501-943-0487

From the Director's Chair

Dear Citizens,

The past 45 days has brought many changes and challenges to the city. I wanted to reach out to you with an update on how your city finance department is taking up those challenges, continuing to serve the citizens of Bryant, and planning for the future.

My department is still answering phone calls, email, and coming into the office in shifts to complete essential services while keeping our staff and community's wellness in mind. I encourage all citizens to visit the website and familiarize themselves with the financial reports of the city and to ask any questions they might have.

There is nothing like an emergency, to see where updates and changes should be made to a plan. The Finance Department has taken advantage of these troubling times to work on various parts of our Disaster Recovery Plan (to be used in case of Fires, Tornadoes, Flooding, Pandemics, etc.). We are getting as many items as possible set up to be processed multiple ways by multiple people from different locations securely. We are adapting and expanding our skill sets to be more flexible. That is one good thing to come out of implementing new strategies to function during this pandemic.

There is no doubt about the impact that this situation has had on our businesses, that we will also see an impact on our city budget.

Because of the normal three month turn around time from tax collection to tax recording by the city, we will not begin to know how the extent of that affects our sales tax until around June. (ex: June's Sales tax recording will be those collected in April). At that time we will know more facts and will be able to work with the Bryant City Council and City Department Heads to adjust our plan accordingly. I am hopeful that our reserves and cost-saving measures already in place, will be enough to handle any shortfalls.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns, I would be happy to discuss any details with you. My desk phone 501-943-0318 rolls to my city cell phone and I am constantly checking my email. Thank you for your constant support and I look forward to the governor's input on releasing restrictions and opening the state, and Bryant back up for business.

Sincerely,

Joy Black

Bryant School District

The COVID-19 crisis has caused so many of our normal traditions and routines to be put on hold. One of the most important to our seniors is graduation, which has not escaped the fallout from this pandemic. At the time of this writing, there are three plans for graduation, depending on the guidance from the Department of Health. Plan A is to hold graduation at Barton Coliseum on Friday, July 10, if guidance allows for large groups to gather at that time. Plan B is to host multiple graduation ceremonies on Saturday, July 11, dividing students by alphabet, in the new Hornet Arena. This plan would be implemented if crowds of 250 or less can be in attendance. Plan B would also require a very limited number of tickets for guests for each graduate. Plan C would be a virtual graduation on Friday, July 10, if the guidance does not allow for large groups. A final decision will be made closer to time.

While so much remains unknown, we are planning to welcome our youngest students to the Hornet family in August. For the first time, the district is offering online registration for our Pre-K and kindergarten programs. Elementary students are assigned to one of eight schools (kindergarten-5th grade) based on home address. Students must be five years of age on or before August 1 to be eligible to attend kindergarten.

Our Pre-K program, housed at Bryant Elementary, is through ABCSS (Arkansas Better Chance for School Success) and CCDF (Child Care and Development Fund). Students must be 4 years of age by August 1 and parents must meet eligibility guidelines. Tuition spots for families who do not meet the income and special circumstance requirements of the ABC and CCDF programs may also be available.

We encourage you to visit bryantschools.org for online registration information. It's important for our community to know that we are available to support students and families. We're here to ensure students are able to continue their education, whether online or in a classroom.

I hope we can all look forward to welcoming both our new and returning students back to school in August.

Dr. Karen Walters
Superintendent

Bryant Animal Control

Looking to Adopt a Pet from the Bryant Animal Shelter?

Visit our Facebook Page:

[facebook.com/BryantAnimalShelter](https://www.facebook.com/BryantAnimalShelter) or www.bryant.petfinder.com to see the pets currently for adoption (it changes all the time, so check back often.) Then, contact the shelter to make an appointment to meet the animal you are interested in adopting!

Saturday, May 30th (10pm-2pm)
Bryant Animal Shelter Barking Lot Yard Sale!

Tricia Power
Director, Bryant Animal Control & Adoption Center



Our First Responders Need Your First Response



"Tax revenues that impact your city streets, infrastructure, and local services are allocated to us using Census data. Bryant has been one of the fastest-growing cities in the state for over a decade, and that growth has created great demand for our existing services. This is why it's critical that we

have an understanding of how our population has grown and it is imperative that Bryant residents be counted in the Census."

Mark Grimmatt, Bryant Public Works Director



"Having an accurate and updated population number is extremely important to us at the Fire Department. Many times Federal funding in our community for hospitals, fire departments, school lunch programs, street improvements, etc, are tied to population. Our ability to qualify for many

Grants are tied to the amount of people we provide services for. Please stand up and be counted. Everyone will benefit."

Chief JP Jordan, Bryant Fire Department



"Accurate census data is imperative for many city services. Law enforcement agencies depend on accurate population numbers to determine how many officers are needed to properly service their respective jurisdictions."

Chief Carl Minden,
Bryant Police Department



Drinking Water Quality Report CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2019

Each year, the Arkansas Department of Health prepares Annual Drinking Water Reports for the public water providers. Bryant's 2019 Annual Drinking Water Report is now available online. Your Annual Drinking Water Report is available at: www.healthy.arkansas.gov/eng/ccr/486.pdf

Copies are available upon request from our office.