Upcoming Meetings

To see a complete list of meetings go to www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings

City Council
8.5.19..............................7:00 pm
Government Operations Committee
8.5.19..............................7:05 pm

Plan Commission
8.6.19..............................7:00 pm
Historic Preservation Commission
8.7.19..............................7:00 pm
Natural Resources Commission
8.8.19..............................7:00 pm
Housing Commission
8.8.19..............................7:00 pm
Planning & Development Committee
8.12.19............................7:00 pm
Liquor Control Commission
8.19.19............................4:30 pm
City Council
8.19.19............................7:00 pm
Government Operations Committee
8.19.19............................7:05 pm
Plan Commission
8.20.19............................7:00 pm
Historic Preservation Commission
8.21.19............................7:00 pm
Government Services Committee
8.26.19............................7:00 pm

Phony Facebook Page is Commenting as the City

There is a fake Facebook page that has been commenting as the City of St. Charles on Facebook. Please be aware if you see any off-color comments, it is not the City making those statements. Two versions of the page have been shut down. But it’s possible another attempt will be made to bring it back in yet another form, modified just enough to fool Facebook.

How Can You Tell the Real City Page from the Fake Page?

1. The official City of St. Charles page is verified by Facebook and displays the check mark after our page name:

2. And if you look real closely, you will notice a phony page probably has a subtle misspelling in the name, maybe a missing period after “St.” or a missing “L” in Illinois.

How Can Someone Do This?

By categorizing this page as a “Parody Page/Just for Fun,” it gives the page owner more leeway in the free speech territory. (Similar to people/topics covered by late night talk shows and in Saturday Night Live skits.)

What is the City’s Stance on This?

We fully support free speech. But we don’t support someone knowingly misrepresenting themselves as an official government organization and purposely misleading the public. When a Facebook page has a name that is so close to ours, it confuses people into thinking it is the City of St. Charles.

What is the City Doing about This?

We continue to monitor social media closely and report any fake pages posing as the City to Facebook. We appreciate the messages and reports we have received from other social media users alerting us to unusual posts. It has helped us manage the situation. Your continued assistance in helping us stop this spread of misinformation is greatly appreciated.

The Official City of St. Charles Facebook Page

Here is a link to the official Facebook page for the City of St. Charles.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Garhan, Communications Division Manager at lgarhan@stcharlesil.gov or 630.443.3744. Thank you.
This month, the mayor will attempt to address several “800 pound elephants in the room.” All are in the form of a question.

1. **When is Wahlburgers opening?** While I cannot be date specific, I will tell you that the footings are in the ground and construction has started on Wahlburgers and the adjacent Starbucks. A third business has yet to be named. If you are by the site, please note that a local contractor is doing the work.

2. **What is happening at the Charlestowne Mall?** The owners of the property, the Krausz Corporation, have dialogued with quite a few potential developers. The City, knowing the importance of this parcel of land at our East gate, has discussed incentivizations with the owner. Currently, dialogue is underway with yet another potential developer. City elected officials, as well as staff, understand the need for a final plan to move forward and we have clearly heard the frustrations of the constituency. We continue to dialogue, remain patient and professional, but clearly understand the importance of this project getting off the ground.

3. **Coming soon, Audi.** Yes, the signs have been posted for quite a while and the developer has restated that the owner of the property is committed to bringing Audi to St. Charles. Having Audi among the inventory of St. Charles automobile choices is certainly positive and we again patiently wait for the project to move forward.

Turning to schools, the opening bell is just around the corner (early start this year). That suggests some gentle reminders. Please, please be cognizant of children who are walking to school particularly at crosswalks. Children do cross at some of our large thoroughfares. In addition, when that red stop sign flashes and a school bus stops, be sure to stop as well and continue only when it is safe to do so.

Congratulations to the school district on the “redo” of Thompson Middle School. I look forward to the open house in August.

Let’s bring summer to a close in a safe, enjoyable fashion. For those still planning a quick vacation before Labor Day, have an enjoyable experience.

Shop local whenever you can; see you around town.

Ray Rogina
Mayor

**BUSINESS REPORT**

The City Welcomes these Business!

And check out more than 2,000 businesses listed on our website at [www.stcharlesil.gov/business/listings](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/business/listings) to see all you can choose from right here in St. Charles. Remember to *Think St. Charles* when you shop!

**EAST GATEWAY**

**Tips 2 Toe Nail Salon**  
Nail Salon  
502 S. Kirk Rd.  
630-797-5050

**Patrick McCann, Inc.**  
(McCann Window & Door)  
Window & Door Dealer  
3820 Ohio Ave., #4  
331-248-0455
St. Charles Police are Proud Supporters of Special Olympics Illinois

The St. Charles Police Department holds several events throughout the year to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics Illinois. Officer Jennifer Larsen organizes the department’s participation in these events, which have raised $10,264.72 so far this year.

St. Charles Police Finish First in Race for Charity

St. Charles Police Officer Mike Redmann won his heat at the Five-O at the Dirty-O fundraiser at the Dirt Oval at Route 66 Raceway in Joliet July 20. Through sponsorships and donations, the event raised $2,400 for Special Olympics Illinois. Thank you to all who donated and to the following sponsors:

- Flagship on the Fox high-end sports bar, 100 S. Riverside Ave., St. Charles
- Chicago Coding marking, coding and labeling technologies, 394 38th Ave., St. Charles
- Aaron Kramer of Edward Jones investments, 2580 US-30 Suite A2, Oswego
- Chad’s Towing & Recovery, Inc., 219 N. 7th St., St. Charles

Upcoming Events

Portillo’s for Good Fundraiser
August 22, 2019
5-8:30 p.m.
Portillo’s, 3895 E. Main St., St. Charles

Bring in the flyer or show it on your smartphone and 20% of the proceeds will benefit Special Olympics Illinois.

ButterBurgers & Badges is Back
August 29, 2019
4 – 8 p.m.
Culvers, 111 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles

St. Charles Police officers will be working for tips Aug. 29. They will be serving diners inside and manning the drive thru, along with Special Olympics athletes, for the ButterBurgers and Badges fundraiser benefiting Special Olympics Illinois. In addition, Culver’s will donate $1 for every purchase of any size Concrete Mixer to Special Olympics. More information is on the Special Olympics Illinois website www.soill.org/event/butterburgers-and-badges.

Students Head Back to School Soon

Drive with Extra Caution

St. Charles students will be back in school Aug. 14 and we want to remind all drivers to proceed with extra caution. Watch out for children who will be out walking or riding to school, as well as standing at bus stops, especially during morning rush hour. Please keep them in mind and for their safety, never pass a stopped school bus when its lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended. Also remember that it is always illegal to text while driving or talk on a handheld cell phone.
The Latest Issue of Police Beat is Out

The Police Department Crime Prevention newsletter is out. It offers helpful crime prevention tips, public safety information and police news. Read it [online](mailto:jburden@stcharlesil.gov). For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Jim Burden at jburden@stcharlesil.gov.

No Solicitors Invited? No Problem!

We have received some complaints about solicitors recently. If you have any questions or complaints about a solicitor at your home, call 911 and an officer will be dispatched.

**Solicitor Requirements**

Both charitable and commercial solicitors must register with the City before they can go door-to-door. In addition, commercial solicitors must display a photo identification card issued by the Police Department that lists the business name, solicitor’s name, and date the permit expires; complete a fingerprint background check; and register each person who will be soliciting within city limits.

**General Solicitor Information**

- Solicitors are required to recognize when residents prefer no solicitors. “No Solicitors Invited” cards are available at the Police Department for display on the front door.
- Soliciting may only be performed between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. No soliciting is allowed on Sundays or state and federal holidays.
- A commercial solicitor must prominently display the City-issued ID card.
- Any solicitor is required to depart immediately at the resident’s request. Refusal to do so is grounds for citation or arrest. Please call 911 if a solicitor refuses to leave after you tell them to.

For more information, contact the Police Department at [police@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:police@stcharlesil.gov) or 630.377.4435.

PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

**Brush Collection Schedule**

**Reminders:**

- Put brush out before 7 a.m. on Monday of the scheduled pick up week.
- Cut ends facing the street, branches must be at least 3 feet in length and less than 12 inches in diameter. Do not tie bundles of brush with rope or wire and do not pile higher than 4 feet.
- Branches must be put on the parkway, in front of your house or along the frontage where refuse/recycling is collected.
- Please make every attempt not to park in front of the piles; crews will be unable to pick up the brush.
- For more information visit the City’s website at [www.stcharlesil.gov](http://www.stcharlesil.gov)

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<th>EAST SIDE OF RIVER</th>
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<td>August 19</td>
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City LED Streetlight Retrofits Net $12,000 in Energy Savings its First Year

Program Now in its Second Year

Last year, the City of St. Charles launched a program to replace streetlights with more energy-efficient LED lights and completed more than 300 retrofits in various areas of the City. The program netted the City an estimated $12,000 in energy savings last year. The City is continuing the program this year and expects to replace approximately another 400 streetlights.

Following the success of the program last year, the St. Charles Electric Utility applied for an Energy Efficiency Grant from the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA), the City’s wholesale power supplier. IMEA awarded the City $33,762, which has allowed the program to expand for this year. The City owns and maintains more than 3,300 streetlights throughout the City. Retrofits are expected to continue over the coming years.

St. Charles Electric Services Manager Thomas Bruhl stresses the value of the LED replacement program, “Our streetlight LED retrofit program supports the City’s goals in a number of ways. First, the LED fixtures provide better visibility for pedestrians and motorists. The new lights also fulfill our sustainability mission as they typically use just 40% of the energy that the old high-pressure sodium lights consume. Also, because the LED lights have a longer lifespan, we will realize reduced maintenance costs.”

Benefits of LED Streetlight Replacements:

• Consistent quality and evenly distributed light allows a clearer view of the road and pedestrians in or near the roadway
• 10-year lifetime warranty
• Approximately 50% lower energy costs decrease in annual expenses for streetlight maintenance

Permits Needed for Work in Floodplain

All development within the 100-year floodplain (not just construction of buildings, but filling, excavation, fences, etc.) requires a permit. Applications must be made prior to doing any work in a floodplain. For more information or to report illegal development activities, contact the Public Works Engineering Division at 630-377-4486.

Water Conservation is Year-Round

Please be aware of sprinkling time limits:

• Even-numbered addresses may sprinkle on even-numbered days, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m., and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
• Odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle on odd-numbered days, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Note: Lawn sprinkling is not allowed at any address within the City on any day of the week between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., or between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

We ask that all residents, businesses and industrial water users help us achieve our goals. If you have any questions, please contact Public Works at 630.377.4405 or check the city’s website www.stcharlesil.gov.
Save $50 on the
Energy-Saving Nest Smart Thermostat

The Nest smart thermostat can help you save money on energy; the City can help you save money on the Nest thermostat. Thanks to grant funding from our electricity supplier, the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, the City is offering a $50 rebate for residential utility customers when they buy and install a Nest smart thermostat.

What is the Nest?

It’s a Wi-Fi-connected thermostat that learns the daily pattern of your air conditioning or heat settings. It also lets you manage those settings from a computer or smart phone. It will show you how much energy you use, and how to use less. Visit the Nest website https://nest.com/thermostat/meet-nest-thermostat/ to learn more.

Download the rebate application from our website. Applications can be mailed or emailed to Lisa Vielbig at lvielbig@stcharlesil.gov. For more information about the rebate program, contact Lisa at 630.377.4407.

What Ward Am I In?

The City website contains a quick and easy way for you to find out what ward you are in and to contact your Aldermen. Visit the City Council section of our website, under the “Government” tab at the top of the page. There, under Ward Maps is a link to an interactive map of the City’s five wards. The map allows you to search by street or address and provides Aldermen’s contact information.
How to Get in Touch with the City After Hours

There are many ways to get in touch with the City if you have an issue after hours.

**Police or Fire** – Dial 911

**Public Works Emergency** – 630.377.4405
- Water issue
- Sanitary sewer issue
- Streets concern
- Parkway tree issue

**Report an Electric Outage 24/7** – 866.444.0016

**Streetlight Out** – [www.stcharlesil.gov/report-it](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/report-it)

**Pay Your Utility Bill**
- Online at [www.stcharlesil.gov/utility-billing](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/utility-billing)
- Over the Phone 24/7 at (844) 443-9794

**Report a Non-Emergency Issue anytime to:**
- [https://www.stcharlesil.gov/connect](https://www.stcharlesil.gov/connect) – These requests handled during regular business hours.
- [https://www.stcharlesil.gov/contact](https://www.stcharlesil.gov/contact) – These requests handled during regular business hours.

Helping Move Important Community Projects Forward

**The St. Charles Initiative Launches**

The St. Charles Initiative is a new partnership between the City of St. Charles and the [Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley](http://www.communityfoundationfoxrivervalley.org) formed to support public projects in St. Charles. This public-private partnership provides funding through donations and endowments, as an alternative to tax-based financing sources.

Led by an independent advisory committee of St. Charles community leaders and residents, the St. Charles Initiative offers a new approach to help fund capital projects, programs and other improvements.

**Proposed Programs and Projects**

The St. Charles Initiative connects donors to projects aimed at enhancing the quality of life in St. Charles. You can find a project that fits your passion. All donations stay local.

- **1st Street East Plaza** – This brick-paved pedestrian plaza will sit across 1st Street from the existing plaza. It will offer additional community gathering space and engaging public art. The East Plaza also will be accessible from the bi-level riverwalk along the west bank of the Fox River.
- **America in Bloom – St. Charles** – This is a collaborative community effort to improve St. Charles through landscaping, environmental, and heritage preservation initiatives. The organization enters St. Charles in the America in Bloom national program each year. St. Charles took home top honors twice, winning its population category in 2017 and 2018.
- **Great Western Trail Extension** - This project supports the acquisition of the Union Pacific Railroad property and construction of a bike/pedestrian trail to connect to the Great Western Trail.
- **General Donation** – To be applied to projects or programs as identified by the St. Charles Initiative.

For more information, visit the [St. Charles Initiative website](http://www.stcharlesinitiative.org).

Parking Reminder

When parking your vehicle in St. Charles, please keep in mind citywide ordinances. There is a 24-hour time limit to park on any street in the City of St. Charles. This parking time limit was initiated to support the premise that City streets are for the movement of vehicles, not the storage of them. If a vehicle is to be parked longer than 24 hours, it must be parked on the owner’s property—and only on driveways and other solid surface areas. Parking vehicles on front yards and parkways is prohibited. For more parking information, see [www.stcharlesil.gov/transportation-parking/parking-info](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/transportation-parking/parking-info).
Helping Monarch Butterflies

Submitted by the Natural Resource Commission

We’ve all been there. Find a monarch caterpillar, collect it in a jar, raise it on milkweed and then…well, then the wait begins. One week, two weeks we spend, waiting patiently for the butterfly to emerge and take flight. But then, oh! Let the joy commence!

Rearing a butterfly in captivity enables people to observe the amazing transformation from caterpillar to winged adult, a phenomenon that deserves a place in the future of monarch education and research efforts. However, we need to approach it thoughtfully and responsibly. We have to make sure that our interest in rearing monarchs does not harm the butterfly’s populations, which are already decreasing.

A recent study has found that captive rearing actually might be detrimental to the monarch populations. Three basic reasons: First, the “survival of the fittest” is toyed with when the life cycle is completed without natural predators. Second, the more monarchs that survive mean a larger demand on the resources available to them. And third, life in captivity, however brief, may affect the monarchs’ ability to migrate.

What does this mean for the captive rearing practice? It has been suggested that a person/family should not rear more than 10 monarchs per year. You should collect immature monarchs locally; never buy or ship monarchs. Clean the cages, supply fresh milkweed daily, keep cages out of direct sunlight and release them where they were collected.

What else can we do to help the monarch? Xerces Society and the Monarch Joint Venture recommend that we take action to protect its natural habitat. The easiest thing we can do is to plant native milkweed for the caterpillars to feed on as well as native flowers that supply the needed nectar for the adults. While adding more food sources, we should also be mindful of the fertilizers and pesticides we use outdoors as many have the unintended consequence of harming helpful insects, including monarchs.

Working together, we can help preserve the iconic monarch not just for our own enjoyment, but also for generations to come.

City Interns Tell All:
What it’s Like Interning at the City

Students will be returning to school soon and we thought it was a good time to hear from our interns about their experiences working for the City. We offer both undergraduate and graduate internships in a variety of departments. We’re proud to mentor next gen workers in their fields: Communications, Human Resources, Law Enforcement, and Public Works/Civil engineering. Hear from our interns in the latest post on our Inside St. Charles blog.
Celebrating 185 Years: A Back-to-School History Lesson

School children scuffles near the Fox River, a high school is built, and the dedication of two sisters to their work are all a part of the rich history of education in the City of St. Charles.

West Side and East Side Schools

• The West Side Public School in St. Charles was built in 1854 for $6,000.
• The school was built at the corner of Illinois Street and 5th Street, just north of where the Evan Shelby School building is located today.

• St. Charles’ second public school, the East Side School, was built in 1856 for $15,000. By some accounts, it was considered the most expensive school building in Kane County.
• The school was built due to numerous complaints from east side parents who did not like that the town’s public school was built on the west side. They found it unfair that their children had to cross the river and walk up hill in order to attend classes.
• When the building burned down in the late 1920s, it was replaced with Lincoln Elementary School.

The Charles Haines School/St. Charles High School

• After a rivalry grew between the East Side and West Side students, including physical confrontations near the Fox River, residents agreed that a new school needed to be built that would combine the older children from both sides of town.
• Resident and philanthropist Charles Haines helped make this possible by donating land and money. The plan worked, and peace was restored in the town.
• The Charles Haines School, built in 1897, was the first high school in St. Charles. Junior high classes were offered on one floor and high school classes were offered on another.
• This school was built on 7th Ave. and Main Street, where the First State Bank, Post Office and Lundeen’s, DRM European Cafe are located today.
• Overcrowding at the school became a problem in the 1920s. To help, a new high school (Community High/Thompson School) was built in 1926. The Haines School then became a junior high school only.
• The Haines School had to be taken down in the late 1950s, as it was deemed unsafe for students.
• Then, Haines Middle School was built in the late 1950s.

Munhall School

• Pictured are Helen Munhall and Mae Munhall Driscoll, the namesake sisters of the Munhall School. The school was named after them to honor their years of service in the 1950s. Both were important educators in the history of St. Charles.

Photos and information courtesy of the St. Charles History Museum
Helicopter Ball Drop & More!
A 50/50 Helicopter Ball Drop is part of the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce’s 44th Annual Golf Outing August 4. The winner could get up to $10,000 and need not be present to win. Call the Chamber at 630.584.8384 or click here for more info.

Drop Off Unused Medications
August 3, 2019 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Mooseheart Fieldhouse, S. Lincolnway Street
Mooseheart, Ill.

The Kane County Safety Coalition & local law enforcement agencies are sponsoring a Medication Take-Back Program. Kane County area residents can bring old, unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications to be properly disposed of for free.

No liquids or syringes accepted.
Click here for a complete list of what will or will not be accepted and general collection instructions.

Calling All Artists & Poets
The St. Charles Arts Council is now welcoming submissions of artwork for our ArtsFest Pop-Up Gallery and invites local poets to submit St. Charles-themed poems to the 2nd Annual ArtsFest Poetry Crawl. Click for submission details.

Volunteers Wanted for America in Bloom
Oct. 3-5, 300 visitors from around the country will gather at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles for the America in Bloom Symposium and Awards Program. Local group America in Bloom - St. Charles is looking for volunteers to help. Interested volunteers register at VolunteerMatch www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp3167212.jsp.

City of St. Charles Directory

Main Line: 630.377.4400

- Building & Code Enforcement .................. 630.377.4406
- City Administrator Mark Koenen ............. 630.377.4422
- Community & Economic Development ....... 630.377.4443
- Fire Department .................................. 630.377.4458
- Mayor Raymond P. Rogina .................... 630.377.4444
- Police Department ............................... 630.377.4435
- Public Works: Electric/Water/Sewer/Street .. 630.377.4405
- Utility Billing ...................................... 630.377.4426

Refuse Pickup Information ....................... 630.581.8650
TDD ................................................. 800.526.0844
JULIE ............................................... 800.892.0123

24-Hour Hotlines:
- Utility Payment Line ............................ 844-443.9794
- Electric Outage Hotline ....................... 866.444.0016
- Events Hotline .................................. 630.443.3959

The Den is produced by The City of St. Charles, 2 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL 60174
Questions? Please contact Lisa Garhan, Editor at lgarhan@stcharlesil.gov 630.443.3744