



KEISER NEWS

2023

"Small town, big heart - that's Keiser!"

May newsletter

Vol 1

FROM THE MAYOR

I am excited to announce the implementation of this monthly newsletter that will keep you informed on the latest happenings in our city. This newsletter will provide a detailed overview of the progress we are making towards our goals, highlight upcoming events, and share information on initiatives that are currently underway.

We recognize the importance of communication with our citizens, which is why we have also launched a new Facebook page and city website that will serve as a platform for us to share important updates and information as needed. These tools will allow us to better connect with our community and ensure that everyone is aware of what is happening in the city.

We are committed to keeping you informed and engaged, and we believe that this newsletter, in addition to our Facebook page, will provide us with the necessary tools to do so. We encourage you to read our newsletter and follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest news and events.

If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you monthly provide Leslie at City Hall with your email address.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more with you in the coming months.

CHIEF OF POLICE

I'm Glen Austin, Keiser's Chief of Police since 2018 and the city's code enforcement officer. With a 27-year law enforcement career, I've served in various roles and ranks. I possess Basic and General Certifications from the Arkansas Commission of Police Standards and Training, along with 582 hours of basic police training.

My wife, Shallia, and I have nine children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. As a family man, I understand the importance of a safe community. My personal motto aligns with the Policeman's Anthem: "to protect and to serve." I aim to address the drug issue and encourage citizens to watch out for each other.

Being a police officer is a commitment, not just a job. We strive to keep Keiser safe and clean, but we need citizens' help. Together, we can achieve anything.

City Council meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. All welcome.

Follow us on Facebook and at our website www.cityofkeiser.com

Water bills due the 15th of each month. Late charges will be applied on the 16th and shutoff on the 27th unless the 27th is a Friday.

Don't forget to pick up your spay/neuter voucher at City Hall for your pets.

Remember the city has a leash law. If you are walking your dog in the city limits they MUST be on a leash. No exceptions.

We are working to improve our city. In the past year we have submitted 23 grants. Infrastructure, park, police & fire department

The city is annexing 25 acres on the west side of town with plans of a new subdivision once our infrastructure is updated.

Lets make our community look better by trimming our hedges, cutting our lawns. Cleaning up debris from our property.

City Hall—870-526-2300

Hours 8:00am to 5:00pm M-F

Closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch

IT'S IN THE BANK By Peggy Sellars City of Keiser Treasurer

In the coming months, I plan to answer questions about the city's finances such as: "Where does our money come from to pay the city's bills?"; "What kind of bills does the city have?", and "What checks and balances are in place to ensure our money is spent wisely?"

I thought a good topic to start with would be "How the financial structure of our city is set up."

The City of Keiser actually has ten bank accounts. Each account serves a different purpose. Our General Fund account can be used for any general expenses of the city.

The city's Water Department has two (2) bank accounts, Revenue and Operations. These accounts can only be used for expenses related to water and sewer.

In relation to our Water Department, we have a Meter Deposit account. The money in this account does not belong to the City. It belongs to the citizens of the City. These deposits are returned to the citizens, minus any outstanding water bills, should the citizen move from the City.

We have a bank account called Debt Reserve. The only way this money will ever be used is if the Water Department's finances become depleted. If that should ever occur, the Debt Reserve would be used to make payments on our well loan and our water line loan with the USDA. So far, this has never happened, and I do not foresee it ever happening.

The City of Keiser has a two-percent city sales tax. One-percent of that tax goes into a bank account called One-Cent Water. The other one-percent goes into an account called One-Cent Sewer

The State of Arkansas requires that we have a separate bank account for our street revenue and expenses.

The State mandates that our volunteer fire department have its own bank account called Act 833 Funds.

In 2022, the City of Keiser received an ARPA Grant. Mayor Creecy and I felt this money should be kept separate from our General Fund, so in 2022 we opened an ARPA bank account.

I hope this gives you a clearer understanding of how our city's finances are set up. Next month, I hope to address the topic "Paying the Bills".

NEAL BROWN DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WATER TREATMENT & WASTEWATER OPERATOR

As the City of Keiser's multifaceted Public Works Director for over six years, I've also served as the water and wastewater operator. I manage all city-owned property and oversee one full-time and four part-time employees. My academic background includes a Bachelor of Science in chemistry and biology from Southeast State University and an associate degree in Real Estate Law. I hold Water Distribution Level 1, Water Treatment Level 2, and Wastewater Level 1 licenses, qualifying me in all aspects of the city's water production.

My commitment to providing Keiser's citizens with clean, healthy water has been recognized by the Arkansas Department of Health. My future goals include pursuing grants to finance water tank maintenance and filtration system upgrades.

LESLIE HERNANDEZ WATER/CITY HALL COORDINATOR

I have been the Water/City Hall Coordinator for approx. 7 ½ months.

I graduated from Rice College In Memphis, TN as a Medical Secretary. Most of my adult work career has been spent in various positions in Long Term/Skilled Nursing Care. Unit Secretary, Staffing Coordinator, Medical Records Clerk, Medical Records Director, Admissions Director and Business Office Manager.

I have four children, three boys and 1 girl and four grand children three boys and one girl. As any

Mother/Grandmother I am very proud of all of them.

I continue to enjoy serving and getting to know the residents of Keiser and look forward to the future growth of our town.

Contact Us

City Hall—870-526-2300 Email—cityofkeiser@gmail.com Mayor—rjc.cityofkeiser@gmail.com