

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER



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Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

The bluebirds successfully fledged while we were on vacation (I hope). Congratulations to all graduates from Kindergarten to college. Dates in June are; D-Day the 6th; Women Veterans Day the 12th; US Army Birthday the 14th; Flag Day the 14th; Father's Day the 15th; National American Bald Eagle Day the 20th; First day of summer the 20th; National American Flag Week the 8-14th; National Men's Health Awareness Month and Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. Happy summer everyone.

NOTE: This will be a short issue because of vacation.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Infinite Hitting Nashville has a local location at 335 Industrial Drive, Space E in MJ, which is an indoor hitting/training facility for baseball and softball.

Rack N Tap Bar & Grill is located at 14805 Lebanon Road and should be opening in June.

Tholos Mediterranean Restaurant is expected to have a June opening, located in Charlie's Place at 2240 NMJRD. Tholos will serve Kurdish, Turkish, Greek and Italian traditions.

UPCOMING

1) Food truck Thursdays: Each Thursday in June (5, 12, 19, 26), Food Truck Thursdays continue through October in Charlie Daniels Park from 4-7:30 pm. Bring the family for dinner and support these businesses each week. Due to budget constraints, please check with Parks to verify times and dates, 615-758-6522.

2) The Peach Truck: The Peach Truck will be at the MJ Cracker Barrel for local pickups on Sundays from 2:30-5:30 pm, beginning June 8th thru August 10th. Cracker Barrel is located at 350 SMJRD. Walk-up quantities are limited. To preorder your peaches and verify specific dates, you can [click here](#).

3) Movie in the Park: Beginning Friday, June 6th, the Movie in the Park events start back once each month (Fridays) through October. Bring the family for these free movies, along with a blanket/chairs, in Charlie Daniels Park at the amphitheater that begins at sunset. The movie on June 6th will be "A League of Their Own," and concessions will be available. To see the summer schedule, you can [click here](#).

4) June 19th Planning Commission: There will not be a June meeting for the Planning Commission due to Juneteenth.

5) Woodridge sidewalk Ribbon Cutting: On Sunday, June 22nd at 2 pm, MJ BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee) and the City of MJ will hold a Ribbon Cutting to celebrate the opening of Phase 2 sidewalks along Woodridge Place, installed

by the developer of Bradshaw Farms. We will meet at the Trailhead on the corner of Woodridge Place and Golden Bear Gateway, walk across the street and hold the Ribbon Cutting on the pedestrian bridge at the three-way. MJPD will be present for safety measures. Anyone who wishes to walk the sidewalks are welcome to do so. All are welcome.

6) Whataburger Ribbon Cutting: Whataburger, located at 1325 Rutland Drive, will hold their Ribbon Cutting on Monday, June 23rd at 10 am. All are welcome.

7) MJ Market Night: On Thursday, June 26th from 5:30-8 pm, MJ Parks will kick off the summer season with Market Night that includes music, vendors, food trucks, inflatables, and a foam party. The event will be at Charlie Daniels Park. If you are interested as a vendor, please scan the QR code on the flyer. To see the flyer, you can [click here](#).

8) Barry “Butch” Wilmore celebration: On Saturday, June 28th at 11 am, there will be a special recognition event to honor MJ's own Barry Wilmore. After being stuck on the International Space Station for nine months, astronaut Barry Wilmore finally returned home. The event, sponsored by Volunteer Bank and Hutspenpiller Insurance, will take place at Charlie Daniel Park. There will also be guest speakers and giveaways. The public is invited.

UPDATES

1) NEW MJ Rec/Aquatic Center Work Session:

On May 12th, the BOC held a public work session to present the conceptual plans for the building, to include a gym and community pool. Included, were the cost estimates of the building and parking lot, as well as future budget plans for operations and maintenance. There will be a \$14M bond included in the 25/26 Fiscal Budget that would come out of the hotel/motel tax to repay \$1M per year to up to 20 years for the building itself. To keep this bond in the new budget cycle, the BOC needs a three-vote majority at 1st and 2nd reading in June. If you would like to view the committee-approved plans presented, you can [click here](#).

2) MJ Fiscal Budget Work Session: The MJ BOC held a public work session on May 29th to discuss the '25/26 Fiscal Budget. We are facing a deficit, therefore Finance has recommended a property tax increase from .11 to .68 to cover expected expenditures. There are also \$3.5M in proposed cuts. The new budget also includes a 3% increase in sewer rates (approximately .50). The two required readings to pass a budget will be held on Monday, June 9th and Monday, June 23rd. The new budget cycle begins July 1st. I don't have a copy of the PowerPoint from Finance because of vacation, but some highlights are below. If you would like to see the PowerPoint at the beginning of the meeting and/or the entire work session, you can [click here](#):

- **Estimated beginning FY26 fund GF balance:** \$26,651,878
 - **GF Revenues:** \$58,225,266 (includes new property tax rate of .68)
- Revenue highlights:** Property tax rate .68 = \$14.3M; State

Shared Revenues = \$6.3M; Sales Tax = \$24.3M; Hotel/Motel Tax = \$1.3M; MJPD Grants: \$30k-Safety and \$85k-Operation Light Shine.

- **GF Expenditures:** \$74,159,288
Expenditure highlights: Public Safety (almost half of budget) = \$35.3M; Transfers to Other Funds (Capital Projects/Debt Services/SSA) = \$20.8M; General Government = \$9.3M; Public Works = \$4.3M; Parks and Recreation = \$2.3M; Community Development = \$2.1M.
Expenditure breakdown: Personnel = \$33.3M; Transfers to Capital Projects = \$16.4M; Operating = \$11M; New Capital = \$8.9M; Transfers to Debt Services = \$3.6M; Transfers to State Street Aid = \$700k.
Further highlights: Payroll: No COLA, 2% Merit = \$460k, three positions proposed to cut = \$318k. Personnel: Five new MJPD positions = \$584k. Capital Items = \$8.4M.
- **GF Summary 25/26:** Beginning fund balance (7/1/25) \$26.6M; Revenues \$58.2M; Expenditures \$74.1M; Ending fund balance (7/1/26) \$10.7M.

3) Road closure: S. Rutland Road (south of Providence Trail) is closed to thru traffic to Central Pike for approximately six weeks. This is a Waterford Park development road improvement project. Local residents will still be able to get to their homes. There is a detour, please use caution and abide by the speed limits.

4) Robinson Park: The park, located behind Dairy Queen on Old Lebanon Dirt Road, is back open now after many months of sewer and repair construction.

MJ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

The MJ BOC meetings in June are on the 9th and 23rd at 6:30 pm, at MJ City Hall.

NOTE: The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Sheila Luckett until 4 pm prior to the meeting at sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov. The meeting is also aired live on MJTV (Comcast channel 3 or TDS channel 6) and on the City's website, as well as YouTube. It is too early for the agenda, therefore look for notices prior to each BOC meeting.

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, comments, complaints, or just something to share, please let me know. If you would like to sign up for my monthly email newsletters, you will find the option to do so on my website. It is an honor serving you and being your citizen advocate.

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