



The City Manager's Monthly Report is intended to provide a brief summary of City activities, with links to additional information where possible. Due to the variety and complexity of City functions, however, the report is not all-encompassing. Please always feel free to [contact the City of Bloomington](#) for more information or with questions or concerns.

View past and upcoming events on the City's [calendar](#).

## CONSIDERED IN DECEMBER

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### City Council Regular Agenda Items

- Consideration of:
  - a) An Ordinance approving the 2016 Tax Levy in the amount of \$4,683,111 for the Bloomington Public Library. **[Motion carried.]**
  - b) An Ordinance approving the 2016 Tax Levy in the amount of \$20,061,384 for the City of Bloomington. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of approving two Resolutions for the abatements of property taxes for the 2016 Tax Levy.
  - c) A Resolution abating all or a portion of the taxes levied to pay debt service on certain general obligation bonds of the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, [Motion carried.]
  - d) A Resolution abating a Tax Levy for rent payable under lease agreement between the Public Building Commission, McLean County and the City of Bloomington for the old champion building and the expansion of the parking garage. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of approving a Lease for a Police Sub-Station located at 828 W. Jefferson, Bloomington, IL. **[Delayed until January 23, 2017. Motion carried.]**
- Presentation of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. **[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]**
- Consideration of an Ordinance approving an Economic Incentive Agreement to support the retention and expansion of The Kroger Co. in the City of Bloomington. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of an Ordinance approving an Economic Incentive Agreement to support the retention and expansion of Sam Leman Toyota in the City of Bloomington. **[Motion carried.]**
- Presentation and discussion of Bloomington's Facilities Management Draft 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan. **[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]**

### City Council Special Session Items

- Consideration of an Ordinance Reducing Speed Limits to 30mph on Hershey Road, Fort Jesse to Rainbow Drive. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of a proposal to widen Linden Street from Locust to Empire, from 26 feet to 30 feet, producing two 12-foot traffic lanes plus an 8-foot parking lane on the west side of the street. **[Delayed until no later than February 13th. Motion carried.]**
- Presentation and Discussion on the Mahomet Aquifer Advocates. **[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]**

### [City Council Record of Motions and Votes](#)

**DECEMBER NEWSMAKERS**

- [BPD Respond to Armed Subject Call](#)
- [BPD Partners with Mid Central Community Action](#)

**SPOTLIGHT**

- [City Launches New Website Designs](#)

**EXPANDED MONTHLY REPORTS**

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**Finance**

[View Monthly Financial Report](#)

**CITY CLERK**

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[View City Clerk Monthly Activity Report](#)

[View Monthly FOIA Report](#)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**Building Safety**

- The 408 construction permits issued in December represents a decline compared with the same month in 2015. A significant decline from November to December is typical given the seasonality of construction permit applications. Nevertheless, the total number of permits issued in 2016 was about the same as for 2015, improving by just one percent. Total year-to-date construction investment in the City ends at \$83,313,000, which lags the cumulative total for 2015.
- About 565 building inspections were performed in December. This measure also has a strong seasonal component and represents a small decrease from November.
- One permit was issued in December for a project valued in excess of \$1,000,000 for a new hangar at CIRA.

**Code Enforcement**

Exactly 438 code enforcement inspections were conducted in December 2016, more than double the figure for December 2015. Full staffing levels and more proactive enforcement are part of the reasons for this improvement.

**Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation**

Two Planning Commission cases and three Zoning Board of Appeals cases were processed. Historic Preservation Commission was cancelled for lack of any agenda items. Work on the zoning ordinance update continued, with assessment of the existing ordinance and its relation to the comprehensive plan.

**FIRE** [View Expanded Monthly Fire Statistics](#)**Operations**

- It was a busy month for the Bloomington Fire Department:
  - Ran 1003 calls for service for the month, which was about 180 more calls than in November.
  - The department responded to 2 structure fires this month that resulted in approximately \$174,000 in damage.
  - The department also responded to 3 vehicle fires, one of these was a car hauler that had 10 new vehicles on it, 6 of these vehicles were destroyed resulting approximately a \$340,000 loss.
  - Total fire loss for this month totaled \$515,750.
  - Total fire calls for the month was 195.
- The number of EMS calls for the month increased compared to November, the department ran 808 EMS calls in this month compared to 638 last month. Some of this increase was due to the ice we had in the middle of the month, we had approximately an increase of 50 calls due to falls compared to November. EMS incidents accounted for 80.5% of calls for service for this month.
- The department provided mutual aid 18 times this month and received mutual aid 7 times.
- Our EMS personnel provided 151 hrs. of training time to EMS students and we provided 84 hours of ride time for BACC students.

**Public Education***Training provided to community*

- Fire Extinguisher class for West Minster
  - 3 classes provided in one day (50 employees)
- Fire Extinguisher for Pii (17 employees)

*Fire, Lockdown, and Shelter in Place drills*

- No drills in the month of December

*Social Media*

- FB page is now at 4965 likes.
- Creating videos to respond to questions from Kids

*Training*

- Worked on training videos for Hazmat with Captain Day
- Created video for Safe Place annual training
- Attended EMS monthly Training
- Attended IV pump training

*Community Events*

- Car Seat installation day on Tuesday
- Working with CCRRN to host car Seat Installation class at Fire Station
  - At the end of the class will host an event in February
- Tomorrow's Promise for special visitor to the classroom
- Shop with a Cop at Walmart

*Fire Prevention Presentations*

- Washington Elementary 3rd graders
  - Returned to classroom for questions and answers

**Training**

- For the month of December 2016 the fire department held 61 training classes which totaled 1738.05 class hours.
- The class topics have been grouped into seven categories: Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue, Hazmat, & Safety ([December 2016 Training Report](#)).

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

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- [Apply for current job postings](#)
- [View Safety Report](#)

Vacancies	Status
<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Status</b>
3 -TCM's	Pending Interviews
Management Analyst	External Candidate
Programmer Analyst	Pending Interviews
Firefighters	Open
Forester	Pending Interviews
Compensation and Benefits Manager	Pending Interviews
Recreation Manager	Pending Interviews

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL ARTS** 

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**Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts** 

[View the BCPA calendar for past & future event info](#)

- Presented performances included The Church Basement Ladies; The Twelve Dames of Christmas; A Christmas Carol and the community stakeholder presentation of Holiday Spectacular, INC.
- Total Attendance for all events and classes 6,778.
- Facilities Usage: Auditorium Public Events 8; Auditorium Non-public Events 4; Ballroom and other space Public Events 2; Ballroom and other space Non-public Events 20.
- Community Interactions: Radio 5, speaking engagement 1.

**Golf Courses** 

- 142 Rounds Played
- A typical cold and wintery December resulted in few opportunities to get out to play.
- Golf maintenance staff is busy repairing broken equipment, sharpening reels and other equipment maintenance projects.
- Prairie Vista golf course and pro shop remains open seven days per week.
- Indoor practice area at Prairie Vista continues to see an upward trend in usage. Planned update in this area should result in even larger increases in customer traffic.

- Clubhouse staff has begun booking outings, tournament and events for 2017. Bookings, at this point, are up over the same time last year which is encouraging.
- On New Year's Day, Highland Park will host the 44th Annual Snowbird Open. Staff is working on promoting this fun, community minded event which many local citizens have on their calendar to play in each year, regardless of the weather.

### Miller Park Zoo

- Revenue from admissions was up 4.7% for the current fiscal year. Last year, the revenue from admissions broke the all-time record for the Zoo in a fiscal year. This represents the fifth consecutive year the all-time attendance revenue record was broken. Attendance was up 8.5% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's attendance. All-time Attendance record was broken last fiscal year. Revenue from Education Program Fees and Rentals was up 5.8% for the current fiscal year.
- Revenue from Concessions, Carousel, and Animal Food Sales was up 22.7% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers. The Zootique sales were up 3.4% for the current fiscal year, and overall Zoo revenue was up 8.1%.
- Acquisition: 1 Male Short-Tailed Opossum, 5 Tentacle Snakes, 3 Mudpuppies.
- Disposition: 2 Female Hill Wallaroos, 2 Male Seba's Short Tailed Fruit Bats, 1 Male Crested Wood Partridge, 4 African Hedgehogs, 1 Female Tree Shrew.
- Other:
  - Hosted Wild Lights with over 1,400 guests
  - Hosted 2 sold out sessions of Breakfast with Santa
- ATTENDANCE
  - December 2015: 4292 (Down 33%)
  - December 2016: 2905

### Recreation

- In December we hosted unique programs like Pickleball, Letters from Santa, and the Community Concert Band's Christmas Concert.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Ugliest Sweater Run was held in Miller Park on Dec.3<sup>rd</sup> with over 140 registered participants and many spectators. It continues to grow each year.
- In December we held the first days of Winter Break Camp, which is at capacity.

### Pepsi Ice Center

- Public skating sessions showed an increase over the previous year. "Skate with Santa" hosted over 120 skaters and rental groups in the month totaling over 300 participants.
- Pepsi Ice is on par to generate over \$1 million dollars for the third straight year in a row.
- Successful programs and ice rentals start now as early as 5:50 am and go to 12:00 am almost seven days a week.

### SOAR

- Holiday Performers annual show was held again at Vale Church in Bloomington. It was well attended, at near capacity. 10 partners were on stage with the performers.
- The Ron Knisley Memorial Shootout, held in conjunction with the State Farm Holiday Classic and sponsored by SOAR, was held December 29 & 30, with 16 teams.

- The boys' varsity basketball team from El Paso Gridley practices with the SOAR Thunder team. It was a great opportunity for our players to work 1:1 with these high school athletes and for all of the participants to learn from each other.

### **Parks Maintenance**

#### *Horticulture ([View pictures here](#))*

- Identification of and initial site prep of two Monarch Butterfly pollinator prairies.
- Holiday decorations at City Hall, Miller Park and Downtown Bloomington.
- Landscape design Government Center parking lot.
- 215 man hours on equipment maintenance.

#### *Forestry*

- 53 total trees removed, 45 ash due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- 16 stumps removed, backfilled and seeded.
- Responded to 6 individual storm damage events.
- Continuation of winter circuit trimming.
- Knuckle Loader 756 out of service. Removing trees over 16" in diameter requiring extra equipment and personnel. Reduced overall department efficiency.
- 153 preventative maintenance trims performed.

#### *Utility*

- Monthly HVAC inspection and repairs at Parks and Facilities.
- Monthly HVAC inspections at BCPA.
- Installed new Park signs at Forrest Park.
- Removed and replaced concrete at O'Neil swimming pool deck.
- Removed house at 1805 Springfield Rd. This location will be the future new entrance to the wood utilization area.
- Installed new walls at Miller park spray ground maintenance building. This is a huge improvement. All equipment is now inside and out of the weather.

## **POLICE**

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### [View Police Daily Activity Reports](#)

#### **Crime Investigations Division (CID)**

CID assigned 130 new cases for investigation. The case load carried by CID had the following dispositions: 38 cases were cleared by arrest, 5 cases were cleared with juvenile arrests, and 72 were administratively closed, exceptionally cleared or were unfounded.

#### **Cyber Crimes Unit**

The Cyber Crimes Unit, which investigates crimes involving but not limited to child pornography, network intrusion and online scams, continued to operate in cooperation with the US Secret Service (USSS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The unit has 18 open/active cases.

**United States Marshal Task Force**

The Task Force opened 9 felony cases and closed 6 of them. They made 4 hands-on felony arrests. Notable calls for service include a subject wanted for home invasion. Subject was located in Bloomington after his return from Chicago. He was taken into custody without incident. TF also assisted in the arrest of a subject wanted for residential burglary. He was found in Caseyville and taken into custody without incident.

**VICE Unit**

Twelve new cases were opened, six cases were closed, and two search warrants were served. The Vice unit purchased 11.9 grams of crack cocaine and seized 9 grams, and seized 7,785 grams of cannabis.

**Street Crimes Unit**

Street Crimes made 12 warrant arrests, 25 probable cause arrests, towed eleven vehicles, and seized 150 grams of cannabis, four guns, and \$527.

**Criminal Intelligence & Analysis Unit (CIAU)**

During December, CIAU staff provided tactical investigative support on five weapons-related cases, provided expert testimony in a street gang-related robbery case and provided assistance in a multi-state, multi-agency case involving multiple bomb threats on the east coast. Also during this month, CIAU began preparations for numerous state and federal crime data reporting mandates.

**Communications****[View Police Communications Report](#)**

Testing and interviewing for telecommunicator candidates has concluded. The manager attended McLean County Interoperable Communications Committee meeting, and an exercise planning meeting for the 2017 McLean County Disaster Council Drill which will focus on mass care and fatality management. He also completed analytics training on the 911 phone system and attended a workshop to learn more about the Illinois Statewide Intelligent Transportation System. Alarm Ordinance violations were issued amounting to \$23,500 to date.

**First Shift 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Day shift patrol spent considerable time in training including standard field sobriety testing, honor guard, breath alcohol operator, PPCT, CNU, first aid and active shooter. There were seven STEP details assigned to school zone enforcement including distracted drivers and speeding. The shift participated in the City Christmas Parade and 34th Annual Children's Christmas party handing out gifts at the Community Development Building. A notable call for service included a male subject approached by four males who shot him in the leg.

**Second Shift 3 p.m. – 11 p.m.**

Notable calls for service include a report of a domestic/shots fired where husband was arguing with his wife and he fired several rounds through a door. Another shots fired incident where damage to a house was found, but no one was injured. On December 21, an attempted armed robbery took place where the subject handed the clerk a note that said he was armed and produced a list of items he wanted.

**Third Shift 11 p.m. – 7 a.m.**

December was quieter mostly due to the cold weather and students being on break. During an ice storm, several officers fell and injured themselves. On December 28, a shots fired incident on Gettysburg occurred. Officers located several casings that appeared to be 9mm blanks. Shortly after there was a stabbing in the same area. Victim suffered a non-life threatening wound to his leg. Near the end of the shift, a traffic stop resulted in a local gang member being arrested for possessing a gun. Another gang member was caught hiding in a vehicle he was burglarizing at the Chateau. Officers recorded 12 DUI arrests in December.

**Administration**

- SRO Day talked to several students about the dangers of sexting and how it can impact their life in the future, and spoke to several students about the proper use of social media in regards to bullying and threatening students. He also mediated with several groups of students to de-escalate bullying and physical violence, and removed eight students on separate occasions from classes after emergency button was pushed.
- SRO Hirsch met with and counseled eight students on behavior, grades and Illinois law. He met with 12 students that were about to fight and came to his office to cool down. He assisted counselors/social works/principals speaking with and calming aggressive emotionally disturbed students. He removed nine students from class for poor behavior and lack of cooperation with school administration, investigated a fight, broke up two fights, and transported seven students home after they were suspended for poor behavior, fighting, etc. He also investigated four incidents of theft and recovered two items.
- SRO Wagehoft dealt with eleven disorderly conduct issues, one theft, and one fight.
- Public Affairs Officer Mayer submitted several news releases, attended Recovery Court, attended STAC meeting, attended Shop With A Cop, gave a safety/active shooter presentation at Emmanuel Health Center, and completed a WJBC interview.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

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**[View Expanded Monthly Public Works Report](#)**

- Approximately 24,500 residences are serviced weekly and an average of 27.33 pounds of household garbage were picked up each week at these locations during December 2016.
- 207 Miles were swept during December 2016.

**WATER**

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**[View Expanded Water Department Reports](#)****[View Water Quality Report](#)**

- Daily pumpage for December 2016 was 8.9 million gallons per day, compared to an average of 8.5 million gallons per day in December of 2015. December, 2016 average temperature (28F) was 2 degrees F cooler than normal. The month was fairly dry with a total precipitation of 0.94" vs. 3.22" normal precipitation for the month.



- Nitrate levels in the both the Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir increased during December, but are still below regulatory limits.
- Water levels in both Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir remained close to spillway elevations during December.
- We switched pumping from Evergreen Lake to Lake Bloomington in November, because of upcoming Evergreen Lake pump station work and the water quality within the reservoir. We are monitoring nitrate levels in Lake Bloomington, and will switch back to Evergreen Lake if conditions warrant a change.
- Continued to replace and repaired water service lines and curb stops. Several of these were very old lead (the metal) service lines. Removal of lead from the system helps the City maintain safe water quality and is in accordance with lead water standards.
- During the month of December the Department located/cleared 1,007 JULIES and issued 69 JULIES.
- During the month of December staff repaired 19 water mains throughout the City.
- During the month of December staff replaced 3 fire hydrants throughout the City.
- Installed 71 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during December. The Department has converted approximately 96.9% of the total meter inventory.
- Staff installed 39 new residential water meters during the month of December.
- The Billing and Cashier representatives handled 3,095 incoming phone calls and placed 1,435 outbound phone calls in December of 2016.
- Supervisory control system upgrades are underway. This effort is part of an ongoing project to upgrade hardware components while at the same time providing backup components at other locations within the system.

### **Information Services**

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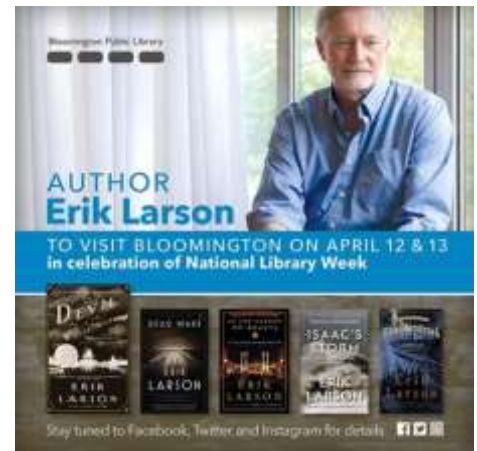
- Went live with newly redesigned web sites for both the City of Bloomington main web site and the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts site.
- Replaced Ricoh multi-function (print/copy/scan) devices in City Clerk and Community Development departments with Ricoh MP C6502 machines for increased efficiency and production.
- Scrubbed and imported most recently supplied State Sales Tax data into the Sales Tax Database and updated standard reports for Economic Development and Finance.
- Worked with Human Resources staff and Tyler Technologies consultant to implement the Employee Training module of the MUNIS ERP solution.
- Installed two security cameras in the US Cellular Coliseum to cover the money counting room within the Food and Beverage offices.
- Installed three security cameras with the Police department to cover critical internal areas.
- Queried Sales Tax Database and created report for Austin (Economic Development) on new and used auto sales between 2013 and 2016, broken out by month and tax type (home rule sales tax vs sales tax).
- Queried Sales Tax Database and created report for Finance to add in the analysis of Hotel and Motel sales tax revenue.
- Queried Sales Tax Database and created pivot table for Finance so they could analyze and compare sales tax revenue for the first two periods of the year over multiple years.

LIBRARY    [Bloomington Public Library Website](#)[December, January, February Program Guide](#)**Highlights:**

- We announced that author Erik Larson will be coming for our Bloomington Reads program on April 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Our New Year's Story Time had 70 attendees.
- We published our [fourth podcast](#). This month's topic was tiny houses.

**Stats:**

- 97,912 items were checked out
- 221 new cardholders were added
- 7,538 holds were filled
- 2,370 items added to the collection
- 30,370 people used the public computers, our online catalog, and our online databases
- 2,719 people used our Wi-Fi for a total data usage of 1.67 TB
- 96 groups reserved our meeting rooms
- 20 programs offered for all ages
- 441 people attended programs
- \$16,404.50 has been raised by Book Shoppe sales since the beginning of the fiscal year.

US CELLULAR COLISEUM [Events Calendar](#)

- December was a fairly busy month at the Coliseum. The facility hosted 3 Illinois State University Hockey games. This was complimented with the presentation of 4 Bloomington Thunder USHL Hockey games.
- The ice surface in the Arena also was the site of 63 blocks of time usage for practice, youth and adult hockey. The coming months have comparable usage scheduled.
- Mannheim Steamroller played their Christmas Concert at the arena on December 1. This year marks the 32nd Anniversary of the Christmas Tour and release of Mannheim Steamroller Christmas, an album that revolutionized the Holiday Season music category.
- We hosted the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, December 16 and the Indoor Farmers Market was open on Saturday, December 17.

**Upcoming events include:**

- I.C.E. World Championship Ice Racing will be held on the arena main sheet of ice on January 21, 2017 at 7:00 PM. This annual fast paced event features exciting racing action for the whole family on the US Cellular Coliseum's treacherous oval ice track. This must-see event of the winter season combines the World's top pro ICE Racers, select amateur

classes designed to showcase local participation, and surprise super special attractions to create THE GREATEST SPECTACLE ON ICE! (TM)

- 5 Bloomington Thunder Hockey games will be on ice in January.
- IHSA Competitive Dance Competition will be held on January 27 and 28th, 2017.
- IHSA Cheerleading Finals will be held on February 3rd and 4th, 2017.
- Lee Brice and Justin Moore will bring their "American Made Tour" to the arena on February 11, 2017.

*Lee Brice and Justin Moore, two of country music's most dynamic performers, will ring in 2017 with their co-headlined "American Made" tour. "When we put this tour together we thought about the fans first," says Lee who kicked off 2016 with his own headlining "Life Off My Years" tour after being the only country artist in 2015 to perform in all 50 states. "I love playing live but what's even more fun is interacting with the amazing people in the audience. That's what it's all about. I can't wait to get out there to play the songs everyone already knows but we're also planning to give these audiences a sneak peek into a few songs off the new record!"*

**We continue to work on the following major items:**

- Naming Rights partner, and signage fulfillment within the arena
- Development of promoter relationships in conjunction with VenuWorks Vice President of Event Programming and Content, Johnny Gimenez
- VenuWorks newly instituted TRAINED CROWD MANAGER