



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 FEBRUARY

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### City Council Regular Agenda Items

- Consideration of a recommendation to widen Linden Street pavement, from Locust to Empire Streets, to 30 feet and that the street consist of two 10-foot driving lanes and one 7-foot parking lane plus new curbs and gutters. ***[Motion carried.]***
- Consideration of a Contract Award to Stark Excavating for the Grove Street and Olive Street Sewers (Bid #2017-22). ***[Motion carried.]***
- Consideration of a Resolution to accept permanent and temporary construction easements granted by the Bloomington Normal Water Reclamation District for rehabilitation of the Linden Street Bridge and an IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) Resolution for Improvement by Municipality in the amount of \$1,800,000.00 for the estimated construction cost. ***[Motion carried.]***
- Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the Town of Normal (Town) for cost-sharing for the construction of improvements to the intersection of Vernon Avenue and Towanda Avenue and consideration of a corresponding Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for funding the City's portion of the construction. ***[Motion carried.]***
- Future collaboration on regional economic development between the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal and dissolution of the Metro Zone. ***[Motion carried.]***
- Presentation of the Bloomington Police Department 2016 Annual Report. ***[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]***
- Presentation of the Proposed City Manager FY 2018 Budget. ***[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]***

### City Council Special Session Items

***[No motion was taken. Presentation and discussion only.]***

- Presentation of a potential Local Truck Routes Policy.

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

**FEBRUARY NEWSMAKERS**

- [Connect Transit receives state funding through June](#)
- [With "intent" to stay, Thunder owners give no guarantee](#)
- [Jim Gaffigan Show announced at Coliseum](#)

**SPOTLIGHT**

- [Proposed CDBG Action Plan](#)

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

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[View Monthly Financial Report](#)

[FY 2018 Proposed Budget](#)

**CITY CLERK**

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[View City Clerk Monthly Activity Report](#)

[View Monthly FOIA Report](#)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**Building Safety**

- February construction permits increased by 12 percent over January levels reaching 508. For the first two months of 2017, permits are up 7 percent, due at least in part to the warmer weather experienced. It includes 11 new single family dwellings, bringing the total for the calendar year to 17, almost triple the level for this period in 2016.
- About 575 building inspections were performed in February. This measure has a strong seasonal component and lags permit issuances overall. The February levels represent a 60% increase from January, which is much stronger than expected but likely reflects the warm weather experienced this month.
- No new projects were valued in excess of \$1,000,000.

**Code Enforcement**

Code enforcement inspections conducted in February 2017 number 499, which represents a 39% increase over January 2017, and an even larger increase over February 2016. Full staffing levels and more proactive enforcement are part of the reasons for these improvements.

**Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation**

The Planning Commission case and Zoning Board of Appeals each had one case processed. Historic Preservation Commission was cancelled for lack of any agenda items.

Work on the zoning ordinance update continued. A visual analysis of the extent of nonconforming lots was reviewed, which points to the need for modifying certain lot size and bulk requirements. A zoning ordinance diagnostic report highlighting many of the issues will go before Planning Commission in March.

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

- In February the Bloomington Fire Department ran 842 calls for service, this was down 113 calls from the month of January. The department responded to one structure fire that caused \$52,000 in damage. The department responded to two vehicle fires that resulted in \$40,000 in damage. Total damage for the month was \$92,800. Total fire calls for the month was 176.
- The department ran 666 EMS calls for the month this was 115 less calls than we had in January. EMS incidents accounted for 79.10% of calls for service for this month.
- The department provided mutual aid 16 times during February and received mutual aid 3 times. The Hazmat team responded to St. James Hospital in Pontiac for a white powder incident, this turned out to be a non-hazardous substance.
- Our EMS personnel provided 355.5 hours of training time to EMS students and we provided 29.64 hours of ride time for BACC students.

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

- Provided EMS training in regards to trauma care with EMS Supervisor Jesse Munk for the nurses at District 87
- More training to follow as the comments have been very positive
- Looking to establish a contact with Unit 5 as well
- Provided extinguisher training to the Parks department
- Training included presentation, demonstration and practice with an extinguisher

*Fire, Lockdown, and Shelter in Place drills*

- Fire Drill provided for Alpha Gamma Delta at 6pm.
  - At their request, we sent the PEO and an engine to the house to help facilitate the drill
  - Suggestions were given to the house mother in regards to safer practices

*Social Media*

- FB page is now at 5367 likes.
  - Worked with IS for gopro software for making videos
  - Planning ideas for future posts in regards to safety messages

*Training*

- Attended week long training at Romeoville Fire Academy for Instructor II

*Community Events*

- Car Seat class hosted by FD at 5 station for a week with installation day held on Feb. 24.
  - Over 16 vehicles with 30 car seats were installed/inspected
- Chesterbrook Academy for their 2/3's room and 4/5's room for fire safety presentation
  - All children went home with a letter to the parents in regards to fire safety and talking points for conversations with their kids

*Other Duties*

- Worked with McLean County museum of History to establish a process of acquiring and providing pictures with the Museum.

**Training**

- For the month of February 2017 the fire department held training which totaled 1968.50 hours.
- The class topics have been grouped into seven categories: Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue, Hazmat, & Safety ([February 2017 Training Report](#)).

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

Position	Department	Status
Compensation and Benefits Manager	HR	Josh Hansen Cleared started 3/3
Employment Coordinator	HR	Resume Review; Interviews 3/7
Junior Accountant	Finance	Khristi Started 2/27/17
Operations Manager	PW	Brett Keltz started 2/27/17
Superintendent of Mechanical Maintenance	Water	Closed 2/24; Resume Review
Forrester	Parks	Steve Kramer cleared started 3/3
Contract Administrator	Legal	Job Posted

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL ARTS **

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**Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts **

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

- Presented programs were: *The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told*; *Annie: the Musical*; *Route 66: a musical revue*; and *One Woman Sex in the City: a parody*.
- The Student Spotlight shows included: *Everybody's Hero: the Jackie Robinson Story* and *The Rainbow Fish*.
- Total Attendance for all events and classes 13,503
- Facilities Usage: Auditorium Public Events 11; Auditorium Non-Public Events 8; Ballroom and other space Public Events 19; Ballroom and other space Non-Public Events 24.
- Community Interactions: Radio interviews 7

**Golf Courses** 

- A record 995 rounds were played at Prairie Vista (Note: a typical February sees an average of 131 rounds played) during the month.
- Inventory for the pro shops for the upcoming season has begun to arrive and staff is busy checking it all in and preparing it for sale.
- Titleist has chosen to renew their second season of 'Titleist Thursdays' at The Den at Fox Creek. 16 weeks of tour level club fitting will take place each Thursday at the course bringing in golfers from all across Central Illinois. The Den is the only facility in Illinois south of Interstate 80 to serve as a host site for this program.
- Our three golf course greenskeepers all successfully completed their re-certifications for the Illinois Applicator's License which is required to legally apply chemicals on the courses.
- Despite the warm weather, the indoor golf simulator saw a good amount of activity with over 50 hours of rentals. Those who have played other indoor simulators before have commented on how they really like ours. This is very encouraging as staff explores the options of how to take advantage of this opportunity to have a revenue stream in the winter months.

**Miller Park Zoo** 

- Revenue from admissions was up 7.3% 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 11.3% 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 11.9% for the current fiscal year.
- Revenue from Concessions, Carousel, and Animal Food Sales was up 24.5% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers. The Zootique sales were up 4.8% for the current fiscal year, and overall Zoo revenue was up 9.8%.
- Acquisition: 1 Female Hill Wallaroo, 2 Female North American River Otters
- Disposition: 1 Male Panamanian Golden Frog, 1 Male and 1 Female Greater Flamingo, 1 Male Cairo Spiny Mice
- Other:
  - Broke the all-time attendance and revenue record for February
  - Hosted Winter Enrichment Day and had over 1500 guests. Had over 6,000 guests in the 4 day weekend from 2/17-2/20.
  - Started the construction of "The Mix" in the Katthoefer Animal Building
- ATTENDANCE
  - February 2016: 5928 (Up 49%)
  - February 2017: 8817

**Recreation** 

- The Daddy/Daughter Dance was held over capacity with 86 pairs attending.
- The Summer Softball League information meeting was held. Teams were able to receive information on registration, league format and rule changes for this year.
- In Jan. we hosted many day trips for older adults that were well attended, including trips to the Titanic Exhibit, Starved Rock and Conklin Player Theater.

**Pepsi Ice Center** 

- We held two separate themed skates which were the Sweetheart Skate for Valentine's Day as well as an American Girl Doll skate which was attended by over fifty young skaters with their American Girl Dolls.
- Our local Bloomington Youth Hockey Association 18 & Under Thunder team won the Northern Illinois Hockey League Championship for the second year in a row.
- The Pepsi Ice Center continues to show exceptional revenue numbers for the fiscal year. Although February's revenue is down from last year we are still well on pace to have the second highest annual revenue in the facilities history.

**SOAR** 

- The Valentine's Dance was enjoyed by many SOAR participants also attended by 13 CUSR participants.
- The Special Olympics Bocce teams are began their practices for the upcoming competition season at the BCPA, a relationship that was developed last year.
- A long-time SOAR participant, Mike Cavanaugh, passed away this month. Both SOAR managers spent quite a bit of time with his family helping with memorial arrangements, services, etc.

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

- Prescribed burning at Lake Evergreen Dam.
- Equipment maintenance 80 man hours.
- Site preparation for landscaping at Government Center Parking Lot. This landscape design was completed in house by horticulture staff.
- Zoo maintenance items 240 man hours.
- Removal of old house and debris north of park maintenance center, installed road to chip and log pile.

*Forestry*

- 62 total trees removed, 40 ash due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- 54 stumps removed, backfilled and seeded.
- Responded to 4 individual storm damage events. Response is 24/7
- Continuation of winter circuit trimming, section B4 SW Bloomington
- Knuckle Loader 756 out of service. 4<sup>th</sup> month without this unit. Removing trees over 16" in diameter requiring extra equipment and personnel. Reduced overall department efficiency and increased costs on storms and tree work.
- 74 preventative maintenance trims performed.

*Utility*

- Monthly HVAC inspection and repairs at Parks and Facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repairs at the Coliseum and the BCPA
- Completed monthly Park inspections at all City Parks
- Partnered with B&B bedding to remove all wood chips from the wood utilization area
- Utility staff has spent numerous man hours at the zoo repairing things in anticipation of their AZA accreditation coming late this spring. - Rust removal and painting of cat cages in Kathoeffer building – Installed new fence in cat building viewing area – Repaired shift doors in cat holding area - Replaced hydrant in cow yard – Repaired concrete curb in front of zoo entrance

**POLICE** [View Police Daily Activity Reports](#)**Crime Investigations Division (CID)**

CID assigned 82 new cases. The case load carried by CID had the following dispositions: 27 cases were cleared by adult arrest and 23 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 six open/active cases.

**United States Marshal Task Force**

The officer assigned to the US Marshal's Task Force was off on medical leave for February.

**VICE Unit**

Eight cases were opened and four cases were closed. The Vice Unit served one search warrant. They purchased .05 grams of crack cocaine, 32 grams of powder cocaine, and 27 grams of cannabis. They seized 4.2 grams of crack cocaine, 15 grams of powder cocaine, and one vehicle.

**Street Crimes Unit**

Street Crimes made 14 warrant arrests, 27 probable cause arrests, and issued two ordinance violations. SCU seized 11 grams of cannabis, 28 grams of methamphetamine, and one gun.

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

CIAU staff spent considerable time gathering and submitting various federal, state and local data sets as mandated by law. CIAU staff provided major case support on a crime series involving day time residential break-ins. This series ended with the arrest of the suspect. Staff prepared demonstrative evidence for a court case involving the use of social media in an armed home invasion from 2016. Staff also presented a violent crime case briefing to local agency heads, the US Attorney's Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. CIAU also began a large project with Computer Services geared at migrating to SharePoint 2016 and expanding the current Police Department intranet site.

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

Communications Manager attended Illinois Strategic Technology Reserve Team meeting in Urbana, worked on Emergency Operations planning with the Fire Chief, and attended StarCom21 Advisory Subcommittee meeting.

**First Shift 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Day shift patrol spent considerable time in training by attending ILEAS, Law Update, Knock and Talk, Verbal Judo, Communication with the Mentally Ill, Handbook Training, Juvenile Update, and Read Interrogation and Interview. There were 14 STEP details assigned to school

zone enforcement including distracted drivers and speeding. There were also two radar details. First Shift handled several suicidal subject calls, three stolen vehicle calls, two armed subject calls, shots fired, home invasion, and a robbery at a school.

#### **Second Shift 3 p.m. – 11 p.m.**

Notable calls for service during Second Shift include a vehicle burglary, and two shots fired calls. Subject arrested for the vehicle burglary was responsible for several burglaries in the area and caught on surveillance camera.

#### **Third Shift 11 p.m. – 7 a.m.**

Notable calls for service include fighting in the street, suicidal subject, heroin overdose, shots fired, and damage to several vehicles in a parking garage. Seven DUI arrests were recorded.

#### **Administration**

- SRO Day dealt with several incidents of cyber bullying, spoke to students about proper use of social media, mediated with several groups of students to de-escalate the problem before physical violence, removed ten students on separate occasions from classes after emergency button was pushed. School discipline included nine disorderly conducts, seven medical transports, and ten suspensions.
- SRO Hirsch counseled seven students on behavior, grades and Illinois law. He met with four students who were about to fight and came to his office to cool down. He removed six students from class for poor behavior, investigated three fights, transported six students home after suspension for poor behavior, investigated four incidents of theft and recovered two items, investigated cannabis found in the restroom.
- SRO Wagehoft handled one death notification, gave Promise Council talk to fifth graders at Cedar Ridge. School incidents include four disorderly conducts, one check well-being, one truancy, one medical, and one battery.
- Public Affairs Officer Mayer submitted several news releases, attended Statistics/Media meeting, attended Recovery Court, attended Crisis Team Briefing training, attended Traffic Advisor Committee meeting, gave a kid's tour/presentation, gave an interview at WJBC, attended the award ceremony of Flame of Hope Department Award from Special Olympics, helped with the physical agility tests, attended Jefferson Community House planning meeting, and attended Juvenile Law Update Class.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

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##### [View Expanded Public Works Department Reports](#)

- Approximately 24,500 residences are serviced weekly and an average of 23 pounds of household garbage were picked up each week at these locations during February 2017.
- 431 Miles were swept during February 2017, 3 alleys and 26 median strips were maintained.
- The Public Works Front Office Staff processed 996 telephone calls during the month of February 2017.



## WATER

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### [View Expanded Water Department Reports](#)

### [View Water Quality Report](#)

- Daily pumpage for February, 2017 was 8.5 million gallons per day, 300,000 gallons per day lower than the February, 2016 average. February, 2017 was 11 degrees F warmer than average (40 F avg for February 2017 versus 29 F long term average) and one half inch of precipitation drier (1.42" water equivalent for February 2017 versus 1.93" long term average).
- Nitrate levels in the both the Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir continued to increase during February, but are still below regulatory limits (Lake Bloomington around 7.3 mg/l and Evergreen Lake around 2.2 mg/l). Plant staff are closely monitoring the nitrate concentrations, and preparations are being made to switch to Evergreen Lake if concentrations in Lake Bloomington approach the limit.
- Water levels in both Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir remained close to spillway elevations, with water flowing over both spillways during February.
- We switched pumping from Evergreen Lake to Lake Bloomington in November, 2016 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 February the Department located/cleared 1,862 JULIES and issued 41 JULIES.
- During the month of January staff repaired 4 water mains throughout the City.
- During the month of January staff replaced 2 fire hydrants throughout the City.
- Installed 22 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during February. The Department has converted approximately 97% of the total meter inventory.
- Staff installed 19 new residential water meters during the month of February.
- Staff installed 6 compound meters and replaced 3 meter measuring elements during the month of February.
- The Billing and Cashier representatives handled 3,746 incoming phone calls and placed 1,835 outbound phone calls in January of 2017.
- 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.
- The Water Department Director presented to approximately two-hundred 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders at three different local schools. The presentation focused on the profession of engineering, as well as water quality and the importance of conservation and leak detection.

## Information Services

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- Completed the installation and configuration of the SharePoint 2016 farm. Migrated existing SharePoint 2007 (MUNIS project tracking) and 2010 (Fire and Police) sites to the new farm.
- Worked with Bloomington Police on reorganizing the intelligence portal (Vault) for migration into the new SharePoint 2016 farm.
- Received and deployed workstation class computers in PD. These very high end machines, along with specialized software, are required to allow redaction of video for FOIA release.
- Started the transition from Android to iPhones for users in the Police Department. Successful deployment and management have occurred.
- Implemented new vulnerability scanning solution to scan both internal and external systems to speed remediation.
- Received new tablets and began IS testing and pilot to end users.

## LIBRARY

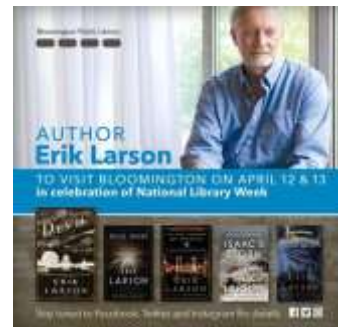
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### [Bloomington Public Library Website](#)

### [March, April, May Program Guide](#)

#### Highlights:

- Bill's Key and Lock Shops has generously loaned four Ferris Wheel models to the Library to help promote the [2017 Bloomington Reads Program](#). The Ferris Wheel first debuted at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, which is the setting for the Bloomington Reads featured title – "The Devil in the White City" by author Erik Larson.
- 284 kids under 3 participated in our Winter My First Reading Program.
- Our Music Makers program for kids attracted 77 participants.
- We published our [sixth podcast](#). This month's topic was Virtual Reality.



#### Stats:

- 100,674 items were checked out
- 247 new cardholders were added
- 7,629 holds were filled
- 2,770 items added to the collection
- 3,743 people used the public computers
- 24,257 people used our online catalog and website
- 5,898 people used our online databases
- 2,929 people used our Wi-Fi for a total data usage of 2.07 TB
- 112 groups reserved our meeting rooms
- 46 programs offered for all ages
- 1,033 people attended programs
- \$20,521.25 has been raised by Book Shoppe sales since the beginning of the fiscal year

## US CELLULAR COLISEUM

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### Events Calendar

- February started off with an excellent two-day IHSA Cheerleading Finals event that brought in more than 13,000 fans to the arena and the Bloomington-Normal area.
- We hosted a very popular concert featuring country stars William Michael Morgan, Lee Brice and Justin Moore on Friday, February 11. More than 4,000 fans attended that show.
- The Bloomington Thunder had two games in early February before hitting the road for a long stretch. Both games were very well attended as the team makes a push to get into the playoffs.
- On February 18 we held the monthly Indoor Farmer's Market.
- The weekend of February 24 & 25 we hosted the IHSA Dual Team Wrestling Finals with more than 2,700 fans watching the two session event on Saturday.
- Finally, on February 26 the Bloomington Edge kicked off their season with an all-day football festival featuring two exhibition games prior to their preseason game against the Tri-Town Titans.
- The arena ice surface was utilized during 36 blocks of time for practice, youth and adult hockey. The coming months have comparable usage.

### ***Upcoming events include:***

- On March 1, Sesame Street Live will play two shows at the Coliseum – 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- The Bloomington Edge will kick off their regular season on Friday, March 3 and will play two more Saturday night games on March 18 and 25.
- The annual battle between the Bloomington Police and Fire Departments "Guns & Hoses" will play their hockey game to benefit the Special Olympics.
- The Bloomington Thunder will host the Madison Capitals on Saturday, March 4 and will play only one other game at home in March – on the 12<sup>th</sup>.
- World Wrestling Entertainment presents WWE Live! on Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. bringing their highly popular brand of wrestling entertainment to Bloomington.
- The Indoor Farmer's Market will be back on March 18.
- Jim Gaffigan's Noble Ape Tour was booked for December 3, 2017 and tickets are now on sale.

### **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 is pleased to be a partner with the City of Bloomington to present live entertainment and sporting events at the Coliseum. We appreciate your confidence in us.*