

NOTES

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Barbara Lipscomb, City Manager *BL*

DATE: August 17, 2016

SUBJECT: Materials for Your Information

Please find attached the following materials for your information:

1. A memo from me regarding the new video equipment upgrade in City Council Chambers
2. A memo from Ken Jackson, Public Works Operations Manager, and Deputy Police Chief Ted Sauls regarding rights-of-way litter

als

Attachments

cc: Dave Holec, City Attorney
Carol Barwick, City Clerk



Find yourself in good company

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: Barbara Lipscomb, City Manager *BL*
Date: August 17, 2016
Subject: Video Equipment Upgrade

As part of the video equipment upgrade in the Council Chambers, the City now broadcasts its meetings, shows, and bulletins in high definition. While this provides us with optimal resolution, we currently only have a standard definition channel with Suddenlink.

The necessary scaling for a standard definition broadcast will not impact our online videos and archives in the Granicus system, but there may be times when the broadcast on GTV-9 will appear to be cropped inappropriately. This issue will not be fully resolved until we have a high definition station with Suddenlink. Staff will be working to adjust our graphics in an effort to minimize the effect.

We are hopeful that Suddenlink will soon transition to an all-digital cable broadcast system. If this happens, a high definition channel should open up for GTV-9. At this time, we do not know how long that might take or if the recent Suddenlink buyout will impact that transition.

als



Find yourself in good company

Memorandum

To: Barbara Lipscomb, City Manager
From: Kenneth W. Jackson, Public Works Operations Manager
Ted D. Sauls, Jr., Deputy Chief of Police
Date: August 17, 2016
Subject: Rights-of-Way Litter

During the August 9, 2016 Department Head Meeting you provided direction to the Public Works Department and the Police Department regarding litter abatement within the City. This response is being prepared jointly to provide a single overview of the efforts of the two departments.

Reducing and cleaning up litter along our roadways and streets within the City is a key component to the aesthetics of our community. The Public Works Department has personnel and contractors that clean up litter along City rights-of-ways on a regular basis. North Carolina Department of Transportation is responsible for most State rights-of-way within the City of Greenville. The various means of litter cleanup provided by Public Works are as follows:

- **Litter Crew-** This crew is composed of one employee who is supplemented by utilization of the Community Service Work Program. Generally, we have one or two Community Service Workers with the Public Works employee. If no Community Service Workers are available, our supervisors will seek to reassign one other Public Works employee to assist in these efforts. The crew runs a designed route to ensure coverage of the City rights-of-way each week. Some areas of the City are picked up more often due to litter volume. This crew operates Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and Saturday from 12 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.
- **Uptown Maintenance Crew-** This crew of two employees, which is supplemented by a Community Service Worker when available, picks up litter and dumps all public trash containers in the downtown area. This crew also has rights-of-way, public building landscape maintenance, parking lot maintenance, and tree maintenance duties in the uptown area. This crew operates Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. One employee with assigned Community Service worker(s) provides litter pickup and parking lot cleanup uptown from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. each Saturday and individually on Sunday's from 3 a.m. until 8 a.m. removing litter and emptying trash cans.
- **Contract Mowing Crews-** Our mowing contractors for City rights-of-way, medians, and other public properties pick up litter prior to mowing.
- **Keep Greenville Beautiful-** Manages the Adopt-a- Street litter collection program for groups who would like to volunteer to pick up litter along a designated roadway.

Cleaning up litter in the City rights-of-way is also performed by additional crews in the winter when our contractors are not mowing.

The Police Department has not traditionally performed litter campaigns designed specifically to target offenders of the state littering law or associated City Ordinances. As part of normal duties any sworn police officer can enforce either aspect of this violation if they witness it occur. Likewise, if a citizen will attest to having seen the violation and will testify as such in court, any sworn officer would be able to cite the violation. When included as part of the police department operations the Code Enforcement Division would take the primary lead in abatement of this type of violation. Now under Community Development the Code Enforcement Division could still respond to blighted areas for purposes of abatement and enforcement.

One area that has been highlighted by members of the community is the sidewalks in the Uptown area of east Greenville. Often times the sidewalks will be littered with cigarette butts after nighttime activities. Many of the businesses in the area have no outside space and patrons are therefore forced to use tobacco products outside in the public spaces. This leads to trash and cigarette butts being deposited on the sidewalk. One business for example, although not required, sweeps the butts into a pile along the wall of their business so that they might be cleaned up later. This is not a violation and may be something that makes cleanup by Public Works easier.

With regard to past enforcement actions/efforts by the Police Department the past five years were reviewed to determine the amount. Between 1/1/2011 and present there have been thirty (30) case investigations that included charges for littering as well as thirty-three (33) citations issued for additional incidents. Additional research may reveal whether these case investigations leading to citation as well as the citations for on-sight violations were issued by a sworn police officer or a member of the Code Enforcement Division. That information is not available as of the date of this memorandum.

Please contact either Ken Jackson or Ted Sauls if you need additional information, or have question regarding this information.

cc: Kevin Mulligan, Director of Public Works
Kevin Heifferon, Building and Grounds Superintendent
Mark Holtzman, Chief of Police