



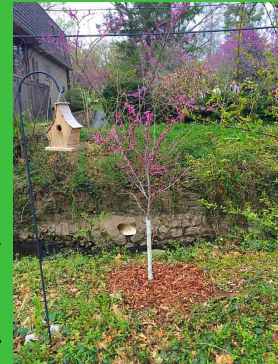
## ***City of Westwood Hills July 2016 Newsletter***

### **Budget Hearing**

There will be a budget hearing, at 7:00 pm, prior to the City Council Meeting on August 8, 2016 at Westwood City Hall. All residents are welcome to attend. Click [here](#) for the notice.

### **Tree Reimbursement Program**

The City received a grant from the County to encourage residents to plant new trees, and we encourage residents to consider whether a new native tree planting would benefit their landscapes. Prior to any planting, the homeowner must submit an application to the City, describing the planting project. If a homeowner's application is approved, the City will reimburse half the cost of the tree, up to \$150.00. There is a limited amount of money, and first come, first served. Click [here](#) for the application.



### **Voters to decide on public safety issues November 8**

**The following information is from the County Manager's Office**

Johnson County voters will be asked on November 8 to vote on a quarter-cent public safety sales tax to fund a new courthouse to address safety and security issues for victims, families, and jurors; accessibility challenges, and overcrowding due to the growing population.

The sales tax will sunset in ten years. It will also fund a coroner facility. Currently, the county pays to use a lab in Wyandotte County.

The current courthouse design makes it difficult to keep inmates separated from victims, jurors and families. This leads to close contact between victims and their alleged perpetrator in hallways and courtrooms, and between jurors and inmates during trial and deliberation. Numerous remodels and renovations have been completed to try to address these issues in the 64-year old courthouse, built for a population of 63,000 and now serving 575,000.

A new courthouse is less expensive than renovation and expansion of the current courthouse due to the significant design changes needed to improve security and accessibility and plan for growth. Renovating and expanding the existing building will cost approximately \$34 million more than a new courthouse. Over the next 20 years, operating and maintaining the current courthouse will cost an estimated \$155 million more than a new courthouse due to the aging building and its inefficiencies.

A new coroner facility would provide an accredited location to evaluate evidence and prevent cross-contamination of evidence. It would ensure autopsies are done in a timely manner.

Under state statute, cities in Johnson County would split 34% of the total sales tax revenue for needed resources such as police, fire, streets and other improvements.

The city of Westwood Hills would receive approximately \$ 104,000 in revenue over 10 years.

The public safety sales tax would add a quarter to a \$100 retail purchase. Public tours of the existing courthouse are being offered July 26 - Nov. 1. For more information, [www.jocopublicsafety.org](http://www.jocopublicsafety.org).

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### **Vacancy on City Council**

Mayor Schwach is seeking candidates for appointment to a vacant City Council seat, especially a person with a background in finance, accounting, or budget management. Councilman Randy Brown is relocating from the City, and his resignation has created a vacancy. If you have an interest, please submit a resume and brief e-mail or letter of interest to [whclerk@gmail.com](mailto:whclerk@gmail.com) by August 1, 2016.

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CFD2 will be hosting an Open House and Pancake Breakfast at Station 23, located at 9011 Roe., in Prairie Village, on Saturday July 30th, from 9am-Noon. Donuts and beverages provided.



### **A Note from the HOA Regarding Trash and Yard Waste**

Yard waste collection has resumed; and will continue until December 31, 2016. Leaves and yard waste should be placed curbside in brown yard waste bags. Twigs and branches should be tied and bundled in no longer than 3 foot bundles.

Did you know that each home is allowed one large item per month for complimentary pick up? You must call WCA (formerly Town & Country) to schedule the pick up.

Appliances are not included in the monthly pick up.

All residents may call the Homes Association Trash Liaison Board Member, Lizann Kesse,  
at 816 289 4379 with any questions.

### **2016 Home Occupation Licenses**

If you operate a business from your home, please complete the [Home Occupation License](#) form and mail the completed application with a \$25.00 check payable to the City of Westwood Hills. Home occupation licenses must be renewed annually.

### **Yard of the Month (YOTM)**

Congratulations to Mike and Karen Shelor Sexton at 4940 State Line Road.



## Pet Registration

Please register your animals living in Westwood Hills. Beginning in 2010, the city provided each pet owner a pet tag with an identifying number, good for as long as you have your animal, rather than issue annual tags.

Please ensure that all your animals are always current on their proper vaccinations. Also, when circumstances change, for instance, getting a new pet, or losing a tag, please apply for a new tag. Therefore, if a pet is lost, there is a better chance of helping reunite the pet with its owner. If you need to register a pet now, please fill out the [Pet Registration Form](#) and return to Beth O'Bryan. Westwood Hills allows two cats and two dogs per residence.

## A Message from the Chief of Police (Posted on June 17 on Nextdoor Westwood)

Hope your summer has started off well. With school being out and warmer weather upon us we know that crimes of opportunities will be on the upswing. Thefts from autos is one of those crimes that tends to go up this time of year. Just today, two other cities in the Northeast had thefts from autos at city parks/pools. Purses were left where they could be seen or partially hidden and the windows were smashed.

It really takes very little effort to prevent this. If you know you're going to the park, pool, gym... preplan your trip. Put valuables in your locked trunk before you even get to the location, leave items at home that you know you absolutely don't need with you. And remember to lock your cars.

15 to 30 seconds of conscious preparation will avoid hours of anxiety and frustration. Please work with us to prevent these crimes, it's important to you, your family and your neighbors.

## Zika Virus

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is alerting the public of the potential to contract Zika virus while traveling abroad. Although sexual transmission of Zika virus infection is possible, mosquito bites remain the primary way that Zika virus is transmitted. Because there currently is no vaccine or treatment for Zika virus, the

best way to avoid Zika virus infection is to prevent mosquito bites. While illness is usually mild, and severe disease requiring hospitalization is uncommon, Zika virus infection in pregnant women can cause severe birth defects of the brain, including microcephaly. Pregnant women should not travel to areas with Zika virus. The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red, watery eyes) lasting from several days to a week. If you are experiencing Zika virus symptoms and have traveled to/lived in an area with Zika within the past 2 weeks, contact your healthcare provider immediately so you can be tested for Zika virus. Tell your healthcare provider when and where you traveled.

You can find more information on the Johnson County Government's webpage [here](#) and [here](#).

## House Watch Submission Form

The Westwood Public Safety Department can help monitor your property while you are out of town. To begin this service, complete and submit the [Online Form](#) at least two business days before you depart.

## Construction

If you are considering any work around your property, you may need a permit. Check with the City Clerk at [whclerk@gmail.com](mailto:whclerk@gmail.com) before starting any work.

## The July Planning Commission Meeting

There will not be a July meeting.

## August Meetings

The August regular City Council meeting will begin immediately following the 7:00 p.m. budget hearing on Monday, August 8, 2016. Please contact Beth O'Bryan if you have an item to place on the agenda.

The August Planning Commission Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on August 18, 2016, at Westwood City Hall. Please contact Beth O'Bryan at [whclerk@gmail.com](mailto:whclerk@gmail.com) if you have an agenda item.

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## City Information

City Clerk/Administrator: Beth O'Bryan [whclerk@gmail.com](mailto:whclerk@gmail.com) - 913-262-6622

Mayor: Paula Schwach - [serenity\\_01@prodigy.net](mailto:serenity_01@prodigy.net)

City website: [www.westwoodhills.org](http://www.westwoodhills.org)

### City Council

Vacancy - Budget and Finance

Rosemary Podrebarac - Ordinances and Building - [rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com](mailto:rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com)

Karen Shelor Sexton - Public Safety - [kls@sextonandshelor.com](mailto:kls@sextonandshelor.com)

Ludwig Villasi - Landscaping - [lvillasi@kc.rr.com](mailto:lvillasi@kc.rr.com)

John Weedman - Public Works - [john@midwestbinding.com](mailto:john@midwestbinding.com)

Meetings are held at Westwood City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Blvd.