

City Calendar

<http://bit.ly/mgacal>

Mini Farmer's Market

Wednesday, July 11
12-4 pm @ 111 N. Green St.

TGIF w/ Kids in America + Morganton Motor Club Cruise-in

Friday, July 13
5 pm @ Historic Courthouse
Square

Farmers Market w/ Reel Time Lucy

Saturday, July 14 • 8 am-12 pm
@ 300 Beach Street

TGIF w/ Red Dirt Revelators

Friday, July 20 • 6-10pm
@ Historic Courthouse Square

Farmers Market

Saturday, July 21
8 am - 12 pm @ 300 Beach
Street

Mini Farmers Market

Wednesday, July 25
12-4 pm @ 111 N. Green St.

City Council Approves Budget

The Morganton City Council approved the City's 2018-19 Fiscal Year budget after holding a public hearing June 18, 2018.

This new budget brings changes for Morganton residents, including a decrease in electric bills.

Residential and small commercial customers can expect to see an approximately four percent decrease in their bills. Larger industrial and commercial customers will see a very slight increase of about 1.8 percent. This means a typical residential electric customer should notice an average decrease of \$4.80 per month. The change in electric rates will take hold July 1. The fixed facilities charge of \$200 per month for large industrial customers will also decrease to \$100 per month.

The approved budget comes with a few small increases in water, sewer and cable rates for customers, and a slight four cent ad valorem tax rate increase to 57 cents per \$100 of valuation. There will be no increase to internet and phone services to citizens.

This increase on taxes comes after five years of no change to the tax rate, during which the City has worked hard to keep

taxes low and value high for customers on all services provided by the City.

"We provide our residents with great services at a superb value, and we are proud of that," said City Manager Sally Sandy. "We are continuing to respond to the marketplace to provide the best bargain possible for our citizens."

The 2018-2019 General Fund budget includes funding for operations and the capital improvement program (CIP). Different from years past, the budget includes separate Capital Project funds for large, multi-year projects. Equipment replacements, park improvements, vehicle purchases, infrastructure improvements, and funds to begin masterplan implementations are included. The City staff continues to pursue grant and public/private partnership opportunities to finance capital projects. The General Fund CIP totals \$2,778,860.

The 2018-2019 Fiscal Year total budget is \$72,782,828. You can read City Manager Sally Sandy's full budget message and learn more about the budget here: <http://bit.ly/2yrjkAD>

Morganton Festival Returns September 7-8

The Morganton Festival will return to the streets of Downtown Morganton Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8, 2018.

Come out to enjoy hundreds of vendors selling their crafts and other wares, delicious food and fantastic live music.

The Kid and Teen Zone will offer entertainment and activities for youngsters.

This year also includes the

first-ever MADE Competition, which stands for Morganton Arts Design and Engineering, and will engage local Middle and High School aged students in an innovative competition designed to showcase desirable, employable skill sets.

Country music artist Chris Lane will headline this year's festival. Learn more at morgantonfest.org



Thousands of visitors come to Downtown Morganton each year for the Morganton Festival.

Citizen's Police Academy A Success

Twelve participants in the Morganton Department of Public Safety 2018 Citizen Police Academy graduated from the program on April 13th at a special ceremony held at CoMMA.

Each participant received a certificate of achievement for completing the program.

2018 Citizen's Police Academy Graduates are: Shane Berry, Karen Gabriel, Tiffany Juarez, Betty Landers, Lisa Lewis, Tanya Miller, George Milner, Danny Perez, Amy Porter, Sandy Sisk, Francisco

Solis and Danette Steelman-Bridges Thank you to the graduates for their commitment and desire to learn more about law enforcement. Stay tuned for updates about the next Citizen's Police Academy, which will begin January 2019.



Pictured above are the graduates of the 2018 Citizen's Police Academy.

Art in the Hall on display through July 27

The work of two regional artists is now on display at Morganton City Hall through July 27 for Art in the Hall.

Nancy Hilliard Joyce was born in Greenville, South Carolina and was accepted into the Governor's School for the Arts in Visual Art at the age of 16. For 5 years she served on the Board of Trustees at the Asheville Art Museum and was an active member of the River Arts District Association in

Asheville, NC. Today, Nancy works primarily from her home studio in Concord, NC.

Nelson Brookshire, a self-described folk artist, was born in Caldwell County, NC, in 1943. Nelson creates his work by cutting magazine paper and rolling it into small tubes that he uses in a manner similar to mosaics to create his pictures. Nelson and his wife live in The Village of Cedar Rock near Lenoir, NC.

The public is invited to stop by and meet the artists at Morganton City Hall during the Third Thursday Art Crawl on July 19, from 5 pm to 7:30 pm.

An exhibit by artist Matt Strawn will be hung in City Hall for August and September.

Matt specializes in printmaking, etching, woodcut prints and watercolor painting to create his work.



The paintings of Nancy Hilliard Joyce are made with mixed media.



The work of Nelson Brookshire is made of rolled magazine tubes.

TGIF w/ The Colby Dietz Band

Friday, July 27
6-10 pm @ Historic Courthouse Square

City Council Meeting

Monday, August 6
6pm @ City Hall

Art In The Hall
Matt Strawn

August-September 8am-5pm @ City Hall

Farmers Market w/ Live Cooking Demonstrations and Live Music

Saturday, August 4 • 8 am - 12 pm
@ 300 Beach Street

Mini Farmers Markets

Every Wednesday through October • 12-4 pm
@ 111 N. Green St.

Closed for Labor Day

Monday, September 3

City Hall and all City facilities will be closed for Labor Day.

Sanitation will not pick up on Monday. The rest of the week will be on one day delay.

Reminder:

Residents who pay their property taxes by July 31 will receive a 2 percent discount, while those who pay by August 31 will receive a 1 percent discount.

MORGANTON CITY COUNCIL

Ronnie Thompson • Mayor
S. Sidney Simmons • District 1
Forrest A. Fleming • District 2
Chris Hawkins • District 3
Wendy Cato • District 4

CONTACT THE COUNCIL

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Morganton Matters is produced by the City's Public Information Office.

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