City of Gallatin

May 2012

A Note from Mayor Graves:

City Takes Charge of July 4 Celebration

The City of Gallatin is overseeing this year's July 4 event. We want our citizens to be able to stay in their hometown for Independence Day activities and fireworks.

The event will focus on offering a fun night for individuals and families. This year's event has three parts—music, the Fire Department Tower of Foam for children, and fireworks.

You are welcome to bring your own picnic, sit on the lawn of the Civic Center, or bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the night.

This year's event starts at 6 p.m. That way you can have your pool party, barbecue or simply relax at home during the day.

So, plan to join us Wednesday night, July 4, at the Gallatin Civic Center to celebrate our country's 236th birthday!

For City News & Events Visit:
Gallatinonthemove.com

Get Ready for Summer Fun!

Grammy-Nominated WannaBeatles to Perform July 4 at City of Gallatin Independence Day Celebration

The WannaBeatles—who hail from Middle Tennessee–will be the sole performers for the City of Gallatin's July 4 Independence Day celebration.

Nominated for a Grammy this year, the WannaBeatles feature four musicians who are all nationally or internationally recognized in their various individual genres.

"We are very excited that the WannaBeatles will perform July 4," Mayor Jo Ann Graves said. "The City has taken over the Independence Day celebration this year and we want to make sure everyone brings their whole family to enjoy the event."

The WannaBeatles performed in Gallatin last summer in the first full season of Third Thursday on Main Street—and drew one of the largest crowds of the season.

All four members of the group provide instrumentals and vocals. Dennis Scott is also a composer with songs recorded by Ray Charles, Faith Hill, Sugarland and even The Muppets. Bryan Cumming toured and recorded with The Pointer Sisters, Al Jarreau and Supertramp. Nathan Burbank, a classical organist, composes and underscores theater shows. And, David Toledo, whose musical career spans 40 years, also records, writes and directs.

To learn more about the WannaBeatles, visit their website at:

TheWannaBeatles.com

Great Lineup for 2012 Third Thursdays on Main

The monthly music event on Gallatin's Historic Downtown Square begins at 6:30 p.m. every third Thursday—with the exception of October which is the first Thursday as part of the Mainstreet Festival.

May 17—*Wooten Brothers*
June 21—*Alternators*
July 19—*Peter Moon Band*
August 16—*Guilty Pleasures*
September 20—*Daryl Singletary*
October 4—*The Parks*

For more information, contact Greater Gallatin @ 452-5692.

Mayor Presents Balanced Budget with No Tax Increase

Mayor Jo Ann Graves presented a balanced budget to the City Council—a budget that holds the line on spending while assuring necessary City Services are maintained—all with no need for a tax increase and no need to take on more debt.

"The City must live within its means just like citizens have to live within their means at home," Mayor Graves said. "It is certainly not easy in these current economic times. While the City has seen an up-tick in revenue, it is not enough to indicate the economy is completely recovered."

The Mayor explained that the annual budget process began with each department submitting its requests for the 2012-13 budget year.

The Mayor and Finance Director held budget meetings for each department with an invitation to all Council members to attend. These meetings are where the department heads explain their funding requests.

The Mayor's next step was to present the entire budget will all requests to the City Council to review and discuss – for Councilmembers to indicate what they thought should stay in or come out of the budget.

Then, the Mayor and Finance Director went through the budget line by line to make the necessary adjustments to balance the budget.

"These are different choices," the Mayor said. "Gallatin's department heads do a good job. Our employees work very hard to serve the citizens.

"But the City has limited revenue and I have to make hard decisions. This is not my money or the Council's money or the department heads' money. It is the taxpayers' money."

The budget is now before the Council to approve or amend. All Council meetings are open to the public. For information on meeting dates and times, please contact the Mayor's Office at 451-5961.

2012 Citizen Survey Results & Comments On-Line

The Tennessee Development District this year awarded the City of Gallatin the 2012 John S. Wilder Rebuild Tennessee Award for work on the City's Historic Downtown Square.

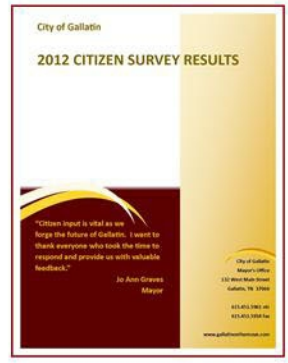
Nearly 400 households responded to the 2012 Citizen Survey—ranking the Albert Gallatin/Hatten Track Northern By-Pass as their number one priority.

Here are the project rankings from ***most*** requested to ***least*** requested:

- Albert Gallatin/Hatten Track Northern Bypass
- (Tied for 2nd) Drainage Improvement Projects
- (Tied for 2nd) More Greenways, Bike & Pedestrian Paths
- Additional Public Transportation
- More Improvements to South Water
- Second Pool at the City's Civic Center.

"I want to thank everyone who took time to respond," Mayor Graves said. "Citizen input is vital as we plan our City's future."

Results of the survey including citizen comments can be



viewed on-line at the City's website:

GallatinOnTheMove.com

City's New Treatment Plant Provides Free Fertilizer—No Joke

Gallatin's new waste water treatment plant has a bonus for citizens—free fertilizer.

Gallatin Public Utilities (GPU) has completed construction of the new plant at the end of Lock 4 Road.

With the old plant, GPU had to pay to have sludge hauled away from the facility. To save money on hauling costs, GPU is now treating the sludge by-product and converting it to fertilizer dust.

"We treat it with lime to kill all bacteria and create a class A sludge that can be used anywhere as fertilizer," GPU Superintendent David Gregory explained. "It is like vitamins for the soil and improves soil quality as well as plant health and production."

GPU plans to provide the fertilizer free the first year to determine demand.

Citizens interested in obtaining the fertilizer must first call the Wastewater Treatment Plant at 452-4362.

Employees at the plant will check availability of fertilizer and arrange a time to open the security gate to allow for pickup of the fertilizer.