



THIS IS ELDORADO



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EL DORADO

- December 2 & 16 - City Commission Meetings
- December 5 - Thankful Thursday - Shop specials downtown!
- December 7 - Holiday Extravaganza Craft Fair, Civic Center 9-2
- December 7 - Old Fashioned Christmas and Parade Downtown
- December 19 - Holiday Craft Party for Kids!
- December 20 - Sign-up deadline for Diva Night
- December 25 - Christmas, City Offices Closed
- January 1 - New Year's Day, City Offices Closed
- January 3 - Diva Night
- January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - City Offices Closed

FIND MORE EVENTS AT WWW.ELDOKS.COM



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@visiteldoradoks



@whats.happening.in.eldoks



El Dorado, KS CVB

Ice, Snow, No!

By: **Brad Meyer, Public Works Director**

While the danger from winter weather varies across the country, we are likely to face some type of severe winter weather at some point this winter season. Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

One of the primary concerns is the winter weather's ability to knock out heat, power, and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Heavy snowfall and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region.

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

The National Weather Service will issue watches and warnings when the weather is deteriorating. A Winter Storm Watch is issued when there is a potential for heavy snow or significant ice accumulations, usually at least 24 to 36 hours in advance of the event. The criteria for a watch varies from place to place. A Winter Storm Warning occurs when a winter storm is producing or is forecast to produce heavy snow or significant ice accumulations. The criteria for a warning varies from place to place. A Blizzard Warning is issued for winter storms with sustained or frequent winds of 35 mph or higher with considerable falling and/or blowing snow that frequently reduces visibility to 1/4 of a mile or less. These conditions are expected to prevail for a minimum of 3 hours.



TIPS:

- Have an emergency kit ready that includes: rock salt, sand, snow shovels and blankets.
- Move animals to warm, sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water. Put them inside.
- Drive only when necessary. If you must travel, travel in the day and not alone. Keep others informed of your schedule. Stay on main roads.
- Stay 50 feet from the snow plow so the driver can see you. Do NOT try to pass them.

Citizen Satisfaction Survey Question of the Month

By: **Tabitha Sharp, City Clerk**

Many customers ask each year what they can do to decrease their utility bill. Monitoring your usage is the best way to control your water and sewer charges. You might have a leak if you see an unexpected increase. There are a few things you can do to limit the effects of a leak, take a moment to check out your facilities for the following:

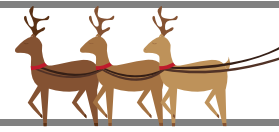
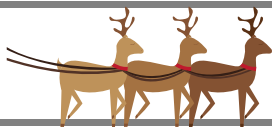
- A dripping faucet inside or outside of the home can lose 2 to 20 gallons of water a day.
- A faucet left running can use 3 to 5 gallons a minute, over 24 hours, that is 7,200 gallons.
- Check for leaking or running toilets, a leaky toilet can use 4 to 10 gallons of water an hour, or in a 24 hour period, up to 240 gallons of water.
- Check for leaky pipes and loose connections, one pin hole leak in a pipe or loose connection can lose 170 gallons of water in a day.

December begins our annual sewer averaging. Your monthly usage for December, January and February will determine your sewer average for the remainder of the year. Residents are able to reduce their 2020 sewer bill by being conscious of the amount of water they use from December to February.

Do you have a leak? Make sure you contact the billing department at 316-321-9100 and select Option 1. Staff will help you get an adjustment to your bill if a leak has occurred.



Trash routes will be affected by Christmas and New Years, please take a moment to review the schedule on www.eldoks.com or call 321-9100 ext. 181 for more information.



From the City Manager's Desk

By: *David Dillner, City Manager*



The City of El Dorado has voted in favor of a one-percent sales tax since 1990. The current sales tax began October 1, 2014 and ended September 30, 2019. City Ordinance S-1323 states that \$600,000 is allocated to street rehabilitation, \$1,350,000 allocated to property tax reduction, and \$50,000 allocated to economic development. After ordinance items are funded, the remaining balance is deemed "excess sales tax". Each City Commissioner nominates an individual within the city to the Excess Sales Tax Committee. The committee makes recommendations for the use of excess sales tax and submits them to the City Commission for consideration.

Per Ordinance, the excess sales tax can be used for additional street rehabilitation, property tax reduction, and capital expenditures. Property tax reduction can be no more than \$1,650,000. (\$1,350,000 + 3.49 mills) Capital expenditures are described as "an addition or structure that enhances the value of a property, a replacement or upgrade that extends the life of an asset or equipment acquisition." Street rehabilitation is described as maintaining and rehabilitating the existing geometrical alignment of improved city streets, which included portions of curb and gutter removal and replacement, mill and overlays, pavement replacement, and pavement related to storm drainage facilities.

The amount collected for 2018 was approximately \$2,649,496. The Excess Sales Tax available after defined allocations was \$649,496. This year, the committee voted to add back to the Excess Sales Tax Fund \$30,000, previously allotted to an arena study. The amount available for Excess Sales Tax projects this year is \$379,496.

The City developed a list of sixteen projects totaling \$959,400 for excess sales tax funds. Requests from the public asked for \$252,696.

The Commission voted to reallocate funds previously awarded to an arena feasibility study to other Excess Sales tax projects. The commission also voted to approve the Committee's recommendations as follows:

- Additional Property Tax Reduction \$300,000
- Senior Center Parking Lot \$67,200
- McDonald Stadium Project Bank \$40,000
- Public Works Roof Replacement \$61,000
- Fire Station No. 1 Doors \$24,000
- North Main Playground Replacement \$80,000
- Miniature Golf Course \$80,000
- Oil Museum Sign Replacement \$17,296.41
- El Dorado Main Street Facade Grant \$5,000
- Chamber of Commerce Grant Program \$5,000

All past Excess Sales Tax Projects are displayed on the City website www.eldoks.com on the City Manager's page. The projects below have been funded with prior excess sales tax collections.



Gordy Park
Playground
Equipment

Basketball Court at
Graham Park



Street Overlay



East Park Pavilion and Picnic Tables



Sam Binter Tennis Complex



Just a reminder, as you're out getting ready for the holidays, shop local! Money spent in El Dorado is reinvested in our community!