

“THE LINC”

Your connection to the news, decisions, and services from City Hall.

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City of Lincoln Holidays

City Hall will be closed over the course of the next thirty days in observance of the following holidays:

Good Friday
March 25

If you need to pay a sewer bill during that period, feel free to use our drop box location at the 200 block of Kickapoo Street.

CITY PURCHASES NEW STREET EQUIPMENT

To help assist in the quick repair of roads and streets, the City purchased a spray injection patching machine, called the “Total Patcher.”

The Total Patcher uses oil and rock to repair potholes, utility cuts, asphalt cracks, and many other poor road conditions, and can do many of those jobs quickly. Our demonstrations showed potholes being repaired in less than ten minutes!

Use of this machine will reduce the need to completely resurface roadways if poor surface conditions arise. It also allows the City to extend the

useful life of the streets.

Getting to cracks and potholes quickly keeps water and continuous traffic pressure from making larger problems in the roadway surface.

Even though it is a large piece of equipment, the required manpower to operate the Total Patcher is also minimal—as few as two crew members are needed to properly operate the machine. This means that the City can address roadway problems without a large drain on manpower.

“With dollars becoming tighter, we have to find a way to work smarter,” said Walt Landers, Street Superintendent. “This is an example of how we can meet the needs of our residents and be smarter with our time and money.”



CEO PROGRAM HOLDS SUCCESSFUL WEEKEND

It may not be directly City related, but we can't help but to be proud of this community's kids! High school students participating in the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities Program (CEO) held a Lincoln-themed interactive dinner and a Run-Walk 5K the weekend of February 12 and 13.

The Interactive Dinner was held on Friday evening at Lincoln Christian University's Henderson Hall. The night began with Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and ended with

some fun team trivia. Of course there was great food and other fun activities sprinkled into the festivities as well.

Saturday's below freezing temperatures could have posed a threat to the Run-Walk turnout, but participation exceeded expectations. Runners coming from as far as the St. Louis area jogged through our downtown on a route that highlighted Lincoln's history, character, and charm. With over 70 participants and outstanding organization, it's safe to say that the

Honest Abe Weekend was a tremendous success.

It's easy to dismiss the accomplishments of those that put on these type of events, but one must remind themselves that these are high school juniors and seniors who planned every logistical detail of this weekend with little instructor guidance! When you start to look at the achievements of these students through that prism, what they were able to do on a cold weekend in February becomes that much more impressive. Great work!

REVIEW OF LINCOLN 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

In February 2015, the City Council met in Normal for the purpose of identifying specific goals to improve the City as an organization and make it more responsive to the needs of residents. What resulted from that conversation was

the “Lincoln 2020 Strategic Plan.” More than simply an economic development document, the Plan has goals that stretch across a number of facets of our residents’ lives including communication and responsiveness,

improvements to infrastructure, growing our workforce, and improving quality of life.

In January of this year, the City Council

again met to analyze progress and discuss if the identified priorities remain the same. The four-hour session promoted great discussion amongst the alderman and department heads. Generally speaking, the Council was pleased with the progress over the eleven month period. To view the current strategic plan, go to www.lincolnil.gov.

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CITY OF LINCOLN PROFILE

Over the course of the next editions of “The Linc,” we will profile city staff so that you can better know the people serving you and your community.

Name: Mark Miller

Position: Fire Chief

Tenure with the City of Lincoln: Began with the Fire Department 1990 serving as a firefighter EMT; appointed as a fire inspector in 1993; certified as an inspector and promoted to Lt. in 2000. In 2010, I was appointed Fire Chief.

Family Life: I have been married for 25 years to my lovely wife, Amy. I have two sons: Evan 17 and Wiat 12.

What do you do? As Fire Chief, I have many tasks: budgeting, scheduling of events, training, responding to emergencies, attend meetings for planning throughout the city, code enforcement, fire investigations, overseeing City buildings and grounds, public education and policy review and creation. I assist with the City of Lincoln Facebook page, press releases, and public relations.

What’s your favorite part of the job?

Helping people. When people call the Fire Department it is not their best day. We work to make things better from giving assistance to someone who has fallen or extinguishing a structure fire.

How can people get in touch with you? I am in the office Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4PM. You’re always welcome to talk to me during Council meetings or by calling (217) 735-4741.



Mayor Marty’s Office Hours at City Hall:

Tuesdays: 2-4PM
Thursdays: 2-4PM

Have a question of the new mayor, or just want to stop by and say, “Hello!”? Mayor Marty Neitzel has established office hours from 2-4PM every Tuesday and Thursday where she is available for walk-ins or appointments. You’re welcome to stop by!