



# CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future”

July 2018

## Contact Numbers

City Hall	405-390-8198
Public Works	405-390-8276
Code Enforcement	405-281-6869
Court Clerk	405-390-3333
Police (non-emergency)	405-769-3821
Fire (non-emergency)	405-390-8300
Police/Fire Emergency	911
Choctaw Creek Golf	405-769-7166
Waste Connections	405-745-2942



Happy 4th of July!

## Recycling Pickup Schedule

Please remember that Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling will occur on the week of **July 9th & 23rd**.

## Choctaw Independence Day Celebration

Come celebrate Americas birthday in Choctaw on **July 4th** starting at *3pm* at **Choctaw Creek Park located at 2001 N Harper**.

There will be kids activities, inflatable water slides, music, balloon toss, food, and a corn hole tournament starting at *4pm*. The Corn Hole Tournament is for two person teams age 21 and up and will have cash prizes. You can pre-register your team for the corn hole tournament at City Hall up to noon on **July 3rd**, pre-registration is \$10.00 per team, \$15.00 per team registered on the day of the event.

We will cap the evening off with a fireworks display in the park at dark, approximately *9:45pm*. Please be aware that per Ordinance personal

fireworks cannot be set off inside City Parks, this will be enforced.

Come join us as we Celebrate Independence Day, it will be a blast!

## Play N Park

Join us Friday mornings in July! Starting **July 13th**, we will be at a different park in Choctaw from *10:00am to 11:00am*, to encourage kids ages 5-14 to get out, play games, play in the parks, learn about nutrition, and make new friends. As an added bonus, every child will receive one free sno-cone at the end of the event. Don't miss out—it will be lots of fun!

**July 13th** at Choctaw Creek Park; **July 20th** at Optimist Park; and **July 27th** at Ten Acre Lake. For more info contact *Tanner McGuire*, Parks and Recreation Director at **405-281-6854**

## City Manager Corner

On behalf of the entire Choctaw team, I am pleased to present the FY 2018/2019 Proposed Budget. Before getting into the nuts and bolts of the new budget I want to recap the execution of last year's budget as it impacts what we do for this year.

FY 2017/18 execution went well. Pretty simply “We did what we said we were going to do”. Focused on taking care of people, we executed 99% of the capital requirements noted in the budget, started the modernization of processes and procedures, continued the carryover of a healthy fund balance, decreased debt service, and increased manpower authorizations to a ratio more in-line with the population we serve. I believe our most significant accomplishments were a condition assessment of every road in Choctaw and the repair of the intersections of Indian Meridian/23<sup>rd</sup> and Choctaw Road/29<sup>th</sup>. (Scheduled for

mid-June) The road assessment base-lines our roads at \$400+M to replace and repair. The study will be used by Council to set future priorities and funding mechanisms. As a process, the city will update the assessment every 3 – 5 years thus establishing a modernized process to identify priorities.

Some other notable accomplishments: Funding of personnel authorizations for the Bouse Sports Complex, improvements in the conditions and operation of Choctaw Creek Golf Course, new playground equipment for Alexis Splash Pad and Choctaw Creek Park, donation of 6 exercise stations from the Rotary Club, image enhancements to City Hall and the repair of the Annex, development of a more detailed comprehensive plan for Main Street revitalization, opening of Arby's, Wendy's, Sakura, and Sweet Tooth Bakery, hiring of 3 firefighters, built two new brush trucks for fire, new bunker gear for fire fighters, completion of the Eastern Oklahoma County Tech Center turn lane, started construction of the new \$11M Sewer Plant, city employee salary survey specific to Choctaw, and the list goes on.

What are we going to do next year? FY 2018/19 Budget continues the good work we started last year still focusing on “Taking Care of People. We take care of people by providing 3 major functions for the City: Public Safety, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation. The underlying supporting elements to the 3 functions are a qualified staff and economic development. Like it or not, we live and die as a city by the sales tax revenues generated by local business. We will continue modernizing processes and procedures and ensure we have the number of qualified staff to work the challenges of this growing city.

The important numbers: City budget is

Visit us online at [www.choctawcity.org](http://www.choctawcity.org) for more information.

**Board / Commission Meeting Dates**

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

**7 PM**

City Council Meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **July 3rd & 17th**

Planning Commission Meeting: **July 5th**

Public Recreation Board Meeting: **July 10th**

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **July 23rd**

**4:30 PM**

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (Location To Be Determined): **July 25th**

approximately \$8M and the CUA budget is approximately \$2.5M for an overall budget of \$~11M. Here are some particulars:

General Fund Highlights: Sales tax to the city will hold steady with no projected new businesses opening; Continue original Council approved percentages for City sales tax transfers; Expenditures increase with addition of needed personnel; Capital increased with Debt Service decrease; Golf Course and Bouse Park transfers for stabilization

CUA Fund Highlights: Overall healthy carryover fund balance projected for FY 2020; Increase in revenue for anticipated new service; Continue concrete intersection improvements

Capital Outlay and Special Highlights Public Safety: Replace 3 water tanks for tanker trucks (Fire); Replace handheld radios; Critical maintenance to Police Department, Image upgrade; Accommodate fee increases for contracts; Reserves set aside for future funding of Bunker Gear, radios, Tasers, Body Armor

Capital Outlay and Special Highlights Public Works: Dump truck, dump

truck bed, tilt trailer; Contract for water line from Reno, south down Anderson to 15<sup>th</sup> Street; Road grader attachment for skid steer, and zero turn mower; Concrete for intersections, Indian Meridian/10<sup>th</sup>

Capital Outlay and Special Highlights Parks and Recreation: \$10K monument sign for Bouse Sports Complex and Alexis Splash Pad; Funding for special events such as 4<sup>th</sup> of July, etc; Increase funding for landscaping park land; Maintenance improvements to Bouse Park Ball Fields; Range picker, greens mower, sprayer unit for Golf Course; Parking lot paving and grading Bouse Sports Complex; Mitigate safety issues Bouse Sports Complex

Capital Outlay and Special Highlights Administration: New Finance and HR Software to modernize service; City Hall phased image upgrade and repairs—flower beds, Council Chambers, Front office Customer spaces; Management of City IT Services; Reserves for IT—phased upgrades; Training

Capital Outlay and Special Highlights Planning and Development: Public notice signs; Engineering to replace N.E. 10<sup>th</sup> (Choctaw Rd to XXX); Funding for assistance to mitigate habitat area Markets

Personnel Highlights: Added a Deputy Treasurer City Hall; Added an HR Assistant City Hall; Added a Deputy Planner City Hall; Added 4 seasonal to streets maintenance; Added a sewer crew to Public Works, (Crew Chief and Laborer); Added a City Safety Officer position City Hall; Funding Maintenance Supervisor and 3 part time positions at Bouse Sports Complex; Funding 7 part time concessions positions at Bouse Sports Complex; Added 1 full time maintenance Golf Course

As you can see the City continues the modernization process and filling needed positions to serve the Citizens of Choctaw. The big focus areas for the upcoming year are: Hiring a Deputy Treasurer to act as the Program Manager for the new Finance Software the city plans to buy; improve our IT support for the City; use the road assessment to prioritize road work and potential funding mechanisms; base-line efforts at Bouse Sports complex. All are complicated ventures but needed as technology improves, IT vulnerabilities become more challenging, and our roads become older and worn. Secondary areas of focus, but no less important to the city, will be our economic development opportunities with the Markets and our Main Street Revitalization work. We are still looking to 2019 as a good time to start serious planning for a future Consolidated City Hall as our debt service makes room for reserve funds. Hand in hand with a decreased debt service, retail sales tax should rise proportionately making room for the City’s future plans according to the Comprehensive Master Plan. The later part of 2019 into 2020 is opportune time to hold back reserves for such planning.

**Choctaw Senior Center**

If you’re a senior citizen age sixty (60) or older, come join us. If you need transportation, give us call. We can arrange transportation for you. Meals are served Monday thru Friday at 11:30am. (Prior Meal Reservation Required) Upcoming events: **July 4th** - Closed; **July 6th** - “Positive Thinking: When Life Gives Us Lemons” 10:45am; **July 23rd**—“Neighborhood Safety” 10:45am; **July 30th** - “Digital Resources” 10:45am; For more information or to sign-up for a meal or an event, please call the Senior Center at **(405) 390-8040**, between 9:00am and 1:00pm.



**Choctaw City Hall**

2500 N. Choctaw Road  
P.O. Box 567  
Choctaw, Oklahoma 73020

Phone: (405) 390-8198  
Fax: (405) 390-8607  
Email: citymanager@choctawcity.org  
Web Site: www.choctawcity.org

**Did you know?**

The City Council agendas as well as all of the back-up information is available on the City’s website at: [www.choctawcity.org](http://www.choctawcity.org)

**Check it out!**