

City Manager's Report

June 24, 2022

Council and Colleagues, greetings. These reports will be included in the City Council packet for regularly scheduled Council meetings. The reports are intended to be informational, covering miscellaneous events and topics involving the City organization.

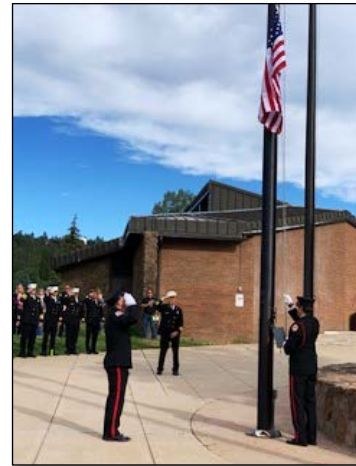
Also, appended to this report is the monthly update from our IT Team.

A Fond Farewell ...

Deputy Chief – Operations, Pat Staskey, was presented the American Flag, by his son, in a ceremonial send-off on Friday, June 24th. It was a well-attended event, and quite heartwarming, as the Deputy Chief was acknowledged by all in attendance as well as all stations through radio dispatch, before his last “signing off”.

In asking Pat what lies ahead, he was quick to note that there would be no schedule for the next several months, other than to spend time with family, which as of yesterday includes a new grandson!

Congratulations to Pat for his amazing tenure with the City Fire Department, and his relentless contributions to our community.



City Volunteer Days – June 18th

The third of a series of City-sponsored community volunteer events occurred on June 18^h in both the Sunnyside Neighborhood and Grandview Neighborhood. We continued with the effort of replenishing sandbags in these neighborhoods, with participation of many individuals from City Staff and the community. Notably, the Conservation Corps was present, as was the Junior Varsity Football Team from Flagstaff High School (photo directly below). And thanks to Mayor Deasy for again being there. This program is growing in popularity, and more importantly, in community outcomes. Enjoy the below images:



Juneteenth Gala

The event on June 17th was well-attended and beautifully orchestrated. As part of the Lived Black Experience, the evening event included dinner, a skit, numerous awards, cultural dress, role playing, and meaningful narratives. Awards were received by numerous individuals for their contributions toward Diversity Equity Justice and Empowerment. The City of Flagstaff was presented an award to Exemplary Leadership in Advancing these values.

A special thanks to Bernadine Lewis for her work in helping to orchestrate this event, of which she served as Emcee.



Fire Department

- The Fire Department assisted local historian John Vankat document our town's history by lifting him 50 feet in the air so he can take a modern photo from the same location where a photo was taken in 1884. (see photo ... the more recent one).
- Shift crews completed annual hose training, not of the garden variety.



- FFD held multiple community educational events in Linwood Heights on being firewise -- Family Involvement Center Mental Health Awareness for Kids, Prenda Online Charter School, Ft. Valley Neighborhood Association, NAU's Franke College of Business, and Bridge Church Vacation Bible School. Also, Wildfire Management kicked off the Forest Health and Wildfire series in partnership with the Flagstaff Public Libraries.
- Twenty firefighters responded to a commercial building on fire at Fanning and Industrial and were able to prevent it from damaging the rest of the building (photo right).
- Crews responded to a wooded area behind Lowell Observatory for a 0.25-acre wildland fire and successfully contain the fire with water from the water tender.
- Station 2 held a dinner in celebration of two retirements – Deputy Chief Pat Staskey (see Flag Ceremony above) and Battalion Chief Tony Casali (photo below).





Human Resources & Risk Management

- HR & RM are working to establish a Flagstaff trailing family member program to help in recruitment efforts and ensure retention of individuals who relocate to the Flagstaff community.
- Currently recruiting for 82 vacancies.

Police Department

- Several staff members assisted with the Torch Run fundraiser for Special Olympics.
- Due to the recent tragic school shooting events throughout the country, FPD have been responding to several requests from local schools for increased patrols. Officers have been typing reports onsite at schools and doing walk-throughs when available.
- Sgt. Clint Hill and squad conducted a woods watch patrol where they found several abandoned camps, provided information about services available and helped more individuals out of fire danger areas.
- Officer Elijah Kim attended an indoor job fair held at the Arizona Rattlers game in Phoenix.
- A blood drive was held at the LEAF to help with the critical blood shortage. Several staff members donated in honor of the shooting victims from Robb Elementary School in Uvalde Texas.
- Officer John Castaneda received the Officer of the Year award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving for his investigation and apprehension efforts related to impaired drivers. He was directly responsible for 57 individuals who were charged with driving while impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. (picture below)



- Chief Musselman, Chaplain Bradford, and Sgt. Sapp congratulated Jasolyn Acevedo and Michael Anderson on their graduation from the Northern Arizona Regional Training Academy this week. Welcome Jasolyn and Michael! (picture below)



- Congratulations to Deputy Chief Scott Mansfield on his graduation from the FBI National Academy! He attended the 10-week executive leadership courses with other police executives from around the world. The photo below is DC Mansfield with FBI Director Christopher Wray at the graduation ceremony.



- Lori Spencer received the 2021 Valerie Hernandez Memorial Award (Civilian of the Year) for proactively helping detectives develop leads, quality monthly crime bulletins, production of intelligence for shift change, running data and statistics on a wide variety of crimes and calls for service, and production of traffic statistics used to deploy resources appropriately. (see picture)



- Officer Matt Schmidt was recognized as the 2021 Flagstaff Police Department Officer of the Year for his contributions to the restructure of the police step pay plan which positively impacted morale. He spent numerous hours researching and presenting the ideas. Officer Schmidt also supports public relations and assisted with planning of National Night Out, The Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Toy Drive and several other events throughout the year. Officer Schmidt has inspired substantial changes at the Flagstaff Police Department.



- Also, Detective Jared Wotasik was recognized by Michael Oliver, President of the Flagstaff Law Enforcement Association, for his efforts. Detective Wotasik will now be joining the FLEA Board ... congratulations!



PROSE

- Recreation has partnered with Sustainability and Corbin Composting to have composting bins out near the entrance to the Aquaplex Recreation Center.
- Parks and Streets worked together in the demolition, excavation and haul off the damaged equipment at Ponderosa Park in preparation for potential monsoonal weather.
- Parks Supervisor, Ralph Hearne, coordinated a volunteer event to prepare the Citizens Cemetery for Memorial Day weekend celebration where individuals that served are remembered and thanked for their service. The NAU True Blue Ambassadors volunteered to help rake pine needles and pick up any micro trash. A special thank you to the Parks team for working hard to make this a special experience.
- Flagstaff Junior Academy 5th graders pulled invasive weeds and removed branches from Russian Olive and Siberian Elm trees cut down last year on McMillian Mesa Natural Area – two very packed truck loads. (picture below).



Public Works

- Streets stripping crews are out making improvement throughout the community along with sign repair and replacements.
- Fleet Staff checked out Rivian's electric pickup at NAU a week ago Monday. We were able to drive one of two vehicles around the campus. It can go a little more than three hundred miles on a single charge!
- Facilities maintenance has been busy at the Airport, Aquaplex, City Hall, Fire Station 5, City Court, Library, Sustainability, Visitors Center, NACET and USGS campuses making repairs.
- Solid Waste Collections and Landfill have been focusing on recruitment given the large number of vacancies within both operations.

That's all for now, Council. Onward and upward ...