



# October 2023 Newsletter



There is a saying that "Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors". Looking back at all the years I have lived in Mountain Park; we have had some real experiences to round out our skills as a community. When Deb and I first moved to this beautiful little two lake community the first thing that happened was Fulton County drained the Lakes and started a sewer line replacement project. I remembered as a councilman dealing with the issues associated with "pipe busting" and citizens with cracked foundations from this effort. After that we had everything from lake lawsuits to floods and tornadoes plus COVID. We have not only survived but have grown as a city in

how we deal with the future. I must believe that it is only our experience over the almost 100 years that has made us such great sailors that we can last another 100 years under the right leadership.

October is here, so get ready for our Third Annual Oktoberfest coming later this month. Don't forget to join us for this fun-filled event on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 4pm to 8pm. This year we will have the same great German Band from last year and will be serving more German beers and wines (for the non-beer drinkers). This year we are offering a new challenge with an axe throwing cage for a new fun competition and training for those who have never tried it before. We think that this will help raise even more money and give us some great entertainment as well. We learned a lot from the prior events and know this will continue to be an annual event in our picture-perfect setting for a fall festival. Proceeds from the festival will go to the MPVFD. We have an even larger tent this year, so the weather is not an issue rain or shine. Grab your tickets online in advance on the City website.

We are getting closer to the completion of the book on the history of Mountain Park. Look for some upcoming "reveals" from Trish Hill at council work sessions and meetings about the exciting and in some cases completely unexpected history of our little town.

Ein Prosit

Jim Still, Mayor

"Having better government is not a spectator sport."

# Join us for our 3rd annual **OKTOBERFEST** on 10/21.

**This is a fundraising event sponsored by Hofbrau Munchen and hosted by the City of Mountain Park for our Mountain Park Volunteer Fire Dept. The event will be outdoors on the community Green in our Beer Garden and Hofbrau Tent.**

**German Music played by Judy Boehm and her band.**

- **General admission \$10 (no beer) Available online and at Festival**
- **Bavarian admission \$35 (includes 3 beer tickets\*) Available online and at Festival**

**Wear LEDERHOSEN OR DIRNDL and get a free beer!**

**Authentic German Food provided by “Love at Wurst Sight” Food Truck with menu options listed below\*\***

- 1. Bratwurst w/sauerkraut**
- 2. Jalapenowurst**
- 3. Chickenwurst**
- 4. Veganwurst**
- 5. German Potato Salad**
- 6. Shoestring French Fries**
- 7. Sauerkraut**

**If you have any questions, please call City Hall at (770) 993-4231.**

**Tickets available in advance at: <https://mountainparkgov.com>**

**\*Additional beer tickets available at Festival**

**\*\*Additional menu items available at event.**



# MPVFR MESSAGE



**YOUR Partner in Public Safety**

**IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT FIRE**

It's not just about Fire! It's about tradition as well. MPVFR has been a tradition in our city for 45 years. MPVFR is part of our identity as a community. It is part of what makes us unique. It is part of our culture and roots. Our Volunteer Fire Department not only contributes to public safety but adds to the sense of community by bringing people together for a common cause.

Less than 4% of Fire Department calls are for fire (69% of calls are medical), and in Mountain Park less than 4%. We hadn't had a fire in about a decade or more. In December 2022, faulty wiring in an attic caused a house fire in Mountain Park. MPVFR was able to assist Roswell Fire who did an excellent job. When the fire was suppressed, Roswell rolled up their hoses and left. The ceiling had a gaping hole and freezing water was running into the house. Our MPVFR volunteers stayed to help the family by moving furniture, personal belongings and providing comfort after the fire. Why? Because they love our community and our citizens. They are a testament to the spirit of community service. Their commitment showcases the strength of community bonds and the willingness to help one another in times of need. That is value added.

What is the status of MPVFR and how much does it cost?

Staffing has been a problem in the past and COVID nearly decimated the department. In May of 2022, we were fortunate to have a new, extremely well-trained, and experienced Fire Chief take over. In a little over a year, he has increased the number of volunteers to 15, most of whom are already trained. Four of the volunteers live in Mountain Park, the assistant chief lives six minutes away, and our Code Enforcement Officer, who is also an MPVFR volunteer, is here almost daily.

What does MPVFR cost?

December 2021 Final Report Safety Oversight Committee

"A review of the last ten (10) years of Final Amended budgets shows that MPVFR has an Operating Expense Average of \$37,127 (\$37,000 rounded). These are actual operating expenses that do not include capital expenditures. Capital expenditures have been and are being covered by grants. Training costs shown separately for continuity of operations expenses". 11-year average - \$39,728.00, 12-year average - \$32,590.00, 13-year average - \$33,583.00.

**\*Note: MPVFR currently has no training costs**

	2010	2011	2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	*2021-2022
MPVFR Operating	26,711	38,231	30,780	41,690	50,752	36,886	36,983	57,887	22,019	15,166	51,294	15,861	12,324
MPVFR Training	4,500	4,000	2,250	3,500	3,448	3,500	214	2,200	2,599	695	2,700		
Total MPVFR	31,211	42,231	33,030	45,190	54,200	40,386	37,197	60,087	24,618	15,861	53,994	15,861	
Total MPVFR Without training	26,711	38,231	30,780	41,690	50,752	36,886	36,983	57,887	22,019	15,166	51,294	15,861	12,324

Figure 1: 10-Year Amended Budget and Actuals in Public Safety Spending. Years 2021 – 2022 added.

The budget for MPVFR this fiscal year is \$19,434.00. We have 289 households, so the average monthly cost per household is \$5.57 per month. This is not an extra fee. It is paid out the property taxes you already pay. Last year grants were awarded to replace needed gear and equipment, and the Fire Engine is in great shape. MPVFR has almost \$10,000.00 of fundraised money in their bank account, with two more events happening soon – Oktoberfest (10/21 4-8) and Santa Run in December. MPVFR is fiscally healthy. With more time, and keeping expenses low, MPVFR is an added value to our community.

# Civic Club News

**Oktoberfest on the Green 4:00 – 8:00 pm, October 21<sup>st</sup>** -- Assisting this City event by selling water, soft drinks, snacks, and Mountain Park T shirts.

**Mountain Park Civic Club Meeting Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

Civic Club welcomes all residents to join our organization as we continue to be of service to the community.

**Mountain Park Civic Club Hosts Meet the Candidates, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

Come out and meet the candidates that are running for the Mayoral seat, the two 4-year councilperson seats and the one 2-year councilperson seat.

We want to thank everyone for their support at our first (hopefully) annual Mountain Park Follies. It was a very entertaining time, and our participants were very talented singers, musicians, and semiprofessional actors!!



## MOUNTAIN PARK GARDEN NEEDS LEAVES

Do you need somewhere to get rid of all those leaves in your yard? Once again, this year, the Mountain Park Community Garden will accept your yard leaves. The Garden is at the corner of Spruce St and Mountain Park Rd heading towards Cherokee County. You can lean the bags against our Gate to Nowhere (you'll see). If you want to empty your bags and reuse them, you can drop the leaves into the enclosure. Leaves and pine straw only please (no branches, ivy, etc.). This will continue through the winter.

As a reminder we cannot take your grass cuttings unless you can assure us that you use no chemicals on your grass.



# Know Your City Code



## NOISE ORDINANCE

### Sec. 113-42. General prohibition.

It shall be unlawful for any person to make, continue or cause to be made or continued any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise or any noise that unreasonably or unnecessarily annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others in the city.

### Sec. 113-45. Enumeration.

The acts contained in this article, among others, shall constitute a violation of this article; but such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive.

- (1) *Air conditioners.* The maintenance of any refrigeration machinery or air conditioning, consisting of air compressors or rotating or reciprocating machinery, in such a manner as to create a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary shall be a violation of this article.
- (2) *Construction, land disturbance, building activity or repairing of buildings.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or permit the operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, land disturbance, building activity, drilling, or demolition work pursuant to or requiring a permit on weekdays between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., such that the sound therefrom creates a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary, except for emergency work of public service utilities or by special variance. No home construction shall be allowed on Saturday except for construction between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or on Sunday, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day except for emergency work of public service utilities or by special variance issued by the Mayor upon finding that work outside the stated above is reasonably appropriate to avoid unnecessary hardship or expense.
- (3) *Domestic animals.* It shall be unlawful for any person owning or keeping an animal to allow that animal to continuously (exceeding 15 minutes in duration, or greater than five minutes between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.) or repeatedly (consisting of 15 minutes over the course of one hour) howl, bark, whine or make other loud noises plainly audible from inside any adjacent or nearby residential structure owned by any person other than the animal owner.
- (4) *Domestic power tools.* It shall be a violation of this article to operate or permit the operation of any mechanically powered saw, drill, sander, grinder, lawn or garden tool, blower, lawnmower, or other similar device used outdoors, other than powered snow removal equipment, between the weekday hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., or on Saturday or Sunday before the hour of 10:00am or after 7:00pm.
- (5) *Explosives, firearms, or similar devices.* It shall be unlawful for any person to use or fire any explosives, firearms, or similar devices which create impulsive sound so as to cause a noise disturbance across a real property boundary or on a public space or right-of-way, without first obtaining a special variance.
- (6) *Loudspeakers; amplifiers.* It shall be unlawful for any person to use, operate, or permit the operation of any loudspeaker, public address system, mobile sound vehicle or similar device amplifying sound therefrom on a public right-of-way or public space for any commercial purpose. Further, it shall be unlawful to use, operate, or permit for any noncommercial purposes any loudspeaker, public address system, mobile sound vehicle, or similar device between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. on weekends.
- (7) *Radios phonographs, musical instruments, and similar devices.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, play, or permit the operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, drum, musical instrument, or similar device:
  - a. Between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. on weekends in such a manner as to create a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary, except as allowed by permit issued by the mayor and city council; or
  - b. In such a manner as to create a continuing noise disturbance at 50 feet from such device, when operated in or on a motor vehicle on a public right-of-way or public space.

# IMPORTANT DATES

October 4<sup>th</sup> .....Court 7pm  
October 4<sup>th</sup> .....Siren Testing 12pm  
October 11<sup>th</sup> .....Work Session @ 7pm

**FOR CITY COUNCIL: Citizen Participation is welcome – Please give at least 24 hours advance notice if you wish to be added to the agenda by contacting City Hall.**

October 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>.....Dumpster Weekend

Dumpster will be dropped off on the 13<sup>th</sup> and picked up the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>. Dumpster will be in the pool/boat ramp parking lot.

October 21<sup>st</sup> .....Oktoberfest 4pm-8pm

October 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Regular Council @ 7pm

October 26<sup>th</sup> .....Meet the Candidates 7pm

## **\*\*REMINDER\*\***

Water bills are due by the last day of every month. Please use the drop box at City Hall or pay online at [https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign\\_in](https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign_in). Payments received on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month or later will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

## **\*\*REMINDER\*\***

We have switched to a new trash company, Legacy Disposal Solutions. Please ensure you put your cans out the night before after 6pm or by 6am on Thursday and leave them at the curb until they are picked up. Please remove your cans from the curb by 9am on Saturday. No garbage will be taken that is left outside of the trash containers. Legacy Disposal WILL pick-up 3-yard waste bags left outside the can. If your trash or recycle pick-up is missed, please contact City Hall Monday morning before 9am by calling 770-993-4231 or emailing [utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com](mailto:utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com).

## **\*\*REMINDER\*\***

If you are in need of bulk pick-up from the curb now that we no longer offer the monthly dumpster day, please call Legacy Disposal Solutions at 770-688-9515 to schedule. Legacy Disposal will bill you, the resident, for this.



# Oktoberfest

on the Green

in Mountain Park

Saturday, October 21st  
4pm - 8pm



SCAN TO  
BUY  
TICKETS

Featuring German  
food and drink



Proceeds benefit



CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK  
Incorporated 1927

[www.mountainparkgov.com](http://www.mountainparkgov.com)



## Advance Voting Hours and Locations

**October 16 – November 3, 2023**

**Hours Include:**

**Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, October 21 & October 28: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, October 22 & October 29 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

ASTERISK\* INDICATES ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATION

**Alpharetta Library\***  
10 Park Plaza  
Alpharetta, GA 30009

**Buckhead Library\***  
269 Buckhead Avenue NE  
Atlanta, GA 30305

**Chattahoochee Hills  
City Hall**  
6505 Rico Road  
Chattahoochee Hills, GA 30268

**C. T. Martin Natatorium  
Recreation Center\***  
3201 Martin Luther King Jr.  
Drive SW  
Atlanta, GA 30311

**East Point First Mallalieu  
United Methodist Church\***  
2651 N Church Street  
East Point, GA 30344

**East Roswell Library\***  
2301 Holcomb Bridge Road  
Roswell, GA 30076

**Fairburn Annex**  
40 Washington Street  
Fairburn, GA 30213

**Fulton County Government  
Center (Office)**  
OFFICE  
141 Pryor Street SW  
Atlanta, GA 30331

**Gladys S. Dennard Library  
at South Fulton\***  
4055 Flat Shoals Road  
South Fulton, GA 30291

**Ponce De Leon Library**  
980 Ponce De Leon Avenue NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306

**Robert F. Fulton Ocee Library**  
5090 Abbotts Bridge Road  
Johns Creek, GA 30005

**Roswell Library**  
115 Norcross Street  
Roswell, GA 30075

**South Fulton Service Center  
(Office)**  
OFFICE  
5600 Stonewall Tell Road  
South Fulton, GA 30349

**Southwest Arts Center**  
915 New Hope Road SW  
South Fulton, GA 30331