

Stratmoor Hills Fall Announcements



Happy Autumn from the Stratmoor Hills
Neighborhood Association!

What a great opportunity to bring everyone up to speed on a few things related to our neighborhood. Our dedicated Board will remain the same this year, with Jim Pesicka returning as our President. Pam Pearson will remain as our Treasurer and Mel Pesicka will continue as Secretary. Their service is appreciated.

Our biggest event this fall is going to be the 1st Annual Chili Cookoff! (Details below.) I am pleased to announce that we will have three celebrity judges: State Representative Kit Roupe, Commissioner Dennis Hisey, and District 4 Commissioner candidate Longinos Gonzalez. This is a great opportunity for all neighbors to get to know their area representatives and share a bowl of excellent chili. Other upcoming events include our annual Christmas Potluck dinner on December 7. Finally, thank you for your generous donations this past year, as we collected nearly \$800.00 which will all go back to our great little community of Stratmoor Hills. If you have any questions, comments or feedback, please contact any of our Board members or visit our website.



Contact Us

The SHNA Board of Directors wants to hear from you. Learn about neighborhood events and get support from your community!

Board President James Pesicka
(719)331-8121

Vice President Daniel Beilfuss
(719)235-3818

Treasurer Pam Pearson (719)233-6311

Secretary Melinda Pesicka
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(719)373-8508

To submit newsletter articles please send via email to

Mrsdbeilfuss@me.com

Please Check out our website for info on upcoming events!!!

www.stratmoorhills.org



Stratmoor Hills 1st Annual Fall Chili Cook Off!

Wednesday 19 October 2016

6:00 PM-8:00PM

**Stratmoor Hills Elementary
School**

The Stratmoor Hills Neighborhood Association is super excited to announce our first annual Chili Cook-Off !

*** Anyone is welcome to enter their “award winning chili” for a small fee of \$10.00 (plus you get to taste all the chili too).**

***Celebrity Judges will choose 1st - 2nd, and 3rd place winners – who will receive a cash award!!**

Neighbors can sample all the chili for a small fee of \$4.00. Children 12 and

under eat for free. SHNA will provide salad, dining accommodations, bowls – spoons and drinks.

Please Join Us December 7, 2016 at 6Pm for the

Stratmoor Hills Neighborhood Association's Christmas Potluck!

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At the May 2016 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved 2 (two) TABOR related resolutions to put on the ballot in November 2016:



1. Ask the voters to approve the retention of \$16,400.00 of excess revenues that were collected in 2015.
2. Ask the voters to approve to “DE-Bruce” for the budget years of 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

*****Neither of these TABOR requests will raise your property TAXES*****

Excess Revenues and TABOR:

- The Fire Department collects its revenue from Property Tax, dispatching emergency services, Auto Tax, payment from Insurance for Traffic Accidents that we respond to, Interest and contracts we have with several local business’ for Fire Protection.
- Sources of revenue that are not budgeted might include insurance dividends, large state or local grants that are not excluded from TABOR, an expense incurred in one year and monies collected in the next year – even though it is a wash if transacted in the same calendar year – those monies received become part of that year’s revenues.
- Per TABOR, the Fire Department is only allowed to grow revenues 5.5% above the previous year’s income which limits our ability to aggressively pursue local and state grants for safety equipment that our personnel need to use on emergency calls.
- Income that exceeds the allowable TABOR income must be refunded to the tax payers through their property tax the following year.

As a result of this excess revenue collected, TABOR requires the department to refund each tax payer \$1.64 (**\$16,400.00/10,000 residents**) in 2017. Those funds can definitely help the department in purchasing safety equipment; Bunker Gear, Air Packs, Masks, structure boots, wildland gear, boots, safety vests, helmets, and safety goggles etc.

DE-Brucing:

“De-Brucing” is a term widely used to describe voter-approved revenue change ballot questions. When correctly understood, De-Brucing is not something that

happens to the local government, it is something that happens to a local government's excess revenue.

When there is a "change in revenue", under TABOR the Fire District is required to ask for voter approval. The most common type of TABOR ballot question considered by voters since the adoption of TABOR has been a "voter approved revenue change" that does not involve a tax rate increase, but allows for retention of excess revenues that have been collected during the previous year.

In 2015 the department exceeded the allowed revenues and now the department is asking the voters to allow the department to keep those funds and allow the department to keep any excess funds for the budget years of 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. The department may not have excess funds during those years, but if we do receive unplanned revenues, i.e. grants, we already have the voters' approval to keep those excess funds.



Total cost per Firefighter \$8065.00

The Stratmoor Hills Fire Department is a “combination” department with 5 (five) paid drivers, but the majority of the members are volunteers who put in a lot of hours training, attending classes, working shifts and gaining the required certifications to serve our community as well as to develop their skills. The department strives to provide the necessary equipment, tools, bunker gear etc to allow them to serve our community and be safe.

Help keep your local firefighters safe with the needed equipment and safety gear!