

THE YEAR 2018 IN REVIEW



Dave Niehaus

Monie Konecny

Thank You to Our Retirees!

Carol Riniker

Mike Stymiest

Janet Sanders



New Hires and Promotions



Robin Cline, Alderperson At-large Appointed April 2018



Cena Sharp Alderperson At-large Elected April 2018



Katherine Westaby, resigned February 2018



Tom Nall, term ended April 2018

New and Departing Council Members



The Mineral Street and Third Street parking lots in downtown were reconstructed.

Decorative fencing and landscaping was added to the lots.



The new downtown reserved parking program was implemented in August of 2018. New "branded" lot signs were installed the same month.

Under the new program, 30 of 37 available stalls have been reserved, compared to 14 stalls under the previous program.





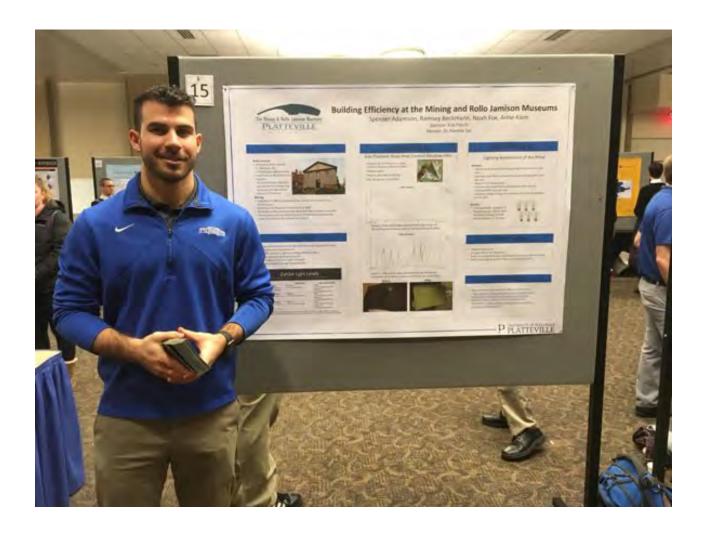
A new vehicle for the Fire Inspector was put into service. The previous vehicle had nearly 200,000 miles on it! This vehicle is also fully equipped to serve as a support vehicle during emergency situations.





Lunch date! Over the course of nine weeks, 6th grade students from the Platteville Middle School walked to the Senior Center for lunch. The students sat with the same seniors each time and came prepared with a list of questions. Senior participants brought pictures and old yearbooks to share.

The Museums started a new partnership with the **UW-Platteville Sustainable** and Renewable Energy Systems department. Senior students of Dr. Pamela M. Tas researched building efficiency, UV filters for collections storage space window, and converting the underground mine to LED lighting.



The Waste Water
Treatment Plant has been
approved for a Focus on
Energy grant of \$10,000 to
study the replacement of
older equipment with
newer, energy efficient
equipment such as pumps
and blowers.

The Waste Water
Treatment Plant also had
valves replaced and a
clarifier rebuilt.

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Resurfacing of Airport Runway 7-25 was completed in June. Planning for the project began in 2016.

The project included resurfacing the taxiway, ramp and main entrance road, repainting lines for the entire airport including parking, installing new edge lights and adding new surface to extend the ramp for a new fuel farm.







The Library began weekly after school Teen and Tween programs. Each week the students enjoy a variety of activities such as movies, Nintendo Switch, board games, crafts, and more.



The City completed several IT projects through partnership with CompuNET and donated hardware and software from the UW-P Real Estate Foundation including:

- upgrading to enterprise grade wireless
- enhancing security with a Next Generation firewall, and
- installing new ethernet switches to replace obsolete, unsupported switches.

These projects reduce the risk of significant downtime due to equipment failures.

Total attendance at the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums from January to November was 10,525 people!







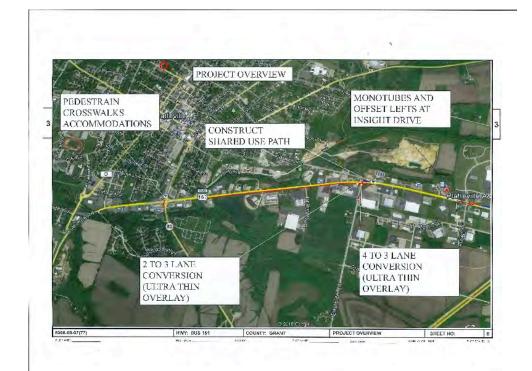


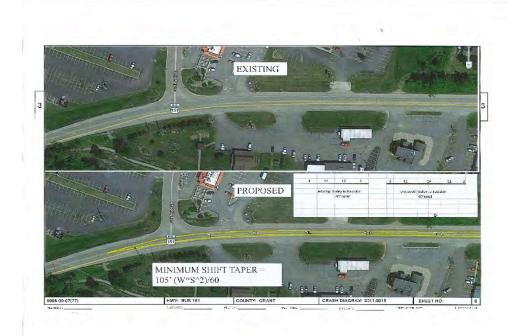
New LED scoreboards were installed on all baseball/softball fields in Legion Park.

The Platteville School District paid 80% of the total cost, with the City and Platteville Youth Diamond Sports each contributing 10%.

The old scoreboards were resold with the money going into the City revenue account.







The Public Works Department submitted a Highway Safety Improvement Program grant request to address safety issues on Business Highway 151. Project plans include adding a center turning lane, a new trail between the south side of Business 151 (Napa Auto Parts) and Eastside Road, and pedestrian improvements at the Water Street intersection. Engineering design work will start in 2019 with construction in 2020.

The Police Department updated their 3-year eligibility pools for promotion to the ranks of Lieutenant and Sergeant.





The City received a grant from the DNR to begin the Rountree Branch Streambank Stabilization project. Construction will begin in 2019.









Volunteers worked 1,072 hours to support The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums from January to November 2018!



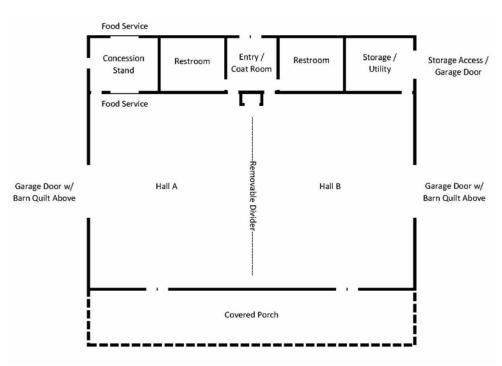


In 2018 meetings and a survey were conducted to collect public feedback to update the Parks Master Plan. The updated Plan is expected to be adopted in Spring of 2019.

A Committee was formed to raise funds for a new barn-themed event center in Legion Park. The new building would replace the existing Art Hall, and include a 6,000 square-foot heated event space, public restrooms, food service area, storage, and outdoor covered porch.

To date, over \$185,000 in funds have been committed to the project! Total building costs are anticipated to be between \$500,000-\$600,000.









Main Street was refreshed with banners designed by Platteville High School students, new flags and hanging flower baskets. Special thanks to Building Platteville for generously donating flowers and the American Legion Post 42 and the VFW Post 5274 for donating new American flags.



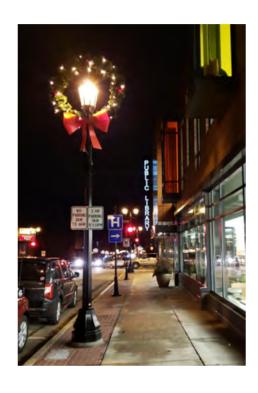




In honor of the centenary of the Armistice that ended World War I, The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums opened a new World War I exhibit. A special program with five speakers over Veterans Day Weekend brought the exhibit to life at the Friends of the Museums Annual Meeting.







Thanks to the Library Foundation, the Library purchased a bench for the corner of Main and Elm. The Library Foundation also supported the purchase of wreaths for the "Library Block." Thanks to a grant from the Platteville Community Fund, the Library purchased a decorative bike rack for Main Street and also received support for the purchase of wreaths.



Staff were successful in acquiring a grant to mount a full-size theater screen in the Municipal Auditorium. The screen was donated by State Theaters.

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The Fire Department purchased a new quick-attack mini-pumper, which is an EJ Metals custom built fire utility box on a Ford F-450 chassis. The new truck has an ultra-high pressure suppression system which gives the department faster knockdown abilities while using very small amounts of water.

The Senior Center now has fitness classes four days a week plus a dedicated cardio workout room thanks to funding from the Green Bay Packer's Foundation, an ongoing intern partnership with UW-P Department of Health & Human Performance, and volunteer class leaders. Fitness attendance averages 40 to 50 people per week!

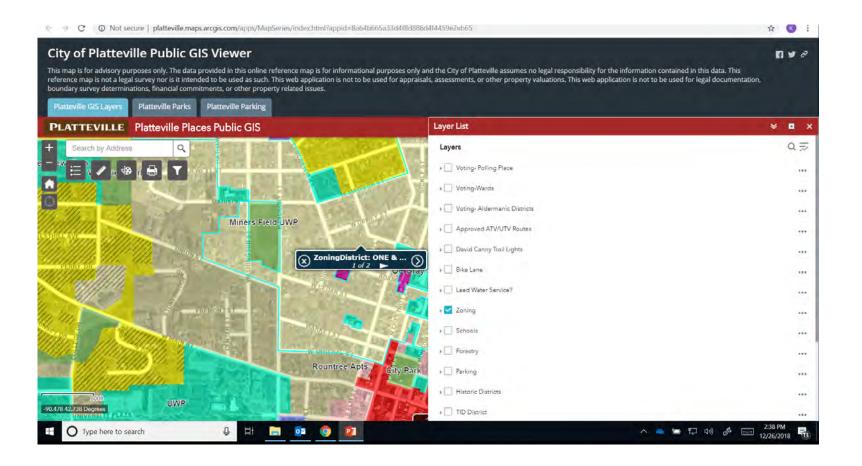




More than 10 volunteers helped to clean, inventory, digitally catalog, and rehouse items in The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums



collections. A 2018 IMLS grant paid for a half-time Collections Manager to oversee the work. As a result, nearly 5,000 objects are now cataloged in the Museum's database!



Due to legislative changes, the City ended its rental inspection program. The position that previously managed the program was restructured to include Geographic Information Systems (GIS) work, saving the City over \$20,000 in contract fees each year!





Platteville Arts, Trails & History (PATH) project surveys (one for artists and one for the public) and creative placemaking plan culminated in drafting a Platteville Creative Community Plan.



The Library sponsored the first community involvement fair in January 2018. Approximately thirty organizations participated and about 120 people attended.

The Fair will happen again on January 26, 2019. Mark your calendars!

2018 was a busy election year for Platteville's new City Clerk Candace Koch, with four elections culminating in the General Election on November 6th.

A total of 4,027 votes were cast, which was an increase of 140 ballots over the 2014 mid-term election. A team of 76 election workers assisted the City Clerk office with more than 1,600 voter registrations on November 6th alone!



A new Fish Slide was installed at the Platteville Family Aquatic Center.
The slide was purchased entirely from donations, including \$5,000 from the Platteville Optimists.

In addition, sand was also added to "The Big Dig" by a group of high school volunteers. The sand itself was donated by Rural Excavating.

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The Police Department policy review/update process is near complete. Significant progress towards the Accreditation goal has been made.

The Accreditation process through the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group is a lengthy project which will ultimately conclude with an on-site visit by a team of assessors who will evaluate the department's efforts and decide if all the standards required for agency accreditation have been met.







The Library partnered with the Platteville School District to host the first ever district-wide art show. All K-12 art students submitted at least one piece of art. Both partners hope to collaborate again in 2019.



The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums partnered with Southwest Health to display artifacts in exhibit cases around the hospital.









Several new events were held in the auditorium with the assistance of City staff including the Mississippi River Museum series, the Rollo Jamison and Mining Museums lyceum lecture series, the Around the Corner with John McGivern preview and "The Big Secret at City Hall' bluegrass concerts.



For the second consecutive year, the City received the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

The award, given for the 2018 Budget, was accomplished with the dedicated work of the Administration
Department, Department Directors and City Manager.





The Emerald Ash Borer has been discovered in Platteville. The City Forester expects that all non-treated public and private ash trees in the City to die within the next 5-10 years. The City has received a grant from the Wisconsin DNR to assist with ash tree removals and replacements.





The Senior Center has continued their efforts to facilitate senior friendly events out in the community. These include things such as cooking classes, arts and cultural opportunities, and a new partnership with the Elks Lodge.

Additionally, daytrips to area attractions have become hugely popular, and the Senior Picnic continues to draw 200+ seniors annually.

The Platteville Airport received a grant to replace the 30 year old fuel farm.

With the assistance from the State of Wisconsin, the local share of the \$620,000 project is \$120,000.





After extensive research and public debate, trail ATV/UTV routes were opened in the City. The routes are expected to promote tourism in the area.





The former Senior Center property at 55 S. Court Street was sold to a private entity in October.

The building had not been used since the Senior Center moved to the O.E. Gray building in late 2017.

Funds from the sale will support senior activities and the City's 2019 Capital Improvement Plan.



















The Library Children's Department began providing outreach services to nine local daycares with a story time visit each month.



City staff partnered with Main Street to launch "Food Truck Wednesdays" in City Park last summer.





The former Pioneer Ford site was sold in April to General Capital Construction. The project will include 72 apartments and some commercial spaces. The City Community Development Department administered several grants that assisted with this redevelopment project.



The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums installed a new handrail and water-tight LED light fixtures in the incline to access the underground Bevans lead-zinc mine thanks to funding from the Platteville Community Fund.

Gutters were installed on the west side of the incline building to improve gutters on the west side of the Hanmer Robbins building.

Improved reflective signage underground of the mine.

A partnership was established with Platteville Public Schools, PAIDC, Southwest Health and local banks to conduct a housing study.

A private consulting firm, Vierbicher, was engaged to conduct the study.

The study is expected to completed in January.







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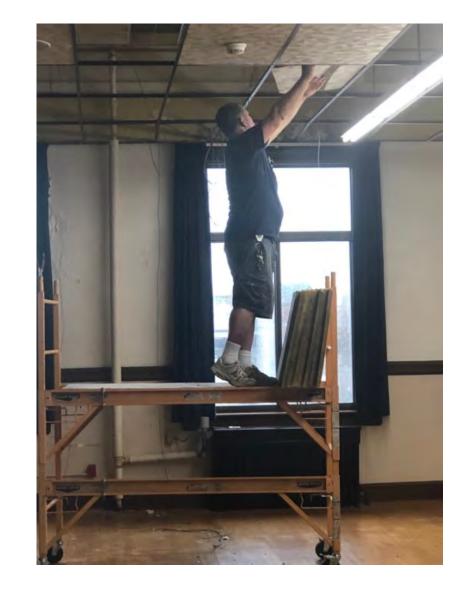




Thanks to grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, residential lead services lines are being replaced across Platteville. The City was one of only handful of communities to receive funding both grant cycles. Currently 430 of the 566 known lead service lines are scheduled to be replaced.

Building maintenance operations were restructured to provide better care of City facilities and save money:

- The City and Library jointly ended their building cleaning contract and hired parttime custodians.
- The position of Assistant to the Public Works Director was eliminated and replaced with a Building Maintenance Specialist. The Building Maintenance Specialist holds a Commercial Driver's License and will assist the Street Division with snow removal in the winter.





The Museums continued its goal of raising \$50,000 in 2018 to cover the gap in operations coverage from the City for the fiscal year 2019.

As of December 16, the Museums are at 60% of this goal!



The Historic Preservation Commission applied for grant assistance that would help with nominating nine properties to the National Register of Historic Places, including the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums and Hanmer Robbins School.

The Council Chambers got a makeover which included new paint and blinds.

City Hall exterior doors and fire escapes were painted, in addition to exterior garage doors at the Police Station.

Exterior lights were installed at City Hall.







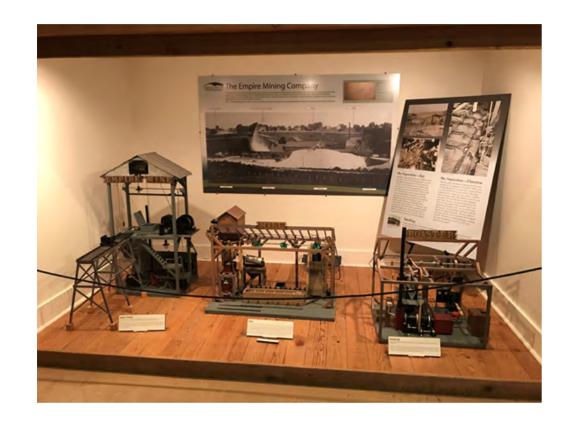
Heavy storms in the fall required recovery efforts:

- Street Division crews, with the help of Bob Digman Construction, reset the pedestrian bridge on the David Canny Rountree Branch Trail. Unfortunately, it was dislodged again due to more heavy rain.
- Crews unblocked culverts along the trail
- An undermined sidewalk on West Main Street near College Avenue was repaired.
- The gravel trail from Broadway to Fairfield Drive was repaired.

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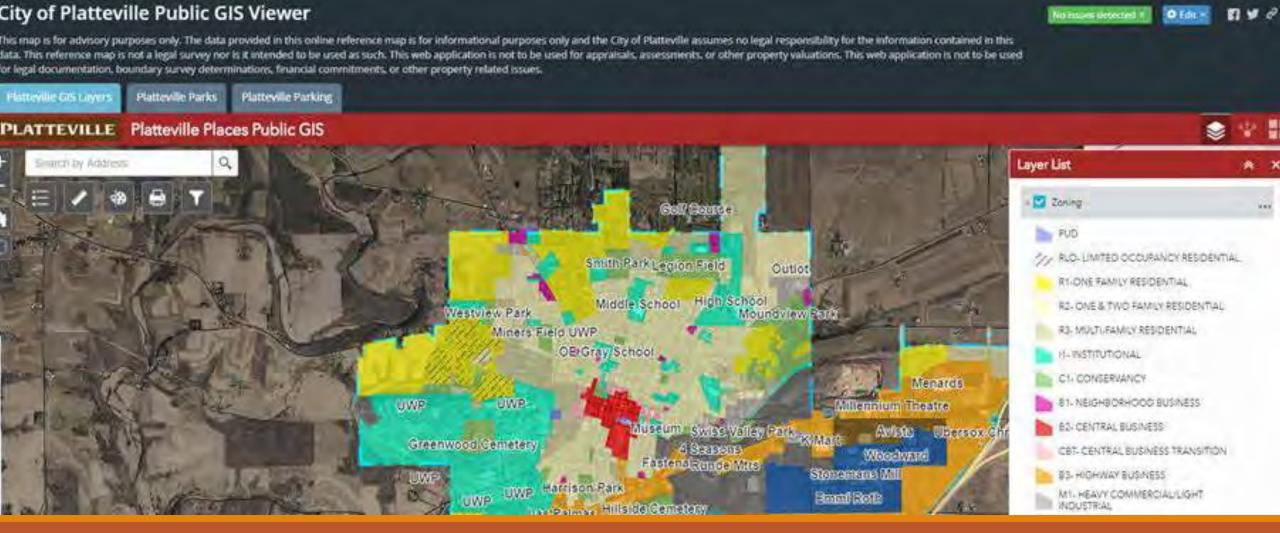


A new employee handbook draft has been completed. The handbook is expected to be finalized in spring of 2019.





The Museums consolidated exhibits from the Rock School to the Hanmer Robbins Building. The upper level of the Rock School is being used for collection storage. The future plan is to convert the lower level into event space.



The Community Development Department completed a comprehensive electronic and paper update to the official zoning map.



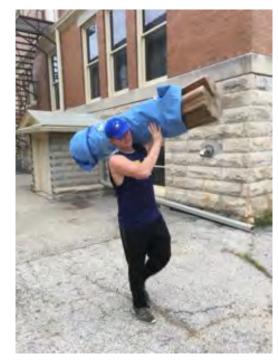
The Parks Department completed retaining walls at the Museums, painted the pool and maintained summer landscaping downtown.



Using a new tool, the Street Department was able to mill and repave the centerline of Hwy 81 prior to striping. The City saved money by using staff instead of a contractor for this work.







The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums had four clean-up days with a small fleet of volunteers assisting with repurposing, reorganizing, and cleaning behind-the-scenes spaces used for collections storage, educational program materials storage, and shop.

The Public Works Department oversaw several street projects including the reconstruction of Lutheran Street, Pine Street and Virgin Avenue.





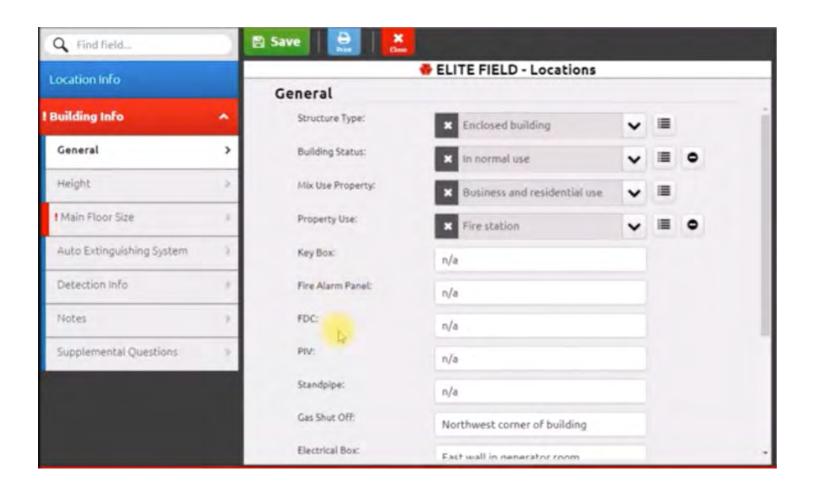


The Library Children's Department offered unique programming opportunities including many "Let's Pretend" scenes, Saturday Symphonies, Crafternoons, and much more.





Phase 1 of the Prairie View Park (Soccer Complex) is expected to be completed by the end of 2018. Project costs were reduced by utilizing fill from the street reconstruction projects, which allowed the entire first phase to be completed this year.



With the help of the new Fire Inspector Casey Pickel, the Fire Department upgraded to electronic fire inspection software which makes the job more efficient and gives the department the ability to create reports to find violation trends.



City and PAIDC staff work with Emmi Roth USA to significantly reduce strength and variability of waste water from plant.

Construction on Well 6 began this fall. This project will improve water clarity and lifespan. Well 4 will close when the project is completed.

In addition, valves and a pump were replaced at the Valley Road Water Plant.





Forty new volunteers donated their time to the Senior Center/PEAK Program in 2018; assisting with everything from fundraising to class instruction, to physical improvements to the space at O.E. Gray.



The Police Department held the 8th Annual Community Picnic in September. This year's event was held at Harrison Park and was attended by approximately 70 people.



The Library Foundation hosted their second Loud @ the Library event, which included music by John Peterson and Point Five. Over \$1,200 was raised to support future library projects. This event will be held again on Saturday, April 13, 2019.

City staff and the Common Council worked on a future vision to remodel City Hall.

Phase 1 of the three-year project will begin in 2019 and includes HVAC work on the first and second floors, as well as remodeling the south side of the first floor.

A new boiler was installed in City Hall in November.



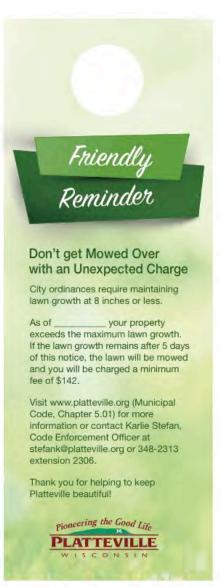


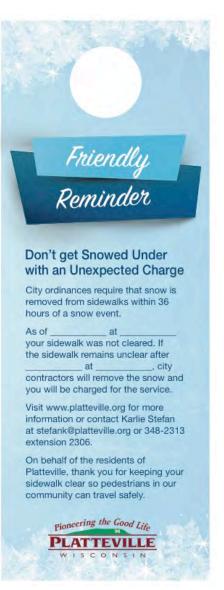


The Parks staff division constructed two new obstacles for the Platteville Skate Park at a cost of \$360. The City previously received quotes for similar obstacles at a cost of \$7,850.

A part-time code enforcement officer was added to the Police Department to assist with code and parking enforcement.



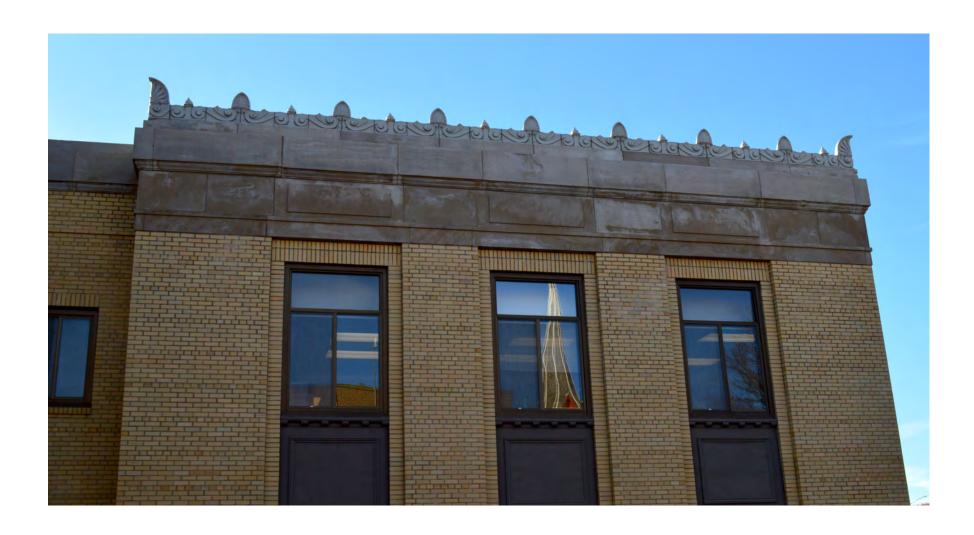






Reconstruction of the Legion Field Parking Lot was started in the fall, but work was delayed due to extremely wet weather.

The project is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2019.



City Hall exterior stonework was done in fall of 2018. This included replacing stone, sealing and waterproofing.



The Street Division purchased a new street sweeper and end loader.





The Library partnered with the Platteville Incubator to hold three sessions on how to start and grow a business:

- Starting a Business,
- Why Incubators Launch More Successful Businesses, and
- My Small Business Success Story.

Over 20 people attended a special business presentation on using Facebook for marketing.

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The City's contract assessor completed a required revaluation of all City properties for the purpose of tax assessment.

The revaluation included physical property inspections to improve accuracy and fairness.





Plans are underway to reintroduce the beloved Miner's Ball on January 19, 2019. This event will be a fundraiser for the Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums.

