



CITY OF NEVADA NEWS

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109 Cherry Is Down Ready For City Square Development

It used to be the old Blue Bird Café and an old hotel, and at some point a few generations ago, it was the local headquarters for the Masonic Lodge. But now it is demolished (see pics above). That space will be converted into an attractive downtown pocket park. Now that the building is down, preparations are underway to have that property surveyed. When the survey is complete, the design work for the new space will begin. Partial funding for the demolition work has come from the American Rescue Funds.

The Old Masonic Sign at 109 Cherry is rescued!

When the building at 109 Cherry came down (see story above), a very old Masonic Temple sign was uncovered at the Cherry Street entrance (see pic below). This relic was retrieved by the Public Works Department and is being presented by Mayor Knox to a local history organization.



Public Works Department Presents Proposed Street Plan To Council

During the April 1st City Council meeting, the Public Works Department is scheduled to present its 2025 Street Plan. A mill and overlay is scheduled for portions of the following streets: Highland, Walnut, Olive, Oak, Allison and Douglas.



City Revives the Finance Director Position

After several years of being without a Finance Director, the City of Nevada has reinstated that position. Michael Fields (see below pic) has been hired to serve in that role. Michael and his wife have strong ties to Nevada. Michael has a degree in accounting from Central Methodist University. He has served as a senior accountant with an area CPA firm and most recently was an accountant with the General Services Administration in Kansas City. Michael's duties initially, will be getting the city caught up on the audits, budget work and overseeing the finance department.



Construction of Multi- purpose Courts At McHugh Field Is Complete

The long-awaited outdoor pickleball and basketball courts at McHugh Field next to Walton Lake are completed. The project took 8 days. See photos above and below



CONTACT US

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Here are your Nevada City Council Members:

George Knox—Mayor

Bill Miles — Mayor Pro Tem

Carol Branham—Council

Kendall Vickers—Council

Miranda Selby—Council

City Manager Meets with State Legislators

In an effort to stay in touch with our Missouri State Legislators, City Manager Gary Edwards met with State Senator Sandy Crawford and State Representative Dane Diehl. The photo below is with Senator Crawford in her State Capitol office. Edwards had to meet with Rep. Diehl on the House Floor because he was in the middle of voting. Both legislators expressed their continued strong support for Nevada and Vernon County.



City Council And Hospital Board Meet To Discuss Hospital's Future Plans

During a rare but important meeting between the Nevada City Council and the Nevada Regional Medical Center (NRMC), the Council was presented with the idea of setting up a countywide hospital district. NRMC is considered a city-owned hospital, although the City has no role in the health center's operation nor finances. A proposal to change from a City hospital to a hospital district would need to go to the voters. Springfield attorney John Hammons gave a power point presentation on the mechanics of creating a district. Bill Burns of the Gilmore-Bell law firm in Kansas City, attended the meeting for the City. Gilmore Bell is the firm that handled the successful hospital sales tax for the City. Issues such as what happens with the City approved hospital sales tax would need to be addressed if the proposal is approved by voters. The tax raises about \$1 million per year for NRMC. Another question is what happens with the city-owned hospital buildings. There are numerous questions yet to be answered before this matter goes to voters.

118 Walnut Still In The Courts

The structure at 118 Walnut, located on the square and currently supported by braces, remains tied up in court as it awaits a hearing date. The City of Nevada had initiated steps to demolish the building but was forced to halt those plans due to a lawsuit. The City is now awaiting a court hearing, which is tentatively set for April 25th, though the date is not yet confirmed.

What Is The Difference Between A Charter City And A General Law City?

Nevada, Missouri is a **Charter City**. It has been a charter city since June of 1979 utilizing a Council/Manager form of government. The five member at-large City Council selects a Mayor from its ranks. The Council serves three year staggered terms. In Missouri and in Nevada, a charter city operates under its own constitution-like charter, giving it broad powers. Charter cities have a high degree of autonomy, meaning they can make their own laws and regulations on local matters, as long as they don't conflict with the state constitution.

Prior to becoming a charter city, Nevada was a **General Law City**. These are governed by the general laws of the state, with its powers limited to those specifically grant by state law.

Missouri has five main classifications of cities:

1. Charter Nevada is a Charter City. These home rule charter cities must have a population of no less than 5,000. The Council/Manager form of government is used in these municipalities.
2. Special Legislative Charter These cities have no population requirement. They were granted prior to 1875. Only 6 Missouri municipalities have this type of charter government.
3. Third Class These cities have a population of between 3,000 and 30,000. They have several forms of government options.
4. Fourth Class These are the most common in Missouri and have a population of 500 to 3,000. This category has two forms of government options.
5. Villages (or towns). Fewer than 500 people.

