

Irvine council declares mayor's office vacant

W.J. Noland has been absent from job for over 60 days due to illness

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Councilwoman Nelle Williams asked when was the last time Irvine was serious about blacktopping.

Davis replied the city is supposed to hold public hearings on the use of road funds.

Fireman Chad Neal said the city has been selected to receive grant funds to purchase a used fire truck.

He asked the council to declare an old ambulance owned by the fire department as surplus and sell it.

Chief Tony Murphy said the equipment on the ambulance, which was donated to

the fire department, will be used on the truck they plan to buy.

Davis said he had sent out letters to delinquent property tax owners.

Powell estimated that \$5,000 had been paid leaving about \$32,000 in unpaid taxes.

Davis estimated that a half-dozen of the properties were in foreclosure. When those properties sell, he said the city will be able to recoup taxes from the sale.

Burkhart named off two properties that would bring in over \$5,000 to the city alone in back taxes.

One of them was described as a rental property.

"We're waiting on property taxes, and they're collecting rent," he stated.

The council asked Davis to start with those two owners in collecting back taxes.

Roetta Hackworth complained to the council about the police department, which has been called to her residence numerous times for thefts and break-ins.

Chief Brad Smith replied that sometimes Hackworth was satisfied with the police department's work, and sometimes she wasn't.

Powell reported to the council about replacing street lights with LED bulbs. The council voted when a light goes out to have KU replace it with a new LED bulb.

The council gave first reading to a three percent transient tax ordinance.

The tax will be placed on businesses frequented by tourists, including hotels and beds and breakfasts.

It will also establish a seven member Tourism Commission.

The purpose is to give Estill County access to tourism grants.

Local Police Activity Report

IPD Officer Colton Lewis arrested **John A. Stamper, 52**, of High Street, Irvine on a Montgomery County district court warrant on July 2.

At the time of his arrest, Stamper was charged with possession of marijuana (six marijuana cigarettes) and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess (glass pipe).

Stamper is scheduled to appear in Estill District Court on those charges on August 15.

He was found guilty in Montgomery County of alcohol intoxication on February 2, 2017. Judge D. Blair says that Stamper could pay \$63.00 cash plus an arrest fee.

• Sgt. John Sturniolo arrested **John Fowler, 45**, of N. Plum Street on July 7. The citation states the officer found Fowler passed out on a curb on Church Street.

It adds that Fowler had two suboxone pills, a digital scale and two metal containers in his possession.

Fowler was charged with possession of a controlled substance, second degree, drug paraphernalia buy/possess, and public intoxication of a controlled substance.

• **Dixie Robinson, 28**, of Betsy Ridge, Ravenna was arrested July 5 by IPD Sgt. Sturniolo.

The citation states that she was a passenger in a vehicle, which Irvine's K-9 Fritz alerted on.

It adds that two marijuana roaches and three marijuana pipes were located in the vehicle.

Robinson was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Officer Lewis charged **Paige Louann Hollenbeck, 18**, with no brake lights, no registration plates, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence.

This occurred during a traffic stop on July 5 at the intersection of Richmond Road and South Irvine Road.

• **Keisha J. Hardy, 35**, of Henry White Road, Irvine, was charged with public intoxication by Chief Brad

Smith on July 3 on Main street.

• A bench warrant from Estill District Court was served July 2 on **Kaylieb Thompson, 28**, of Mountain Crest by Officer Lewis.

The warrant was issued because Thompson failed to appear for a status hearing on charges of failure of owner to maintain required insurance and operating on a suspended or revoked license.

• A passenger in a vehicle was charged with a felony on June 29 by Trooper John Northern.

The citation states the driver of the vehicle was arrested on an active warrant but gave permission for the vehicle to be searched.

During a pat-down of the passenger, the trooper says that he found crystal like rocks in a clear bag in the man's boots.

The passenger was identified as **Brandon W. Rice, 35**, of Fike Road, Irvine. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess.

Rice's bond was set at \$1,000 cash.

He was arraigned in Estill District Court on July 11 where he pleaded not-guilty. His preliminary hearing was scheduled for July 11.

• **Steven D. Hoover, 48**, Oak Valley Road, Irvine was arrested June 29 by Sgt. Sturniolo for possession of a controlled substance, second degree (suboxone) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

His citation states that he was scrapping metal from the construction site at Estill Springs Elementary and had an active warrant. He reportedly had a suboxone strip and a package of rolling papers on him.

The sergeant served the warrant on Hoover from Estill District Court. It says he failed to pay \$228 after being found guilty of fourth degree assault in 2016.

• Officer Colton Lewis served a bench warrant from

Estill District Court on **Ryan C. Riddell, 23**, of Pea Ridge Road, Irvine on June 28

The bench warrant says Riddell failed to pay \$398 after being found guilty of drug paraphernalia in 2017.

• **Melinda Ann Middleton, 44**, of Berea and **James Edward Bennett, 45**, of Booneville were both charged with public intoxication on June 27 by Officer Lewis.

The officer said the couple were sitting in front of an abandoned house at the intersection of Rosebud and Turner Ave.

The citation states that Middleton had an empty suboxone package on her. The prescription was filled for 30 pills on June 15.

It also adds that Bennett had an empty suboxone package. His prescription was for 10 pills on June 25.

The citation states that he admitting to taking 10 and did not follow the correct way to take the pills.

• Two bench warrants from Madison Circuit Court were served on **Gary D. Rogers, 51**, of Richmond by Sgt. Sturniolo on June 27.

An indictment warrant charged Rogers with bail jumping, first degree.

The other warrant said he failed to appear May 10 on charges of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine) and theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

• Officer Lewis served two bench warrants from Garrard District Court on **Timothy W. Bartlett, 52**, of Cow Creek Road, Ravenna.

The warrants say that Bartlett was found guilty in 2016 of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, first offense.

His bond was set at \$298 cash.

• A Madison District warrant was served on **Russell L. Brinegar, 25**, of Wallace Circle, Irvine on June 25 by Officer Lewis.

The warrant charges Brinegar with assault fourth degree (domestic violence).

It says that on June 17, Brinegar went to his cousin's

house where his girlfriend was house sitting. They became involved in a verbal dispute and he punched her in the right side of the face.

The Richmond Police Department investigated the assault.

• **Ashley N. Wilfong, 32**, of Stanton was charged June 28 by Officer Lewis with operating a motor vehicle under the influence, operating on a suspended or revoked license, rear license not illuminated, trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine), and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess.

The officer confiscated \$288 in cash during the arrest.

She was scheduled to appear in court on July 2.

Officer Lewis said he observed Wilfong's vehicle on River Drive with the rear license plate not-illuminated at 12:51 a.m.

During a consented search of vehicle, the officer said he found 0.5 grams of suspected methamphetamine and baggies in Wilfong's purse, along with a scale and an empty needle.

He also confiscated \$288 in cash.

Wilfong's bail was set at \$5,000 cash.

She was scheduled to make her first court appearance on July 2.

The Irvine officer served a Wolfe District bench warrant on Wilfong. It says she failed to pay fines for traffic related offenses from 2017.

• **James Allen Montgomery, 51**, of Furnace Road, Stanton was charged with public intoxication on June 28 by Officer Lewis.

The citation says that Montgomery was a passenger in a vehicle driven by Wilfong and stopped for traffic.

A Powell county warrant was served on him.

He was reportedly treated at Marcum & Wallace Hospital for methamphetamine use and released.

After he left the hospital, Officer Lewis said the hospital staff found a soda lid, a needle and bag of crystal like

substance in the room where Montgomery was.

Montgomery was then charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (Methamphetamine), tampering with physical evidence, and drug paraphernalia - buy/use.

Assisting with the arrest was Herman Price Jr., hospital security officer.

Montgomery pleaded not-guilty during his arraignment. His preliminary hearing was scheduled for July 3 and his bail is \$1,000 cash.

• **Alisha Diane Walters, 44**, of Dry Branch Road, Irvine was arrested June 26 on three charges of criminal possession of a forged instrument, second degree by Deputy Russell "Doc" Morris.

The citation states that Walters passed three forged checks on her mother's account between May 15 and 28.

She allegedly cashed one for \$372.27 at one Irvine business and another for \$190.35 at a second business.

She reportedly attempted to pass a third check for \$159.79 at Dollar General but the store seized the check.

She pleaded not-guilty to the three charges during her arraignment in Estill District Court on June 27. A preliminary hearing was set for July 3 in Lee County.

Walters' bail was set at \$2,500 cash.

• A criminal summons was served on **Melissa Dawn Goe, 42**, of West Main in Beattyville by a Beattyville Police officer on June 11. She was charged with flagrant non-support (not paying child support) in Estill County.

• **Amanda Faye Larrison, 33**, of Spout Springs Road, Irvine was charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine), public intoxication, drug paraphernalia - buy or possess, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest. KSP Troopers Ty Robin-

son and Casey Caudill, along with Deputy Russell "Doc" Morris went to Wiseman-town Apartments on June 27 to serve a warrant.

The citation states that Larrison walked out of an apartment and got into the back of a pickup truck. It adds that she was unable to answer Trooper Robinson's questions.

According to the citation, Deputy Morris located a loaded needle in the floor where Larrison was sitting. Trooper Caudill located a small crystal like "rock" inside her wallet.

Robinson said that Larrison had to be physically restrained.

She entered not-guilty pleas during her arraignment before District Judge William Leach.

He scheduled her preliminary hearing for July 3 in Lee County.

Bail for Larrison was set at \$1,000 cash.

• **Gerald Dee Sturgill, 61**, of Millers Creek Road, Ravenna was charged June 29 with cultivating marijuana (5 plants or more) by Deputy Chris Coffey.

The 911 dispatch reportedly received a call from a crying girl who gave Sturgill's address. A man's voice could be heard in the background.

Upon arrival, the deputy said the doors were open but they didn't see anyone. The officers entered the residence to locate the crying girl.

The citation states the officers observed 35 marijuana plants with leaves drying beside the plants. At the rear of the residence, another 20 plants were located.

The deputy says after about 15 minutes, Sturgill showed up.

Irvine Officer Jason Conrad assisted with the investigation.

Sturgill pled not-guilty when he was arraigned June 29. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for July 11. He plans to hire his own attorney.

Sturgill's bond was set at \$2,500 cash.



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