“Third session of Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy ends”

The third class of Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy has recently finished a line-up of courses designed to teach them more about the various City of Norfolk divisions.

Participants in this year’s class included Frank and Cindy Arens; Steven Bahr; Terry Beckner; Jeff Braithwait; Mike Buhler; Jarad Dahkoetter; Russ and Tina Engelbart; Lucille Gesell; Mechele Grimes; Valerie Grimes; Kristine Herley; Donald Mahoney; Ron McKeever; Chris and Michelle Rupp; and Chris Whitney.

The class met each Tuesday evening from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm starting with a welcome from City Administrator Shane Weidner on September 15 and ending with a meeting with City Council members about their experiences on the council on November 2. In between, participants had many tours including a look at the water treatment plant, the water pollution control plant, the fire division, the library, the police division and the administration building. All of the nights included presentations from City division managers and their staff about what it takes to run a city.

“It was great for me to get to know some people and to also find out what a great city I’ve moved to,” said Kristine Herley, one of the participants.

The program was set up in 2014 as a way for citizens to go behind the scenes of City government and get a close up look at the City’s snow plows, the jail and the inside of a City ambulance. The next session will be held in the fall of 2016. Those interested can email City of Norfolk Communications Director Diane Becker at cityofnorfolk@gmail.com or call 402-844-2034. There is no cost for the program.