

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
February 21, 2014

Congratulations to Ms. Kristine Petersen on her appointment to the City Commission to fill the vacancy due to Richard Miller's resignation. Ms. Petersen is a long time resident of Clewiston and is looking forward to serving the citizens of Clewiston. We look forward to working her.

The City will again sponsor the Annual Spring Cleaning on March 29, 2014. You've got plenty of time to get a team together or come solo, everyone will be welcome. Help us make America's Sweetest Town, America's Cleanest Town! Call Public Works Director Sean Scheffler for more information.

Dates to Remember:

March 11, 2014	Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Board – 10:00 a.m.
March 13, 2014	Commission Workshop - 5:00 p.m.
March 17, 2014	City Commission Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
March 20, 2014	Golf Course Advisory Board - noon
March 29, 2014	Annual Spring Cleaning – 9:00 a.m. to noon

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Three (3) violation cases opened, two (2) for property maintenance and one (1) for a dangerous structure.
- The Sweetwater Place apartments are nearing completion. They are landscaping and should be ready for occupancy within thirty (30) days.
- A new business has opened – Roxy's Shoes is located at 107 Bond Street.
- The majority of businesses along Bond Street have been informed of the sign regulations. Use of "A" frame signs are allowed but must only be displayed during business hours and temporary 'wire' signs are not allowed.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The Clewiston Library volunteer appreciation luncheon was hosted on Tuesday, February 18, 2014. Two adult volunteers, including former employee, Joanne Stiles, received awards. Five high school students who helped several children to improve their grades received trophies for their work as tutors. Attendees included two of our City Commissioners, Ms. Mali Gardner and Mr. Jimmy Pittman, as well as our City Manager, Mr. Al Perry. The CHS Principal, George Duckstein, and the Vice-Principal, Roberto Sanchez, as well as a School Board Member Dwayne Brown, also attended and added to the well wishes for our volunteers.

- The second Clewiston Library Movie and a Hot Dog night is coming up on February 24, 2014. The featured movie will be The Help. All are invited.
- The annual One-Book-One Community Reads announcements are coming soon! The focus this year is on disabilities.
- Remodeling of the Library has begun. Please excuse any inconvenience while we make things better for you.
- The Hendry County Library Cooperative plans to present its proposal for improved and expanded library services to the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners in a workshop on Tuesday, February 25, at 3:30 p.m.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officers responded to a report of a person with difficulty breathing on West Ventura. Victim transported via EMS to Hendry Regional, but was pronounced DOA. No foul play suspected.
- Officers recovered a vehicle missing out of Lakeland.
- The Fair Parade and Love the Lake Runs went smoothly from a law enforcement perspective.
- As a department, we are looking forward to sponsoring a contestant in the Miss Latina Beauty Pageant. Employees have generously reached into their own pockets to sponsor a young lady who endeavors to participate.
- Patrol located and returned to the owners, two more bicycles reported as stolen.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1123** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 514** Complaints Investigated
 - 26** Arrests Made
 - 18** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 69** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 16** Alarms Responded To
 - 25** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 6** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control Activity: Mosquito trap counts for the night of February 12 are all over the board, with some areas having lower counts and some higher counts. Public Works Director Scheffler rode with the spray tech on Wednesday night while spraying the Ridgewood, Okeechobee Blvd. and Berner Road area.
- Paving project: Diaz Asphalt was given the green light to complete the paving repairs in the allies as marked. Some were utility cuts and some were worn out asphalt. This is in conjunction with the Florida City Gas cut repairs.
- Street Maintenance: (1) The LaBelle DOT started hauling "recycle asphalt" to the yard on Thursday and reported the guard rail post that was donated to the City had been stolen from the side of the road. (2) Mulch on US 27, Berner Road and Central Ave. has been completed. (3) Dead palm trees are being removed on Central Ave. and at the John Boy Auditorium. We will need to purchase two replacement Royal Palms. Three of the Chinese Fan Palms donated by Clyde Carter will be moved to Central Ave.

- Facility Maintenance: (1) The Library remodel project started on Monday and has a 30 day project window. Staff moved tables, chairs and other items on the Friday before. (2) Material for the Boat Basin sign is in stock and upon final Commission approval of sign verbage, work will begin. An accurate cost for the same kind of sign for the Commerce Park was submitted.
- Drainage Project on Haiti: Driveway aprons and the road cuts were paved Tuesday. Finish grading and sod is next. Public Works Director Scheffler observed storm water movement after recent rains and is pleased with how the water moved and the area drained. The contractor, Ridgill & Son, performed very well.
- Golf Course Sign: We are painting the tournament sign board and expect to install it next week. A second coat of paint will be applied after installation.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Recreation employee, Mike Whidden, was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday early morning. They expect him to be released by the end of the week. Stop by and see him at Hendry Regional Medical Center if you get a chance.
- Work has begun on the remaining fields at Sugarland Sports Complex that are not being used by Clewiston High School in preparation for the Clewiston Recreation Baseball & Softball seasons tentatively scheduled to begin on March 17th.
- There are 432 youth from 3 – 15 years of age participating in this year’s baseball/softball program.
- The soccer goals, player benches and trash cans have been removed from Cane Field and have been cleaned and put back in storage at Sugarland Sports Complex.
- The soccer fields at Sugarland Sports Complex will be aerated this week and fertilized.
- Sod has been placed around some washout areas at Sugarland Sports Complex and around several structures.
- Security lighting is being upgraded at the Big Quad concession stand and we will upgrade at the Small Quad concession and buildings at Stalls Field as well. Thanks to the Public Works staff.
- Bids for the “bull pen mounds” for Stalls Field have come in and we anticipate that project to begin next week.
- The front sidewalks and portico at the John Boy Auditorium have been pressure washed and cleaned.
- CHS Lady Tigers next home game will be against Sebring next Tuesday Feb. 25th at 5:30 & 7:30 p.m. on field #8 at Sugarland Sports Complex. Come out and support the Lady Tigers!
- CHS Tigers JV will play Glades Day School on Tuesday Feb. 25th ay 6:30 p.m. on Stalls Field at Sugarland Sports Complex. Go Tigers!

Utilities Department Director Williams reports:

- The red light on WC Owen and US 27 has been repaired. Simmons Construction from Naples repaired the loop while Mike Cox and Steve Hayes terminated the lines to the red light cabinet.

- Lead Lineman Mike Cox and Lineman Jason Crawford completed the Level 1 Red Light Certification class.
- The Utility office personnel have been in training all week for the new Tyler software. Conversion is scheduled for the first week of March.
- Water/Sewer crew replaced the lift station panel on Kentucky Ave. this week and they are continuing to clean and paint lift stations. The sewer crew also cleaned the main sewer line at the Hendry County Fair.
- Surge Protection Program was approved by the Commission this week. Hopefully, we will be able to offer this to the City of Clewiston customers by April.
- Electric crew continues to work on the San Luiz project where they have to relocate several transformers and service lines. The crew is also pulling new underground in Ridgeview and continues repairing street lights and removing old poles.