

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
August 8, 2014

Dates to Remember:

August 11, 2014	Budget Workshop
August 14, 2014	City Commission Workshop
August 18, 2014	City Commission Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Annual inspections for all the schools are concluding this week.
- A new business, Guines Jewelry & Pawn, has obtained their business tax receipt and is located at 114 South WC Owen.
- The Donut Connection located within the gas station at 642 East Sugarland Hwy. has closed.
- The 2014 – 2015 Business Tax Receipts have been mailed. They are due on or before 9/30/14 and a 10% penalty will be added if not paid by 10/30/14.

Golf Course Operations Director Ford reports:

- On Monday, the greens were vetricut in two directions, mowed twice, and then top dressed.
- Two irrigation leaks were repaired this week. One leak was on #10, the other between #5 green and #6 tee.
- Sod project repairs continued this week. Number 7 green was completed and hopefully by the end of the week, #9 red tee will be repaired as well.
- A big THANK YOU goes out to Jack Basquin for his volunteer help the last few weeks. Jack has been spraying Round-Up around trees and other locations of need around the course.
- We welcome Tim Sherrell to the golf course staff. Tim will be working as a groundskeeper.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- Basic computer classes will start August 25, 2014. The evening class is full and we have started a list for day time attendance. Challenges delaying the start of the actual certification classes are being worked out. In the meantime, we will accommodate anyone wanting to improve their typing skills using Mavis Beacon typing software.
- The Library is seeking volunteer assistance from persons willing to be trained to work at our circulation desk. Call the Library at 983-1493 and ask for Ava.

- GED classes continue through August 21st, 2014.
- The Home Based Business training program will be in Harlem on August 12, 2014. It is sponsored by the SW Florida Community Foundation which allows us to provide seed money to help interested attendees start up their own business. **There are still openings in Harlem for this training.**

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- On Monday afternoon, officers responded to a full on, wall banging, chair throwing, cage match at the Tag Office. Two men with a long running feud met up there and had a real dust-up. No one was seriously injured, though some onlookers were rattled. Both men were arrested and transported to the Hendry County Jail.
- Lt. Pelham and Lt. Rowan traveled to Jacksonville on Wednesday to review government surplus items which may be of benefit to us. With the exception of a small administrative fee, there is no charge for the equipment. They will also be on the lookout for items which may benefit other City departments.
- The JAGC Grant has been opened for application. We have submitted our request for funding.
- We have decided to recruit a volunteer(s) to assist us with face to face interaction and referral inside the PD lobby. There is any number of “lower priority” complaints and information requests this person could handle without the necessity of calling a patrol officer in off the road. You may be hearing these efforts air on local radio, or you may see them in the newspaper.
- Two adult dogs escaped their owner’s yard and entered the backyard of a residence on Berner Road by going under the fence and pushing out the screen to the patio. Once on the patio, the two dogs attacked and killed four cats. Both dogs were captured by Animal Control, one at the scene and the other was found at the owner’s house. The dogs are currently impounded and the owner has been subpoenaed for court. His fines may run as much as \$1,000.00.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week’s activity:
 - 1232** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 533** Complaints Investigated
 - 19** Arrests Made
 - 22** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 19** Traffic Warnings Issued
 - 7** City Ordinance Violations
 - 23** Temporary Signs Removed (owners have been notified for pickup)
 - 39** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 66** Merchant Escorts
 - 19** Alarms Responded To
 - 6** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: We had an aerial application on Thursday night. If you feel that you have a mosquito problem, call the Public Works Department at 983-1471.

- Street Maintenance: (1) We are waiting on the repair of a piece of equipment to move the last Royal Palm to the Commerce Park entrance and the first phase of the project will be complete. Signage will be addressed during phase two at a later date. (2) The US27 “touch up” has been completed and we are talking with merchants about their responsibility to keep it clean. (3) Staff will be edging sidewalks and spraying fence lines around schools on Thursday. (4) Sidewalk repairs are scheduled for Thursday & Friday on Ponce de Leon, Berner and North Deane Duff.
- Facility Maintenance: (1) Staff members are back from vacation leave and will be addressing some needed upgrades, such as exhaust fans, emergency lighting, etc., in the Senior Citizens Building during the “remodel” project currently underway. (2) Quotes for the replacement of the A/C struck by lightning behind the PD are in and a recommendation is forth coming.
- Boy Scout Projects: Projected start date is August 9th at Sweetest Town Playground. This project will consist of the installation of a bike rack and a sidewalk tying the parking lot to the first Gazebo. A second Scout project will involve the repairs to back stops and the addition of player benches in select locations in town.
- Staff tested emergency start up functions on the City Hall/Utility and PD generators Tuesday afternoon. A minor issue was discovered and corrected.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Remodeling of the Sr. Citizens Center has begun as the carpet and pad were removed this week and all the drywall was ordered and staged. A temporary Sr. Citizens Center has been set up in the Beardsley Room and our seniors will be able to use it for meals and socialization for the next couple of weeks while we remodel.
- The Harlem Gym floor, stage and foyer remodel should be completed this week and open for business. Stop by and see!
- Adult Men’s Basketball began the second half of their season Tuesday night and will continue every Tuesday and Thursday evening at the CHS Gym until September.
- “Advanced” Fish Camp will begin on Aug. 9th from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Youth Center and will continue every weekend until Aug. 30th from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Youth Center. THIS CAMP IS CURRENTLY FULL.
- Kids “Basketball Skills Camp” and season was pushed back because of the Harlem Gym remodel and has been rescheduled to begin on August 11th. Please check our Fb page “City of Clewiston Parks and Recreation” for more information about how to get registered and involved.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.