

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
**FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF**  
**January 29, 2016**

**Dates to Remember**

February 9, 2016 – Hendry-Glades Recreation Advisory Board Meeting  
February 11, 2016 – City Commission Workshop  
February 15, 2016 – City Commission Meeting  
February 18, 2016 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Reese reports:**

- We have received plans for a new 5,687 sq. foot single family home to be located at 204 Cypress Avenue. The proposed home has 4 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms and is only the second home since 2001 to be built in the Ridgewood Estates, Addition #1;
- Plattner's has communicated with us regarding reopening their 602 East Sugarland Hwy. location again. Fire Marshal Reese is scheduled to meet with them and do a fire/safety walk through;
- The fire department responded to Airglades to meet a small passenger jet with smoke in the cockpit. The pilot declared an emergency at 25,000 feet while enroute from Kansas City to Miami and landed without incident at Airglades Airport. Fire crews checked the aircraft finding no obvious issues. The pilot was advised to have maintenance check before continuing to Miami;
- On Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 10:30 a.m., the fire department responded to a structure fire at 601 Bowden Road. Although the fire was extinguished quickly, the mobile home was a total loss and the cause is under investigation.

**Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil reports:**

- I have responded to various citizens' complaints
- Research and drafting of the proposed residential rental permit program is ongoing
- Hotel/motel research in regards to transient versus non-transient stays began and is ongoing
- Special Magistrate meeting held Wednesday, January 27, 2016 with 25 cases on the agenda
- 13 new code cases were generated, 18 code cases resolved and 3 rental inspections completed

Code Review of the week:

- **Sec. 50-7. - Storage on private property.**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any resident of the city from storing a recreational vehicle of any type on the same lot as his residence, provided such recreational vehicle complies with the definition of a recreational vehicle, travel trailer or camping trailer and is not occupied or used for any purpose while stored; carries a current vehicle registration tag; and, provided further, that such recreational vehicle is stored at least 60 feet from the front property line and ten feet from all other property lines. All commercial trailers may be stored only in a commercial or industrial district and mobile homes may be stored only in an industrial district and shall be located so as to conform with building setbacks of such district.

(Code 1982, § 20-6; Code 1999, § 50-7; Ord. No. 94-01, pt. 1(20-6), 12-19-1994)

The Code Enforcement Division has moved to 141 Central Avenue, Clewiston Utilities Building. The public is encouraged to report code violations by contacting us at the above address or 983-1454.

Join me in our dedication to fight the blight in America's Sweetest Town.

**Library Director Barrett reports:**

- **For information regarding any of our programs, please call the library at (863) 983-1493 and remember to visit [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org). Your library truly has a lot to offer.**

**Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- The fairways were fertilized this week.
- The greens were treated with fungicide this week.
- #17 pond up by the green and around #1 tee was renovated this week.
- Thank you to Asa and Betty Godsey for their donation of the new door hinges out at the bathrooms on the golf course.
- The second Winter First Tee Junior Golf Clinic was January 16, 2016, with an emphasis on Responsibility. We had 17 kids attend.
- The Moore Haven Project Graduation Golf Tournament was Saturday, January 23, 2016. 20 players participated.
- Congratulations Mrs. Toni Couse!! 2016 Ladies Club Champion.
- January 30, 2016 will be the second Ladies Golf Clinic for the season from 4pm-5pm. It will be on (Chipping). To sign-up, just show up just before the clinic starts.
- Men's Senior Club Championship has been rescheduled for February 9th and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Sign-up is in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448.
- Junior Golf Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, February 6, 2016. (Soccer Golf) 4pm-5pm.
- Glow Ball Tournament is scheduled for Friday, February 12, 2016. To sign-up call the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news by signing up on Constant Contact. Go to the golf link on the City of Clewiston website and sign up on Constant Contact. You will be automatically put on the golf course e-mail.

- Golf lessons are available, contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Season is here. We suggest making tee times here at the golf course.

**Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:**

- Please visit [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:**

- Mosquito Control: Thank goodness, cold windy weather, no service required. Mike Young is in Mosquito School this week.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff replaced the ramp delineators at the Boat Basin. (2) The fence for the horseshoe game has been laid out and locates will be called for. (3) Six new flowering trees were planted on Bond Street (4) Storm drain maintenance was pulled this week on the south side of town. (5) With all the rain, streets will develop a “pot hole” quickly. Please call 983-1471 if you see one.
- Civic Park Rebuild: (1) Lee is working on the British Airmen Memorial Plaque Monuments for the center of the park.
- Sidewalk Project: The contractor will start as soon as weather conditions allow.
- Boat Basin project: The project contractor finished up the requirement of the contract on Friday. The sod contractor has been held up from cutting and installing sod because of weather.
- Pasadena Project: Inlets and material have been ordered. The contractor is staging equipment and material on the site. Residents will be notified of the project start date.

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- An unusually high number of homeowners are calling about strange noises around their homes late at night. We are carefully searching the perimeter and ensuring the security of each one to the resident’s satisfaction. A related note...We have arrested a couple of late night loiter / prowlers recently.
- We are asking the local merchants to be vigilant. We are still seeing an occasional counterfeit \$50 or \$20 bill.
- Arrest numbers continue to run in historically high numbers. We are in a three year period now where each year has a marked increase over the year prior. The most common offenses being Shoplifting, Public Intoxication, Domestic Disturbance, and driving with no or Suspended Driver’s License.
- Officer Buffie McLeod is taking time out today to read for the students at one of our local elementary schools. Thank you Buffie!
- **Something I would like to point out. There was a gentleman in our town last week working with a company that laid him off suddenly. He was stuck 600 miles away from home with only a couple dollars and no transportation. This was the two days of rain, high wind and cold temperature. They could have ignored him, or even put him in jail for loitering. Here’s what they actually did...They went in together with a saint of a woman at a local church and between them “OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS” fed him, paid for his motel room overnight, bought him a bus ticket back to North Georgia, and gave him enough cash to eat with until he got home....I**

**just want you to know, these are the stories of our Thin Blue Line that you don't hear. We have some good people here.**

- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
  - 1229** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
  - 676** Complaints Investigated
  - 44** Traffic Citations
  - 32** Arrests Made
  - 6** City Ordinance Violations
  - 63** Merchant Escorts
  - 29** Alarms Responded To
  - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- Water Sewer Activities
  - Repaired several water breaks including 4 main line breaks
  - Replaced pump at Corona lift station
  - Ran new water line Golf Course and old airport
  - The excessive rain this week has caused our sewer collection system to work overtime!
  - Caught one customer stealing water and one stealing electric
- Electric Activities
  - Preparations continue for Sugar Festival
  - The storm last week downed a power pole on S Francisco
  - Repaired street lights and hung 2 new lights; check CT's; trimmed trees
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov). You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.
- **ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE** on our web site at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or [www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl).

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware:**

- 1) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.**

- 2) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.**
- 3) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.**

**If you feel you have been a victim of this scam please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.**