

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF  
June 19, 2015

**Dates to Remember:**

June 24, 2015 – City Commission Budget Workshop 4:30 p.m.

July 3, 2015 – City offices closed

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Reese reports:**

- A fire fighter was injured while battling a vehicle fire on the 500 block of West Ventura. His injuries were not life threatening; however, he was transported to Palms West for surgery and is now at home recovering.
- The emergency operations committee held a preparedness meeting on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. Various topics were discussed including communications, asset allocation and staffing recall & training procedures.
- This week, we have the 8<sup>th</sup> common term used by FEMA to aid understanding flood insurance and flood map changes in our city. This week is Preferred Risk Policy (PRP):

***How map changes affect flood insurance***

When new flood maps are issued, your flood risk may become higher or lower-which can affect what you pay for flood insurance. However, there is usually a six — to twelve-month period between the time the new "preliminary" maps are issued and the time that they are implemented. This gives you adequate time to protect your property and, possibly, save on flood insurance.

***Flood insurance is mandatory.*** Flood insurance will be federally required for most mortgage holders. Insurance costs may rise to reflect the true (high) risk.

***The PRP Eligibility Extension Program can offer savings.***

To ease a homeowner's transition from a moderate-to-low risk area to a high-risk area, which would require the mandatory purchase of flood insurance and an increase in flood insurance costs, the National Flood Insurance Program is extending eligibility for the lower-cost Preferred Rate Policy to properties that were remapped on or after October 1, 2008.

***"Grandfathering" can offer savings.*** The National Flood Insurance Program has "grandfathering" rules to recognize policyholders who built in compliance with the flood map in effect at the time of construction or who maintain continuous coverage. Sometimes, though, using the new flood maps can actually result in a lower premium, especially if the home is high enough above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). In addition, buildings newly mapped into a high-risk area may be eligible for the lower-cost Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) for two years after a map change, before they grandfather in the lower-risk zone rates.

***When should you check for flood map changes for your area?***

***FEMA suggests the following:***

- **Home/business owners:** Make sure to check with your agent at your yearly renewal time or earlier if a map change is announced in your community.
- **Insurance agents:** At least once a month to stay informed of any changes and how they will affect your customers.
- **Realtors:** When listing a house or showing a prospective buyer, check to see if map changes may be occurring that could change the level of flood risk on the property of interest.
- **Lenders:** When issuing or refinancing a mortgage, to determine if flood insurance is, or will be, required.
- **Contractors:** Before planning construction, to help decide where and how to build.

**Golf Course Director Rush reports:**

- Seven kids were in the Junior Golf Camp this week, 12 Fish were caught in the fishing tournament.
- Youth Empowerment Camp from Belle Glade is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> week with 12 kids.
- Golf Academy at the youth center continues this week.
- Clewiston Elks Lodge Scholarship Fund Raiser is this Saturday June 20, 2015. Golf Course will be closed till 2:00 p.m.

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- We are seeing increasing incidents of credit/debit card fraud. It is possible that customers credit/debit card data has been compromised at one or more local businesses. We encourage all consumers to regularly review and balance their bank statements for any possible discrepancies. Also, be cautious to carefully shield the key pad when entering the card ID or PIN information.
- Officers arrested three juveniles for trespassing at the Middle School this week. Can't keep them in there during the school year and can't keep them out during the summer.
- An employee on break standing beside a Berner Road business reported a robbery. The woman said she was standing outside the building when an H/M exited the passenger side of a vehicle at the intersection and walked over to her. The man demanded her purse which she handed to him. The suspect then returned to the passenger side of the vehicle and an unknown person drove the vehicle away. No weapon was indicated.
- Patrol officers responded to a traffic crash at Sonora and W. C. Owen Sunday Night. The driver, travelling West on Sonora failed to stop for the Stop sign .... rather running it over instead. The vehicle then continued across W.C. Owen and crashed through the fence on the Western side of the street. City crews came out to replace the sign. The driver who was uninjured was arrested for DUI.

**1152** Commercial / Residential Security Checks  
**560** Complaints Investigated  
**19** Traffic Citations Issued  
**14** Arrests Made  
**11** City Ordinance Violations  
**14** Code Enforcement Cases Opened

4	Rental Inspections
66	Merchant Escorts
24	Alarms Responded To
3	Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Public Works Director Scheffler reports:**

- Mosquito Control: The contractor has performed the required catch basin larvicide treatments. A briquette that interrupts the life cycle in larva development was dropped in each basin. This treatment is good for 120 days. Ground ULM treatment is scheduled for Friday nights.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff poured the cells in the bollards to tie all the block together at the Civic Park entrance. We can't thank David Adkinson enough for volunteering to "finish" the bollards.
- US27 Rebuild: **Scheduled start on June 15, 2015.** The project is scheduled to last 155 days and all work will be done between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Watch for heavy equipment being moved into town.
- Tree Trimming Amnesty Month: If you are considering trimming a tree that may cause damage in the event of a storm, call **983-1471** and set up an appointment for Public Works administration to review the work to see if it qualifies for the free removal of the trimmings. This program only covers tree trimming, not tree removal.
- Boat Basin Project: The sealing and striping of the main parking lot is ready to go out to bid.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks: The City will once again have the annual fireworks display at the Sports Complex on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Recreation Director Ramer reports:**

- We are currently accepting registration for the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of summer camp. Registration must be completed by June 19<sup>th</sup> and final/full payment must be made by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please check [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) for registration information and how to take advantage of the 50% discount for Summer Camp! Please call the Youth Center at 983-1492 if you have any questions.
- Both companies (Sweet Town Party Rental and Busy Bee Party Rental) operating in the City of Clewiston offering inflatable structures have provided an Insurance Certificate to the Recreation Department listing the City as the Insured Party. They have also offered to assist us in requiring the renter to provide to them, a "completed" Facility Use Form from the Recreation Department and a signed "Hold Harmless" agreement before they will set-up an inflatable structure on City property.
- Work has begun at the Harlem Gymnasium refurbishing the floors. The gym will be closed from June 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> and will re-open June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Adult Men's Basketball will begin on Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> and play Monday and Wednesday nights at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 p.m.
- We are in the process of compiling City vs. non-City resident participation numbers in programs either offered by the City or other organizations utilizing City property or facilities, facility usage, rentals and activities to be presented to the County on Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Sugarland Sports Complex game fields are scheduled to receive another round of chemical applications for invasive weeds this weekend. We will begin to aerate and fertilize as soon as possible.
- Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
  - Birthday Party at Youth Center on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>
  - CHS Class of 1995 Reunion at Sugarland Sports Complex Pavilion Park with inflatables on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Baby Shower at Youth center on Saturday June 21<sup>th</sup>
  - 20 Summer Camp Pontoon Excursions on Lake Okeechobee were completed this week.
  - Clewiston Receptions Adult Co-Ed Softball began on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and will play every Tuesday and Thursday night on Field #9 at Sugarland Sports Complex at 7:00, 8:00 , and 9:00 p.m.
  - Adult Swim Lessons at James Mason Pool began on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and will continue during the week from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
  - Summer Camp Field Trips on June 17<sup>th</sup> (Crayon) & 18<sup>th</sup> (Fun-A-Rama)
  - Summer Camp Golf Academy Clinics at Sugar Festival Field 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> .
- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed volleyball league in the early summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- The Electric crew rebuilt a 3 transformer bank at the Golf Course, trimmed trees and raised a service on West El Paso, replaced a transformer on Georgia Avenue, reset a transformer behind Dixie Fried Chicken and repaired two underground services in Harlem Gardens.
- The Water/Sewer crew repaired several leaks around town including two 4” line water breaks. They also replaced a pump at the lift station on South Berner and ran a new sewer connection to 217 E Aztec Avenue.
- 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 of 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.