

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
March 31, 2017

Dates to Remember

April 3, 2017 – Planning and Zoning Board Meeting
April 10, 2017 – Library Advisory Board Meeting
April 12, 2017 – Clewiston City Commission US27 Corridor Zoning Regulations Workshop
April 12, 2017 – Clewiston City Commission Workshop (rescheduled from April 13, 2017)
April 14, 2017 – Good Friday – City Offices Closed
April 17, 2017 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting
April 20, 2017 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

Staff Reports

Sr. Library Aide Shirley Reynolds reports:

- Upcoming events:
 - Master Gardener lunch and learn – April 6, 2017 at 12 noon. This session will be a discussion on gardening for profit or micro farming.
 - Microsoft Word and Excel classes to begin April 6. Sign up at the library.
- Remember you can get your e-books free at www.hendrylibraries.org.
- **For information regarding any of our programs, please call the library at (863) 983-1493 and remember to visit www.hendrylibraries.org. Like us at www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary .**

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- The Planning & Zoning Board will meet on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers. The following topics will be discussed:
 - A resident has asked for a change in the Industrial Zoning District, to increase the maximum allowable height from the current 35 feet to a height of 55 feet.
 - The Planning and Zoning Board Members have been discussing a revised ordinance for fences, walls, and hedges.
 - The Planning and Zoning Board Members will review ordinances for Clewiston Commerce Park (CPID) and also Merchant Square.
- Director Reese, Flood Plain Manager for the City of Clewiston, will be attending the annual FFMA conference for Flood Plain Managers next week. This conference provides continuing education, and also provides an opportunity for local officials to meet one-on-one with State and Federal Representatives regarding topics of concern to our local area.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- **Get all Clewiston Golf Course news by signing up on Constant Contact.** Go to the City of Clewiston website, and sign up on Constant Contact. You will be automatically

put on the golf course e-mail. The Clewiston Golf Course also has a Facebook page with pictures and all golf course information.

- The golf course will be closed for regular play Saturday, April 1, 2017 until 2:00pm. The golf course is hosting the Presbyterian Nicaragua Medical Mission Fundraiser Golf Tournament. If interested in playing, call the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- On Friday, April 7, 2017, regular play will have to be finished playing their round by 4:45pm as our Annual Horse Race Golf Tournament will start. If interested in playing, call the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Clewiston Golf Course Junior Golf Camp is being worked on for the Summer. Information will be available first week of April. The Junior Golf Camps are scheduled for June 12, 2017- June 16, 2017 and July 24, 2017- July 28, 2017.
- On April 1, 2017, the Clewiston Golf Course will be having a Blow-Out Sale on merchandise in the golf shop.
- Summer memberships will be available starting April 15, 2017.
- Summer rates go into effect April 15, 2017.
- Greens were fertilized this week.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - April 1, 2017 Nicaragua Medical Mission Golf Tournament (9:00am)
 - April 7, 2017 Horse Race Tournament (4:00pm)
 - April 15, 2017 Moore Haven Terrier Boosters Golf Tournament (8:30am)
 - April 29, 2017 Nelson Fairbanks United States Sugar Tournament (9:00am)
- **For more information call golf shop 863-983-1448**

Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:

- **WATCH OUT FOR THE KIDS...!** Clewiston Baseball and Softball season has begun. This means that kids will be all over town going to and from their practice fields... Please keep an eye out for our youth!
- Clewiston Recreation Summer Camp 2017 is right around the corner..! Check www.clewistonrecreation.com or our FB page [City of Clewiston Parks & Recreation Department](#) for more details!
- CHS Softball will play South Ft. Myers on Friday Mar. 31st at 4 & 6pm on Field #8 at Sugarland Sports Complex. Come out and support the LADY TIGERS!
- Recreation and Ballfield staff have been busy repairing and adjusting irrigation systems and sprinkler heads throughout the parks, around facilities and Sugarland Sports Complex to allow more adequate, efficient and appropriate watering.
- ALL playing surfaces at Sugarland Sports Complex were fertilized this week.
- Ballfield staff re-set and rebuilt several pitching mounds and pitching rubbers this week at Sugarland Sports Complex.
- Final details are being made to host the TC Williams “Remember the Titans” Baseball team from Alexandria, Virginia in Clewiston for their spring break trip April 9-15th. The Titans will use Clewiston as a “home base” for the week...Here is their schedule and game itinerary:
 - Sunday April 9th - arrive and check-in at Roland Martin’s Marina
 - Monday April 10th – AM practice at Sugarland Sports Complex
 - **Monday April 10th vs. Clewiston @ 6pm in Clewiston**
 - **Tuesday April 11th – Sugarland Tour in the AM**
 - Tuesday April 11th - PM batting practice at Sugarland Sports Complex

- Tuesday April 11th vs Evangelical Christian @ 7pm in Ft. Myers
- Wednesday April 12th – Museum Tour in the AM
- Wednesday April 12th – PM batting practice at Sugarland Sports Complex
- Wednesday April 12th vs. Glades Day @ 4pm in Belle Glade
- Thursday April 13th - AM practice at Sugarland Sports Complex
- Thursday April 13th vs. LaBelle @ 7pm in LaBelle
- Friday April 14th – Billie Swamp Safari Tours in the AM and Lunch
- Friday April 14th – Miami Marlins vs. NY Mets @ Marlins Park in Miami
- Saturday April 15th – Check-out and return to Alexandria, Virginia
- **FOOD TRUCK INVASION** originally scheduled for Monday, March 20th has been rescheduled to April 17th for 5-9pm on the Sugar Fest Field. This last event of the year will be sponsored by the Cameron Crawford Scholarship Committee. Come out for the last event to share fun, food and fellowship with our Community for a GREAT cause!
- Pickle Ball will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on the East Tennis Courts from 4-6pm. Beginning lessons will be given the 2nd Friday of each month. Come out, learn and check out the “Hottest” new sport sweeping the nation...!
- The Splash Pad will continue to be open on Tuesdays from 3-5pm, Thursdays from 10am-Noon and Saturdays/Sundays from 9am-7pm
- **UPCOMING** Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
 - Mar. 31st – CHS Softball vs. South Ft. Myers 4 & 6pm Field #8 Sugarland Sports Complex
 - Apr. 1st – Birthday Party 2-5pm Beardsley Room
 - Apr. 1st – Bridal Shower 3-8pm Youth Center
 - Apr. 2nd – Birthday Party 2-5pm Youth Center
 - Apr. 2nd – Baby Shower 2-5pm Beardsley Room
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- **Road Reconstruction and Boat Basin Paving:** Signed contracts from the contractors came back this week and will be signed by the City Manager. Copies will be sent back and a Notice to proceed will be issued.
- **Mosquito Control:** Staff will start trapping the first of April. First Air ULV mission is scheduled for April 13/14, Easter weekend. Traps are showing 25 to 50 mosquito average from three locations.
- **Street Division:** (1) Staff started installing the French Drain on Arcade this week. (2) Staff replaced several street markers and dead end markers on canal banks this week. (3) Central Avenue was swept and inlets cleaned out. (4) Crepe Myrtles on Royal Palm, San Gabriel and Osceola were cut back so they will bud and flower nicely.



Street Crew installing a French Drain on Arcade

- Facility Maintenance Division: (1) City buildings requiring fire monitoring were reviewed this week by Fyr-Fyter and City Employee Bill Engel. Another company will come in and make the same review. Both will submit quotes for the required monitoring of these buildings. (2) Several work orders from the Animal Control facility were processed this week including outside lighting. Repaired floor drains and outside door.
- Scheduled projects: (1) Installed guard rail on San Diego. (2) Installed culvert on Circle Drive at Diaz Place. (3) Road repair and transformer relocation on San Diego.

Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:

- For the past several months the Clewiston Police Department has been conducting an extensive undercover narcotics investigation regarding the sale of illicit narcotics as well as the illegal sale and delivery of prescription drugs. During the course of the investigation detectives were able to purchase narcotics from a number of individuals, which eventually led to the Clewiston Police Department being able to secure search warrants for several residences. In serving these search warrants the Clewiston Police Department seized marijuana, cocaine, and a number of illegal prescription drugs. Investigators also recovered 2 firearms, one of which was reported as stolen. The investigation also led to the arrest of 16 individuals for offenses ranging from possession and sale of narcotics to weapons related offenses, depending on their involvement.
- Officers responded to the report of an individual who had been robbed. The victim reported that two suspects had approached him, demanded money all while pointing a firearm at him. The victim was able to disarm the suspects who fled the scene only to return a short time later and demanded for their gun back. The victim did not return their firearm, but was able to obtain a photograph of their license plate during this encounter.

Through some great team work with the Hendry County Sheriff's Office the suspects were apprehended and delivered to the Hendry County Jail.

- While Officers were patrolling the Civic Park area they came across a vehicle suspiciously parked in the area. Officers reported seeing smoke coming from the passenger compartment of the vehicle. Upon making contact with the vehicle's occupants, officers immediately recognized a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Subsequent investigations led to the arrest of one occupant of the vehicle for possession of marijuana.
- Officers responded to a Suspicious Person call during the early morning hours of March 30th. Officers were able to apprehend two juvenile male subjects who were loitering in the area and fled when they arrived. The officers were questioning these juveniles why they were in the area and fled when approached. Then several individuals in the immediate area reported their vehicles had been burglarized. As officers continued to investigate the situation, a cache of items was located hidden in the immediate vicinity. Several of these items were identified by victims of the burglaries as belonging to them. This led to a much larger investigation as numerous burglary reports were received that morning. A third suspect was eventually apprehended and as of now this investigation has led to the Clewiston Police Department being able to solve and close 15 separate burglary cases. We would like to thank the watchful citizen who originally called in the suspicious behavior of these juveniles. Without the initial call from one of our citizens we would have never been able to close these cases and return the stolen property.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- Water Sewer Activities
 - Repaired sewer break at Lopez St.
 - Changed 2 meters
 - Repaired 3 water breaks
 - Located water/sewer lines for new construction at Orchard Park
- Electric Activities
 - Replaced rotten pole on Cedar St
 - Replaced transformer at Azteca restaurant
 - Repaired street lights
 - Replaced pole on Ponce & Del Rio
 - Replaced pole behind the John Boy Auditorium
 - Met with contractor regarding 138 KV transmission line inspection
 - Straightened leaning pole and changed connectors and pole top pin on 12th ST
 - Hang a new security light on Della Tobias
 - Sprayed weeds and vines on poles with round up
 - Replaced two underground services on West Ventura
- 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. 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 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 or 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.