

For Your Information

Weekly

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

January 5, 2018

Dates to Remember

January 8, 2018 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting

January 15, 2018 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – City Offices Closed

January 18, 2018 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

January 22, 2018 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting

Staff Reports

Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil reports:

- The City of Clewiston is offering the Code Enforcement Amnesty Program as an incentive to property owners who may have outstanding Code Enforcement violations to bring their property into compliance with City codes and obtain quick reduction of the outstanding liens. The Program is being administered by the City's Community Improvement Division. Hours of availability are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, excluding weekends and legal holidays. You can schedule an appointment to discuss specific information or amounts owed by contacting the Community Improvement Division at 141 Central Avenue, Clewiston, FL 33440 or 863-983-1454. For more information, please visit http://www.clewiston-fl.gov/egov/documents/1515079385_31793.pdf.
- Hurricane Season ended November 30, 2017. Those shutters that were put in place to protect life and property now become a hazard. The City of Clewiston Code of Ordinances 110-530 and 110-531 address both residential and commercial rules for the placement and removal of storm panels as follows:

Sec. 110-530. - Residential development and improvement

(2) Storm shutters and panels which are not permanently installed shall meet the following utilization standards:

- a. **They may be put in place or closed not more than 72 hours before and 72 hours after a storm event;**
- b. They may be put in place or closed for two periods of up to 15 days each between June 1 and November 30 (the hurricane season) when the owner is absent; and
- c. They may be put in place on rear windows during any period of time.

Sec. 110-531 - Commercial development and improvement.

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Library Director Hayes reports:

- We Help Communities To Develop Corporation will be offering free financial coaching sessions at the Library from 9:00am until 7:45pm on January 8th, 22nd, & 29th.
- Story Time will be held at 10:00am with Covenant Academy on January 10th and with Discovery Day on January 11th.
- Lego Club will meet January 11th from 4-5pm.
- Over 200 new titles have been added to our library's DVD collection as of this week. Please stop in and check out the new movies!!
- The Library is accepting donations of any Legos. Please feel free to drop them off to the circulation desk. These do not have to be complete sets. We have begun our Lego Club and are interested in gathering additional blocks. Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated.
- We have had some donations of Legos; thanks to all.
- 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.**

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.
- Clewiston Golf Course is receiving new merchandise for the season. Ladies clothes, men's clothing, golf bags and clubs.
- Clewiston Golf Course is junior golf friendly. Come in the golf shop to get free range tokens. We have clubs if needed.
- The Clewiston Golf Course has accounts with all manufacturers. If you need anything to do with golf, we can get it for you.
- Driving Range Tokens are available in the golf shop and after hours at the police station. There are lights at the driving range; look for the sign and turn them on.
- Memberships for three months, six months and annual are available.
- Golf carts are now due in at 5:30pm.
- Please make tee times. Play is starting to pick up. 863-983-1448.
- Schedules for the January through June 2018 Tournaments, Ladies Golf Clinics and Junior Golf Clinics have been posted on the Clewiston Golf Course Facebook page. This information can also be picked up in a booklet form in the golf shop.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - January 6, 2018 Ladies Golf Clinic (Putting) 4pm-5pm
 - January 12, 2018 Night Golf Glow Ball Tournament

- January 13, 2018 Junior Golf Clinic (Golf Games) 4pm-5pm
- January 16 & 23, 2018 CLGA Ladies Club Championship
- January 20, 2018 Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Tournament
- **For more information, please call the golf shop at 863-983-1448.**

Recreation Department reports:

- The stripping & waxing of the John Boy Auditorium floors have been completed.
- The Park Attendant pressure washed & painted the levee restroom building.
- The ballfields crew is getting ready for Baseball & Softball season. They have been working on field #8.
- The ballfields crew is preparing field #9 for the start of Adult Softball League. Their first game will be on Monday, January 8, 2018.
- The Turf Consultant will be spraying for invasive weeds and fertilizing ALL game fields at Sugarland Sports Complex this week.
- For more information or for any of your rental or recreational needs, visit our website at www.clewistonrecreation.com.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- **Mosquito Control:** Trap counts this week were low: Okeechobee Blvd. 250; Saginaw 75; and Harlem Community 150. Cold weather and strong winds have shut down all operations, hopefully for a while.
- **Street Division:** (1) Pot holes were patched on Wednesday Dec. 27. (2) Seventeen street signs were repaired. (3) 35 pounds of litter was picked up. (4) Dead and unsightly material was removed in the planted areas in the median on 27. The ground will be prepped for new plantings. (5) Wheel stops had to be put back in place at the Boat Basin parking lot because of vandalism. (6) Fifty feet of culvert was installed at the intersection of Lopez and 27 to repair a wash out under a sidewalk. The sidewalk was replaced. (7) Staff started removing and storing Christmas decorations.
- **Paving Project:** The Notice of Award and three copies of the contract was sent to Lynch Paving this week for signatures.
- **Solid Waste Truck Bid:** A Notice of Award and a P.O. was sent to Palm Peterbilt for the purchase of a new solid waste truck this week. We expect delivery in 180 to 210 days.
- **Facility Maintenance:** (1) Paper towel boxes in the Boat Basin bathrooms had to be put back up because of vandalism. (2) The exterior walls on the bathroom were power washed and painted. (3) The floors in the JBA are finished. (4) Lights in the Youth Center were repaired.
- **Memorial/Civic Park:** New picnic tables purchased by the Lions Club were ordered this week. Four new round tables with checker boards imbedded will be a very nice addition to the park.
- **Canal Service:** Contact was made with the CDD about getting the litter from Christmas removed from the canals. It was reported a round will be made this week.

Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:

- Officers responded to a complaint of a reckless driver. Officers were able to locate the vehicle. Upon locating the vehicle officers did observe a driving pattern, which justified concern. Officers subsequently stopped the vehicle and throughout the course of their

investigation realized the driver was experiencing a medical emergency. Emergency medical services were summoned and the driver was transported to the hospital.

- On December 30th officers responded to the report of a traffic crash on Highway 27 near the intersection of San Jose St. Upon arrival officers learned that a subject was riding his bicycle across the highway when he was struck by a vehicle. Sadly, the bicyclist did not survive his injuries.
- While officers were working the above traffic accident a disturbance was overheard at a nearby business. Officers responded to the area and observed two individuals actively fighting. Officers gave the two several commands to cease and desist to no avail. Officers were then forced to use more persuasive measures, which were effective. Both subjects were subsequently arrested.
- New Year's Eve was largely uneventful. As one would imagine we did respond to numerous complaints regarding loud music, gun shots, and fireworks.
- We would like to remind everyone, if you haven't already, to renew your golf cart registration for the 2018 calendar year.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- Electric Activities
 - Repaired street lights in town and Harlem
 - Cut trees away from power lines in town and Harlem
 - Repaired 1 underground service in Fairgrounds Trailer Park
 - Ran 3 new underground services in Orchard Park
 - Set new transformer at USSC office
 - Tightened one service line to house
 - Checked 3 instances of voltage problems and 1 power outage
- Water Sewer Activities
 - Repaired 6 water breaks
 - Made repairs at Olympia, Fairgrounds and main lift stations. Installed new pump at Dunkin Donuts
 - Did rereads for billing
 - Investigated 1 sewer backup and 1 low water pressure
 - Changed 3 water meters
- Office Activities
 - 17 new service connections and 15 disconnects for final service
 - 44 disconnects for non-pay and accounts 36 reconnected
 - 58 work orders sent out to re-read meters
 - Changed 3 electric meters
 - Caught 1 customer tampering with electric meter
- **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.