

*For Your Information*

*Weekly*

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

March 2, 2018

**Dates to Remember**

March 5, 2018 - Clewiston City Commission Meeting  
March 12, 2018 – Planning and Zoning Board Meeting  
March 15, 2018 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting  
March 21, 2018 – Special Magistrate Hearing  
March 28, 2018 – Board of Building Commission Meeting

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:**

- BERRYLICIOUS Frozen Yogurt has opened its doors at 307 E Sugarland Hwy; stop by today for your tasty treat.
- Planning and Zoning Board has been scheduled to meet on March 12, 2018 at 5:30pm in regards to a request to vacate an alleyway for remodel for Clewiston Motor Company Inc. “Alan Jay” located at 202 W Sugarland Hwy.
- A preliminarily site plan has been submitted for review for a possibility of a new auto parts store to be located at 700 W Sugarland Hwy in the future.

**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](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov/egov/documents/1515079385_31793.pdf).

**Library Director Hayes reports:**

- The City is currently seeking board members for the Clewiston Library Advisory Board and the Hendry County Library Cooperative Advisory Board. If you are interested in serving the community in either capacity, please pick up an application at the Library or City Hall.
- The Library Board met yesterday at 5 p.m. for our monthly meeting. All plans are in place for the silent auction and raffle hosted by the Friends during the Sugar Festival. It will occur from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> here at the library.
- The Library is also providing free income tax preparation daily for those individuals who

earn less than \$66,000 per year. Please call the Library and schedule your appointment.

- The Library will host Story Time with Little Disciples on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 9:30 am and Rainbow Preschool on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.
- The Library's Lego Club continues to grow each week. This week we had a total of 15 children. The Lego Club meets each Thursday from 4-5 pm. The children are having fun as they create various masterpieces and participate in friendly, timed competitions each week. We would like to thank those who have donated Legos to the Library already, but we are still accepting donations as we wish to see this program continue to grow. Please feel free to drop them off to the circulation desk. These do not have to be complete sets. Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to all those who have participated in our suggestion drop box. The suggested materials are being ordered and will be in soon. Keep an eye out for them as we will create a display with those handpicked titles. Please come in and grab those that you suggested as well as many more.
- Remember you can get your e-books free at [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://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](http://www.hendrylibraries.org). Like us at [www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary).**

#### **Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- Friendly reminder - Please let faster players play through.
- No single golf carts unless your group is a threesome or a fivesome. If you would like to take a cart alone, there is an additional fee. See the golf shop staff.
- Golf carts are due in now at 6:15pm
- Please make tee times – 863-983-1448.
- January 2018 Thru June 2018 Tournament Schedule, Ladies Golf Clinics and Junior Golf Clinics have been posted on Clewiston Golf Course Facebook. This information can also be picked up in a booklet form in the golf shop.
- Congratulations!! Clewiston Ladies Golf Association raised thousands of dollars for breast cancer research Saturday, February 24, 2018. It was their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Rally for the Cure Golf Tournament. There were one hundred golfers that played in the tournament.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - March 4, 2018 Couples Championship (11:00am Start 18 Holes)
  - March 6, 2018 Men's Senior Stableford Championship
  - March 10, 2018 Junior Golf Clinic 4pm-5pm (Short Game and Rules)
  - March 16, 2018 Night Golf Glow Ball Tournament
- **For more information, please call the Golf Shop at 863-983-1448.**

#### **Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:**

- **Mosquito Control:** Staff is aware of the increase in mosquito activity. Trap counts finally hit a point to support a mission. Okeechobee Blvd trapped 250 and the Golf Course trapped 200. A ground treatment is scheduled by end of week.
- **Street Division:** (1) A new flag pole was installed in the Festival grounds and the older one moved to the senior hall. (2) Staff spent five days placing a fresh layer of "Red Mulch" around trees and planted areas in the Festival grounds. (3) Staff worked two days this week on street signs on Ponce de Leon. (4) Staff started planting another area on

Bond Street this week. (5) Power washing of facilities in the Festival grounds started on Wednesday.

- **Sports Complex:** (1) The Purchase Order for just under 1,000 feet of chain link fence was issued this week and the fence will be installed along the north property line of the Sports Complex. (2) The Purchase Order for two new scoreboards was issued this week for the High School boys' and girls' fields. (3) Staff met with Berry's Nets on Thursday to discuss how the net over the Small Quad will be installed and get the quote for installation. (4) Staff is putting together a list of parts that will be needed for repairs to the gates in the Sports Complex.
- **Facility Maintenance:** (1) The bathroom drain in the locker room at the Golf Course was plugged for a second time in two weeks. We are calling in a plumber with a camera to find what is causing the problem. (2) The floors in the John Boy Auditorium were polished on Tuesday. (3) A leaking copper water line in the Firehouse was replaced on Thursday.
- **Reminder from Public Works:** There is a lot of City staff working in our community every day. Please pay close attention when you approach a piece of equipment. They can't see you if you can't see their mirrors. Stay back 100 feet as they may be making several stops or backing up. Slow down when you pass a stopped vehicle because a staff person will be moving around somewhere close. Our first priority is for everyone to go home each day in the same health as they were when they reported to work that morning.

#### **Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:**

- This week detectives followed up on investigative leads that identified a suspect in the multiple robberies that have taken place since January 14<sup>th</sup>. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, detectives took Gregory Jamain Coleman D.O.B. 7/30/1988 into custody with the assistance of the Glades County Sheriff's Office and charged him with multiple crimes, including robbery, aggravated assault, and aggravated battery.
- On February 27<sup>th</sup>, officers executed a search warrant at 813 E. El Paso Ave. Lot # 50 after being led to this residence during a separate robbery investigation. During the search, warrant officers recovered MDMA, cocaine, marijuana, significant amounts of currency, and paraphernalia consistent with the sale of narcotics. Four individuals were subsequently taken into custody and delivered to the Hendry County Jail on a number of drug-related charges.
- The following is a brief synopsis of activity over the course of the past week.
  - 14 Arrests
  - Officers responded to and worked 7 traffic crashes, two of which resulted in arrests.
  - Officers responded to 183 Calls for service
  - Officers conducted 35 traffic stops.
  - Average response time to calls for service, 00:01:49

#### **Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- Electric Activities
  - Repaired street lights in town and in Harlem
  - Cut trees away from power lines in town and Harlem
  - Replaced underground service in Fairgrounds Trailer Park Lots 10,11, & 12
  - Strapped service pipe to pole on East Osceola
  - Installed banners on US 27

- Fixed light on flagpole for Public Works
- Cut power and reconnected after accident at 330 West Sugarland Hwy
- Water Sewer Activities
  - Repaired 3 water breaks
  - Made repairs at DeSoto lift station
  - Set 1 water meter in Harlem
  - Changed 4 water meters
  - Did rereads for billing
  - Flushed sewer lines at Auditorium
  - Investigated 3 sewer backups
- Office Activities
  - 18 new service connections and 13 disconnects for final service
  - 46 disconnects for non-pay and 41 accounts reconnected
  - 10 work orders sent out to re-read meters
  - Changed 1 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](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.**