

## ***For Your Information***

### ***Weekly***

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

January 25, 2019

#### **Dates to Remember**

January 28, 2019 – City Commission Workshop

February 4, 2019 – City Commission Workshop and Meeting

February 7, 2019 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting

February 18, 2019 – City Commission Meeting

February 21, 2019 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

#### **Staff Reports**

##### **Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:**

- Permitted 2 new single family homes to be built in Orchard Park. Both are 3 bedroom/2 bathrooms and average approximately 1200 sq. ft. One home features a front and back porch totaling 240 sq. ft.

##### **Library Director Natasha Hayes reports:**

- Closed on Monday for Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Day.
- Children's Library Staff member provided storytime to Covenant Preschool on Wednesday at their location. Ms. Maria does an excellent job of reaching our littles ones and bringing them into the world of imagination and hands on activities as well as interactive play.
- Library Director, Mrs. Hayes and Ms. Maria, attended FLYP (Florida Library Youth Program) training in Fort Myers on Thursday. This training provided detailed insight, ideas, tips and tricks for this upcoming summer program at the library. This year the theme will be *A Universe of Stories*. Library staff will keep the community informed as we approach summer and we begin to plan these exciting events.
- Microsoft Excel classes have begun and are a huge success. Ms. Primmer is teaching the Advanced course at the moment with a total of 10 participants as of last night. As we only have 3 classes left in this course, keep your eyes out for our next class, Excel for Beginners. We welcome everyone from the community to participate. The fee for the Advanced class is \$50.00 per person.
- Mrs. Wood, Youth/Teen Library Staff, has diligently been working with the individuals within our community with the Career Online High School. This program allows those who have not completed high school, the opportunity to obtain their diploma for free with the assistance of a scholarship and online courses through the State of Florida. Since September, Mrs. Wood has registered, assisted, coached, and witnessed the graduated

status of 6 community members as well as 12 who are currently over 75% completed. She is working on scheduling a graduation ceremony with those students at this time.

- Library Director has had several meetings this week as we are continuing to grow programming and events at the library. Mrs. Hayes met with the Principal and Assistant Principal at Clewiston High School as well as the Art Teacher. She is looking to highlight the student's artwork within the library this next month as we have many talented students. She also met with the Robotics Club while at the High School. She wishes to begin teen/youth programs featuring technology and robotics in the very near future with the assistance of SWFLN and the use of their lending library which features robotic Legos and Virtual Reality equipment for free as we are members.
- Library Director continues to coordinate next month's events as we celebrate Black History Month and hold our Annual Awards Recognition Ceremony on February, 21, 2019 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This year has changed a bit as we have opened the nominations for recognition to adults as well. Nomination forms have been passed out at our local schools and within Harlem through various volunteers. The deadline to nominate an individual will be next Friday, February 1 by 5 p.m. Please send the library the names of individuals you feel are deserving of recognition for their hard work, dedication, community service, positive role model behavior and more as we wish to highlight the excellence happening within our community during Black History Month. If you are needing a nomination form, please contact the library and we will be sure to get you one.
- The library still has openings for free tutoring on Monday evenings for students in grades 1-5. It is held at the library from 4-6 p.m. Please stop in and fill out a registration form for your student. Classes are taught by Florida certified teachers.
- 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:**

- The Clewiston Golf Course will be hosting the Executive Women's Golf Association's Sugar Bowl Golf Tournament on January 26, 2019. The golf course will be closed for regular play this day until 2:30pm.
- The Golf Course's second Ladies Golf Clinic on Chipping is scheduled for Friday, February 1, 2019. The Chip and Sip will start at 4:00pm. It's free of charge and sign-up is in the ladies locker room.
- The annual Clewiston Men's Senior Club Championship is scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Sign-up is in the golf shop. The golf course will be open for regular play both days.
- A no charge Junior Golf Clinic is scheduled for February 9, 2019 from 11:00am to 12:00pm. The life skill will be "Integrity". We will be on the driving range doing full swing.
- Booklets are now available in the golf shop of all our tournaments and clinics from January-May 2019.
- **For more information, please call the Golf Shop at 863-983-1448.**

### Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- *New Youth Center visiting hours are Monday through Friday 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Calls are still being received and answered from 8:00am to 5:00pm. If you have any recreational needs or questions, please drop by City Hall from 8:00am to 2:00pm or by the Youth Center from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.*
- **Mosquito Control:** No control activity at this time.
- **Street Division:** (1) We are working at the boat basin this week getting ready for upcoming fishing tournaments. Tasks include painting curbs and ramp lines, power washing the boat launch area concrete and wheel stops, placing new ramp markers and handicap signage, trimming palms and mulching. (2) We have started building the new “Over Flow Parking” sign for the boat basin parking lot. (3) The final pass on the handicap parking space refurbish was completed. (4) We will be out for bid next week for the 2019 “Hot Spot” Paving Project, the 2019 Street Paving Project and the 2019 Sidewalk Project.
- **Sports Complex:** (1) The girls’ and boys’ ball fields are scheduled to be sprayed for weeds and fertilized this week. It was rescheduled because of weather conditions. (2) Fence maintenance and repairs started on Tuesday and are expected to go four days to cover the complex.
- **Facility Maintenance:** **NOTICE** - The John Boy Auditorium will be closed February 25 through 28 for maintenance. (1) A toilet had to be replaced in the Boat Basin bathroom. (2) We are going to bid for the new roof on the Country Club.
- **Parks & Playgrounds:** (1) Fence maintenance and “fall zone” inspections were done in the Sikes Park. (2) The Softball/Baseball Board met Tuesday evening in the Youth Center and went over the start of the season process. The meeting was well attended, well organized and well run. 512 youth players signed up this year from tiny “Tee Ballers” to 15 year olds. This is reported to be the biggest Youth Baseball Program in the area.
- **NOTE from Public Works:** Clewiston is not your local government community, it is everyone that lives and does business here. How we look and are seen by visitors is everyone’s responsibility. Look around you to see if there is something that you can do to make our community a better place to live. (Pull a few weeds, paint a wall, sign post or fire hydrant or even wash some playground equipment.) Volunteer to help with the Police, Utility, Public Works or Recreation Departments.
- **Retired and looking for something to do?** I have some seasonal banners that still need to be refreshed with paint. If you have a talent and like to paint, call 983-1492 and talk to Joanna. It really is fun and you will contribute to making Clewiston more festive during the different seasons.

### Utilities Director Danny Williams reports:

- **Electric Activities**
  - Replaced URD service in Harlem Gardens from 802 to 803.
  - Cut down and removed old service on 8th Ct.
  - Replaced streetlight head on Central Ave.
  - Ran three new services in Orchard Park for new houses.
  - Installed two bird guards on power poles.

- **Water Sewer Activities**
  - The City of Clewiston will be temporarily changing the disinfection process for its drinking water supply. Water customers should be aware that they may also experience changes to their water quality during flushing, including cloudy or discolored water. While this water is safe to drink, customers are advised to flush any cloudy or discolored water that may enter their plumbing by running a faucet for several minutes.
  - The first of three phases of the Inflow Infiltration program is continuing. Crews will be working in and around our manholes, and Phase 1 will be completed by March 1, 2019.
  - Restored power to Trinidad Avenue lift station.
  - Changed out five water meters on the 700 Block of Comercio.
- **Information Technology**
  - With the government shutdown ongoing, there has been a rise in email and phone scams. Please be cautious when giving out any personal information.
  - It is also coming up on tax season and with that comes a rise in tax scams. The IRS will not conduct business over email, text, or social media.
- **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.**