

***For Your Information***

***Weekly***

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

February 15, 2019

**Dates to Remember**

February 18, 2019 – City Commission Meeting - **CANCELLED**

February 21, 2019 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

March 4, 2019 – City Commission Workshop and Meeting

March 7, 2019 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting

**City Manager and Staff Reports**

**Interim City Manager Wendell Johnson reports:**

**FY 18 City Audit** – CPA Andrew Jones is underway with the City's Fiscal Year (FY) 18 Independent Audit. Finance Director Howell has provided all FY 18 Commission minutes and is preparing the General Ledger Detail Report, Trial Balance and Manual Journal Listing for submission early next week. Andrew will be working a number of weekends throughout the process to assure the audit is completed by the June deadline.

**City Manager Search.** The City requested proposals from three qualified search firms on 2/6/19 and representatives from two of the firms communicated intent to submit proposals. Confirmation was received by the City on 2/14/19 that the Firm of Colin Baenziger & Associates (CB&A) would have the only proposal which was submitted on 2/8/19. Mr. Baenziger has requested to meet individually with Commissioners on 2/25/19. The TENTATIVE schedule for the search follows:

**March 4, 2019 – Select Consultant.** CB&A Proposal will be considered by Commission for contract.

**March 15, 2019** - The recruitment profile will be posted on Consultant's website and submitted to the appropriate publications and local government professionals.

**April 5, 2012** - Closing date for submission of applications.

**April 12, 2019** – Consultant Report to City on the results of the recruitment.

**May 6, 2019** - Consultant distributes reports and materials to the City for the recommended candidates. These will include the candidates' resumes and introduction as well as the results of reference, background and Internet/newspaper archives checks.

**May 23, 2019** - City holds reception for the finalists.

**May 24, 2019** - One-on-one and full Commission interviews and selection of candidate for the position.

Employment Agreement will be ratified by Commission on or about June 3, 2019.

**Legislative Appropriations for City of Clewiston.**

Screenen Watson has submitted the following House Bill information for Clewiston projects.

**HB 2759 Clewiston Storm Spill Prevention:** \$381,032 This bill is slated to be heard by the House Committee on February 20, 2019.

<https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=63964>

**HB 2763 City of Clewiston Ventura Avenue Improvements:** \$1,361,000 Anticipates Bill will be heard at some point during the first week of March 2019.

<https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=63971>

**HB 2765 City of Clewiston C-21 Bridge Canal Crossing:** \$2,000,000 Anticipates Bill will be heard at some point during the first week of March 2019.

<https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=63972>

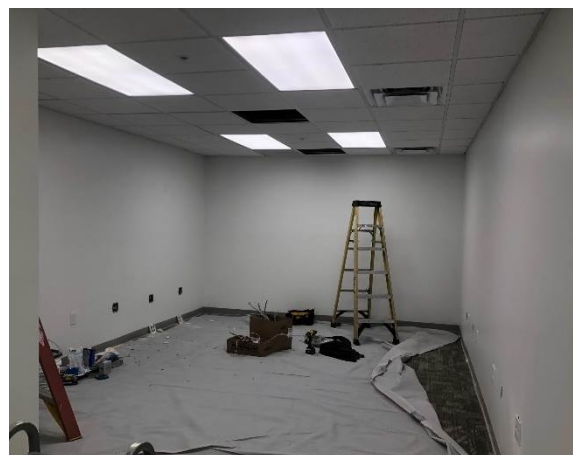
**Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:**

This week has been very busy for our department.

- Hendry County Fair inspections were completed this week with the help of state fair inspectors. All rides have been inspected and deemed safe and the fair board received their permit for operation of this year's fair.
- The interior renovations for new police department are structurally complete. Mechanical and electrical contractors will complete their work early next week. We anticipate several days of clean up for the contractor. The city is expected to take possession of building from the contractor within the next two weeks.



View of Reception Area



View of Dispatch Area

- The contractor has begun construction of the public restrooms at Trinidad Park. If you notice the building pad is elevated, this is to meet minimum base flood elevations

required for new construction. A prefab building will be installed on the completed slab.

- The AutoZone store construction at the corner of Sugarland Hwy and South Lopez is progressing quickly. The roof will be installed later this week with interior work to follow quickly.

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

- 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](http://www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary).**

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

- The third Ladies Golf Clinic of the year on Full Swing will be held today, February 15, 2019. It will take place at 4:00pm and there is no charge for the clinic.
- The Clewiston Ladies Golf Association will host their annual invitational on February 19, 2019. The Ladies will celebrate the Clewiston Golf Course's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The golf course was established in 1929.
- CLGA Rally for the Cure Mixed Scramble will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2019. Sign-up is in the golf shop.
- **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:** Mike Young and Sean Scheffler successfully completed their training last week in Gainesville. The CEU document will be sent to Tallahassee and recorded. A new license will be issued.
- **Street Division:** (1) The support braces on the 27 Royal Palms were removed. Staff started spraying for weeds and mulching. (2) The irrigation system on US Highway 27 was inspected and repaired where damaged. (3) Staff assembled the signs for the "Tot Lot" in the Sports Complex; the "Candy Cane Park" and the "Trinidad Park". (4) Swept streets.
- **Sports Complex:** (1) Foul poles were installed on Fields 1 and 8. (2) The new tables and benches for scorekeeper booths were set up in the Small Quad. (3) The soccer equipment on Cane Field was picked up and returned to the Sports Complex.
- **Facility Maintenance:** **NOTICE** - The John Boy Auditorium will be closed February 25 through 28 for maintenance. (1) Staff painted the ceiling in the Youth Center.
- **Parks & Playgrounds:** (1) The Trinidad Park bathroom installation schedule is as follows: The foundation was set on Monday; the plumbing was set on Thursday; and the building is scheduled to be set today. (2) The foundation to the Picnic Pavilion is also scheduled to begin today. (3) Swing sets and the Overhead Ladder in Trinidad Park were painted. A systematic process is underway, with the goal of painting all of the equipment and structures in this park.

- **NOTE from Public Works:** The Sugar Festival in one month away. This is the biggest opportunity to “*Showcase*” Clewiston, our home. I encourage everyone to spend time sprucing up your yards and homes in order to make the best impression possible of the fine people that make Clewiston such a great place to live.

**Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:**

- The following is a brief synopsis of activity over the course of the past week.
  - Officers made a total of 6 arrests
  - Officers responded to 361 Calls for service (Includes officer-initiated activity)
  - Average officer response time to calls for service, 00:01:12

**Utilities Director Danny Williams reports:**

- **Electric Activities**
  - Did you know that the city’s residential customer rate last December (the most recent data available) was LOWER than the residential rates of the big Investor Owned Utilities?
  - Installed transformer and three spans of wire for electric service to new bathroom building at Trinidad Park;
  - Ran new electric services to residences in Orchard Park and Ridgeview Circle;
  - Set two new poles for street lights on Trinidad Avenue and repaired other street lights;
  - Removed the FLW tournament banner;
  - Repaired a bad URD service on S Lopez Street.
- **Water Sewer Activities**
  - We are in the middle of the smoke testing portion of the phase one Sanitary Sewer Inflow prevention program. The testing should be complete by the end of next week. The Contractor, USSI, will be placing door hangers on front doors to notify residents before the work begins in individual neighborhoods. Please call the office if you have any questions or concerns.
  - Replaced several water meters at E. Sagamore Apartments;
  - Repaired water line breaks in the Ventura Avenue area and at the golf course;
  - Flushed water line “dead ends”;
  - Repaired pump lift station #9.
- **Information Technology**
  - An effort is being made to close caption our Facebook videos. It has been hit or miss using the automated system built into Facebook. Other options are being explored.
  - The PDFs in the document center on the website [www.Clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.Clewiston-fl.gov) have been pulled until they can be made ADA compliant.
- **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.**