

For Your Information

Weekly

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

April 26, 2019

Dates to Remember

April 29, 2019 – Special City Commission Meeting

May 6, 2019 – City Commission Workshop and Meeting

May 7, 2019 – Hendry County Board of County Commissioners Lake O Joint Meeting

May 14, 2019 – Special Magistrate Hearing

May 16, 2019 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

May 20, 2019 – City Commission Workshop and Meeting

May 27, 2019 – Memorial Day Holiday – City Offices Closed

Staff Reports

Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil reports:

- Code Cases Opened: 14
- Case Re-inspections: 9
- Notice of Violations: 6
- Notice of Hearings: 7
- Code Cases Resolved: 9
- Code lien search requests completed: 3
- Rental Inspections Completed: 2
- Next Scheduled Magistrate Hearing: May 14, 2019

**IS YOUR SWIMMING POOL IN COMPLIANCE WITH CITY OF CLEWISTON
ORDINANCE?**

City of Clewiston Ordinance

Sec. 110-2. - Definitions and construction.

Swimming pool means a portable pool or permanent structure that contains a body of water 18 inches or more in depth of 250 square feet or more of water surface area and intended for recreational purposes, including a wading pool. The term "swimming pool" excludes an ornamental reflecting pool, fish pond, or other type of pool, regardless of size, unless located and designed so as to create a hazard or be used for swimming or wading.

ARTICLE VI. - SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS

Sec. 110-524. - Fences, walls and hedges.

(18) Swimming pool enclosures. **All swimming pools must** be within a screened cage, or **shall** be enclosed on all open sides by a fence which is a minimum of four feet above the existing ground grade and a maximum of six feet above the existing ground grade. All gates which are part of a pool fence or screening cage **must** have safety locks.

Florida leads the country in drowning deaths of children ages 1-4 years.

www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/prevention/drowning/4/18/2019

Pool Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

Library Director Natasha Hayes reports:

- Rainbow Preschool enjoyed computer lab time on Tuesday using the Lexia Reading Program provided for free at the library.
- Storytime was held on Wednesday and Thursday for Little Disciples and Rainbow Preschool.
- The Early Learning Coalition utilized the computer lab on Wednesday in order to assist community members with registering their children into the preschool program. If you would like more information, please stop by the library on Wednesdays from 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
- Book Club participants met on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. to discuss their latest book and choose the next. The book that was chosen is *The Woman in the Window* by A.J. Finn. 8 participants took part in the book review last night and welcome any new community members to the group. The next meeting will be held on June 24, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. here in the library.
- Library staff is working diligently to host a celebration on May 23rd, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. to honor the students who have obtained their high school diploma from Career Online High School this year. We invite the community to take part in and celebrate their achievement.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Free Tutoring Weekly (grades 1-5)**
Every Monday 4-6 p.m.
 - **Lego Club**
Every Thursday from 3:30-4:30
 - **Family Coloring Event-all ages invited**
Wednesday, May 8th 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 - **Family Movie Night w/popcorn**
Thursday, May 9th 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 - **Scrabble Club**
Tuesday, May 14th 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 - **Library Closed-Staff Training**
May 15th will reopen May 16th at 9 a.m.
 - **Family Board Game Day**
Wednesday, May 22nd 3:30-4:30 p.m.

- **Career Online High School Graduation Ceremony**
Thursday, May 23rd at 5:30 p.m.
- **Memorial Day Holiday-Closure**
Library will be closed on Saturday, May 25th and Monday, May 27th. Will reopen on Tuesday at 9 a.m.
- **Scrabble Club**
Tuesday, May 28th 3:30-4:30
- **Medicare 101 Information Session**
Thursday, May 30th 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- 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/lewistonpubliclibrary.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- *If you have any recreational needs or questions, please drop by City Hall from 8:00am to 5:00pm or call 863-983-1484.*
- **NOTICE: Residents offering debris for pick up must make sure nothing is longer than six feet. The Transfer Station will no longer take material longer than that. Drivers have been instructed to “Yellow Tag” debris that needs to be cut shorter.**
- **Hendry County Waste Management Toxic Round Up will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at the County Road & Bridge facility located at 1381 Evercane Rd. from 8:00am to 12:00pm. This is a free service. Residential hazardous waste only. No commercial waste accepted.**
- **Mosquito Control:** Trap counts for the week: Golf Course 177; Okeechobee Blvd. 75; Sports Complex 7; Saginaw 71; and Harlem 13.
- **Paving Projects:** No action yet. The contract has been signed and returned but still waiting for payment bonds and insurance paper work to come in.
- **Country Club Roof:** Project completed.
- **Trinidad Park FRDAP Grant:** The ADA sidewalk build is under way. My office is getting quotes for a truck load of sod to be installed around the new construction.
- **Parks Department:** (1) We are painting play equipment and replacing swings and chains. During park inspections, it was noted that these pieces had not been replaced in several years. (2) The water department is rebuilding the “Back Flow Preventer” at the pool.
- **Street Division:** (1) Staff started working on road shoulders. Holes and drop-offs were filled with shell rock and the buildup preventing rain water from getting off the road was removed. (2) The Street Sweeper swept swales removing the silt that builds up when washed off the travel surface during a rain event. (3) Two street markers on US27 were replaced after a large truck turned short and wiped them out. (4) Staff worked the south side of US27 clearing visibility triangles.
- **Facility Maintenance:** (1) The Sally Port and holding cell doors at the Police Department were repaired. (2) The doors on the Boat Basin bathroom are rusted out. We have ordered new ones. (3) Vandalism in the Sports Complex cost staff a day’s work to correct. (4) Lights in the Library were replaced.

- **NOTE from Public Works:** Hurricane season is around the corner. May is Tree Trimming Amnesty Month. **You must call the office at 983-1471 and get pre-approved to get the “Special Pick-Up” fee waived.**

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 3 arrests
 - Officers responded to 277 Calls for service (Includes officer-initiated activity)
 - We responded to and investigated 3 traffic crashes
 - We conducted 62 business and 68 residential security checks
 - Average officer response time to calls for service, 00:02:49

Utilities Director Danny Williams reports:

- **Electric Crew Activities**
 - Repaired and replaced street light fixtures throughout town;
 - removed vegetation from power lines;
 - installed underground service near Sonny’s BBQ restaurant;
 - operated switches at distribution substation;
 - straightened distribution poles on Sonora and 10th Streets.
- **Water Sewer Crew Activities**

This week contractor USSI completed installation of the inflow dishes in all our manholes. Other activities reported by our water/sewer department include:

 - Installed a one inch tap for a new sprinkler system;
 - Rewired electrical connection lift station located on Pinewood Street.
- Did you know your **Customer Service Department** offers several bill paying options?
 - ONLINE bill pay is available on our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.
 - AUTOPAY is also available; come visit our office and complete an application, choose a payment date (5th, 15th or 25th) and your bill will be deducted from your checking, savings or major credit card account.
 - Of course, payment by cash, check, money order or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express) is always welcomed.
- **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.

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.