

For Your Information

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

February 6, 2023

Dates to Remember

February 16, 2023 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

February 20, 2023 – City Commission Meeting

February 27, 2023 – Tentative Planning & Zoning Board Meeting

Office of the City Manager

Citizens, Business Owners & Other Interested Parties:

The 2023 Florida Legislative Session is underway in Tallahassee. The Hendry County delegation which represents Clewiston includes Senate President Kathleen Passidomo and House of Representatives member Lauren Melo. The City is honored and very fortunate to have such qualified and capable representation once again in the upcoming session. To kick off this year's legislative cycle, the City of Clewiston hosted the members on December 5, 2022, and requested the delegation again support the City's infrastructure improvement funding priority needs request during the upcoming session. The City's lone request this year is for state funding to upgrade the community's aging Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to meet modern federal and state treatment standards and expand the facility's capacity to provide for growth and meet future demand in the most environmentally friendly manner possible.

The vintage 1985 Clewiston WWTP has served the community well over the decades but is in need of improved technology enhancements particularly those that will allow the treated effluent to meet reuse water quality standards and provide for irrigation type uses which reduces the City's reliance on groundwater resources for such needs. The long planned comprehensive WWTP project is estimated to cost \$14.0 million. Fortunately, thanks to the leadership of the City's former Congressional Representative Mario Diaz-Balart, the City was approved near the end of December, 2022, for a federal appropriation of \$3.0 million for this project which lowered the outstanding need amount to \$11.0 million. Congressional redistricting moved Clewiston out of Congressman Diaz-Balart's district in 2023, but the City owes a huge debt of thanks for his efforts to secure this significant appropriation for the City.

This week city staff will wrap up the necessary documentation to formalize the City's \$11.0 million request to both the house and senate, so the funding can be considered for inclusion in the next fiscal year state budget which begins July 1, 2023. The City is very appreciative of outside support received for the WWTP project funding request from the Hendry County Board of Commissioners, the Hendry Economic Development Council, area business leaders and the community at large. This is a critical project which will be essential to serve economic development interests both within and outside the city limits particularly to take full advantage of state grant funded

investments already approved to provide improved wastewater and water service capabilities along the U.S. 27 highway corridor west of the City to and including the Airglades International Airport site. These corridor utility improvements are under design with partial construction of the wastewater force main already complete with enhanced service availability to the entire area anticipated within the next 24 months.

The City is sincerely thankful to our elected federal and state representatives for the unprecedented progress in recent years to provide grant funding to meet community needs which allows city officials to avoid the undesirable alternative of pursuing borrowed funds to meet demands which would adversely impact customer utility rates. I also need to acknowledge the unwavering support and tenacity exhibited by our Clewiston City Commissioners both past and present who have diligently pursued the priorities necessary to keep the community moving in the right direction.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the City of Clewiston.

Randy Martin

Staff Reports

Recreation & Leisure Services Director Lauren McGinnis reports:

- This month we were honored to host a reception honoring US Army Corps of Engineers and the completion of the Herbert Hoover Dyke. We had guests from cities all around the lake in attendance along with various organizations. Some of the honored guests included US Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, US Sugar, City of Belle Glade, City of Okeechobee, Florida Crystals, Palm Beach County Commissioners and Hendry County Communications & Legislative Coordinator. It was a wonderful event celebrating a huge accomplishment.
- Baseball season is in full swing at Sugarland Park. Our fields and grounds are ready for their moment! We love seeing everyone enjoying our facilities, so be sure to tag us in your pictures.
- We are currently working on renovating our parks! Before long you will notice some of the old equipment being removed in preparation. It will take some time before the new pieces come in, please be patient. You may also see us out painting and cleaning the areas around the park to help ensure that you have a beautiful area to enjoy with your families. If you see something that needs repairs or replacing, please let us know.
- The Youth Center is open daily. The hours of operation for students to enjoy our building are 2:30 PM – 6:00 PM Monday – Thursday and 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM on Friday. We invite all of our youth to come and enjoy all of the board games, books, xbox game systems, and 3D printers at the Youth Center every day after school.
- Our 3D printer runs each Thursday. If you would like to be a part of our 3D print club and/or volunteer for the club please call us to find out how. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our clubs and activities here at the Youth Center. If you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering, please call us at 983-1492 to find out how you can get involved.

- As the spring semester gets going, remember we do have testing prep books here and offer quiet time and peer help for students who would like it. Come in to find out more information on dates and times. Does your student need volunteer hours for scholarships? If they do, give us a call. We have opportunities for students to earn hours!
- We have upgraded our facility rental process to make it fully digital. This includes a new information sheet that will help us prepare a more accurate quote, and help us find the facility that will best serve you for your event.
- Our facilities are booking quickly for the 2023 year, with many dates now having a waiting list! Don't wait, if you are thinking about hosting an event at one of our facilities or parks, give us a call today.
- Are you or your student looking for volunteer hours? We have opportunities here for you! We are looking for volunteers to run a club afterschool, as well as help students when they need it. If you or someone you know is interested, please give us a call.
- If you have any pictures enjoying any of our parks or facilities that you would like to share, please tag us on facebook or email them to lauren.mcginis@clewiston-fl.gov. We love to see our community enjoying the many spaces we have to offer.
- Be sure to follow us on Facebook for up to date information on all events and activities going on at the Youth Center.

Library Director Natasha Hayes reports:

- Library staff provided ready reference/computer assistance, circulation activities, and patron programming to 1,268 patrons this month.
- This month's programming activities have included:
 - There were 37 participants who completed January's scavenger hunt challenge. Be sure to check out the new theme and find what's hidden around the library.
 - Snack Decorating was held on Wednesday, January 18th with a total of 21 participants.



- Video Game Club was held every Tuesday with a total of 43 participants. Make sure to swing by the library and join the fun!
- LEGO Club was held on Thursday, January 12th with a total of 33 builders. This month's challenge was to build a tiny house. Congrats to Sabrina for winning the challenge.



- AWE Learning Stations were accessed and used by a total of 55 children. The AWE learning computer will allow young children the ability to learn about Literacy, Math, Science & Nature, Art & Music, and Writing & Computer Skills. Make sure to stop by and let the kids try it out!
- The Adult Book Club met on January 30th to discuss “*The Magnolia Palace*” written by Fiona Davis. There were a total of 12 participants.

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

- **Scavenger Hunt:** We have Pigs lost in our library and could use some help finding them! Stop by anytime from 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. starting Wednesday, February 1st until Monday, February 27th.
- **Crafternoon Perler Beads:** Join the fun on Wednesday, February 8th at 3:30 p.m. for Perler Beads Party. Please call the library or email library@clewiston-fl.gov to register. Children ages 6-12. This program is designed for children and accompanying adults.
- **STEM 3D Pen Art:** We are thrilled to announce the introduction of our brand-new program! 3D Pen Art will begin on Wednesday, February 15th at 3:30 p.m. Currently, we are recommending this program for ages 7 and over. Space for this new club is limited- register now to reserve your seat!
- **Giant Board Game Day:** Do you like to play games? We have several giant games along with a variety of other games available. Drop into the library anytime from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Families are welcome to attend.
- **LEGO Builders Club:** LEGO Club meets again on Thursday, February 23rd at 3:30 p.m. Children of all ages are welcome to drop by the library and build fantastic creations!
- **Anime Club**
 - **In-Person (Open to 6th-12th graders):** Anime Club meets every Friday from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. Come hang out and chat with other Anime fans. We will be watching anime provided courtesy of Crunchyroll and talking about your favorite manga.
 - **Via Zoom:** We invite tweens and teens to join us every Monday at 3:30 p.m. To register, email library@clewiston-fl.gov to receive Zoom log-in information. If you are under 18, please be sure to have a guardian’s permission to participate in this online event.
- **Video Game Club:** You don’t want to miss this! Stop in at 3:30 p.m. every Tuesday for video games. We have Super Smash Bro’s, Mario Kart, Minecraft, Animal Crossing and

the Oculus Quest! Open to all skill levels. Children ages 7 and up. Walk-ins welcome, but registering is always encouraged for better preparation.

- **Book Club:** Come join the fun at our next TWO meetings: Monday, March 6th at 2:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. to discuss the newest book club title, “*Wish You Were Here*” by Jodi Picoult. With lively discussions, this group truly enjoys their meetings as they exchange their thoughts about each new title. New readers are always welcome.
- **FREE Tax Preparation:** The library is partnering with VITA United Way to host free tax preparation on Thursdays during this tax filling season. IRS certified United Way volunteers prepare taxes for FREE for households earning 66,000 or less per year. Book your appointment today! Call the library at 863-983-1493.

FREE TAX Preparation Hendry County

Clewiston - Public Library
120 W. Osceola Ave.
Clewiston, FL 33440
(239) 433-3900
Wednesdays, and Thursdays: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Clewiston - Goodwill Community Resource Center
957 West Sugarland Highway
Clewiston, FL 33440
Saturdays: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

LaBelle - Goodwill Community Resource Center
91 S. Lee St.
LaBelle, FL 33935
(863) 674-0559
Select Tuesdays: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

LaBelle United Way House
123 N. Bridge St.
LaBelle, FL 33935
(239) 433-7559
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm



IRS certified United Way volunteers prepare taxes for FREE for households earning \$66,000 or less per year.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE
VITA United Way
A UNITED WAY COLLABORATIVE

WHAT YOU NEED:

TAXES WILL NOT BE COMPLETED WITHOUT THESE ITEMS.

- Valid Picture I.D.
- Social Security Card or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for each family member and working adult
- Birth dates for EVERYONE on the tax return
- All earning statements (W-2, W-2G, 1099s)
- Total paid for Daycare & provider's Business Employer Identification Number
- Your spouse, if you are married and filing jointly
- Did you buy insurance from the Marketplace? Bring Form 1095-A

WHAT YOU MAY NEED:

- A copy of 2020 & 2021 federal and state returns
- Routing and account numbers for direct deposit
- Are you a student or are you making payments on a student loan?
 - Statements from your university or college (1098-T)
 - Student loan interest statement (1098-E)
- Are you self-employed?
 - Written totaled mileage records
 - Totaled business income and expenses (less than \$35K)
- Identity Protection Pin (IPP) if applicable

APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

Visit

UnitedWayLee.org/FreeTaxPrep

CALL 2-1-1 OR (239-433-3900)

Book your appointment today!

GRATIS Preparación de Impuestos Hendry County

Clewiston - Public Library
120 W. Osceola Ave.
Clewiston, FL 33440
(239) 433-3900
Miércoles, y Jueves: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Clewiston - Goodwill Community Resource Center
957 West Sugarland Highway
Clewiston, FL 33440
Sábados: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

LaBelle - Goodwill Community Resource Center
91 S. Lee St.
LaBelle, FL 33935
(863) 674-0559
Algunos Martes: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

LaBelle United Way House
123 N. Bridge St.
LaBelle, FL 33935
(239) 433-7559
Martes y Jueves: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Voluntarios de United Way certificados por el IRS prepare impuestos GRATIS para hogares que ganan \$66,000 o menos por año.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE
VITA United Way
A UNITED WAY COLLABORATIVE

QUE NECESITAS:

LOS IMPUESTOS NO SE COMPLETARÁN SIN ESTOS ELEMENTOS

- Identificación con foto válida
- Tarjeta de la Seguridad Social o Contribuyente Individual
- Número de identificación (ITN) para cada miembro de la familia y adulto que trabaja
- Fechas de nacimiento de TODOS en la declaración de impuestos
- Todas las declaraciones de Ingresos (W-2, W-2G, 1099)
- Total pagado por la guardería y el número de identificación del empleador comercial del proveedor
- Su cónyuge, si está casado y presenta una declaración conjunta
- ¿Compró un seguro en el Mercado? Traiga el Formulario 1095-A

LO QUE PODRÍAS NECESITAR:

- Una copia de las declaraciones federales y estatales de 2020 y 2021
- Números de ruta y de cuenta para depósito directo
- ¿Eres estudiante o estás haciendo pagos de un préstamo estudiantil?
 - Declaraciones de su universidad o colegio (1098-T)
 - Declaración de intereses de préstamos estudiantiles (1098-E)
- ¿Eres trabajador independiente?
 - Registros escritos de kilometraje total
 - Ingresos y gastos comerciales totales (menos de \$35K)
- Pin de protección de identidad (IPP) si corresponde

CITA REQUERIDA

Visitar

UnitedWayLee.org/FreeTaxPrep

Llamar 2-1-1 o (239-433-3900)

Reserva tu cita HOY!

- **SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders)** and Area Agency on Aging-Southwest Florida will be hosting virtual classes for anyone interested in learning more about Medicare! To register for upcoming webinars, email library@clewiston-fl.gov or call 863-983-1493.
- **New Library Hours:**
Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Need a place to hold a meeting? What about a computer lab to host your organization's/company's training? The Clewiston Library offers a classroom and computer lab with a total of 16 computers for use. For more information or to secure the room, please stop in or call the library at any time.
- If you have not done so already, please join our Facebook page (Clewiston Public Library) in order to remain up to date on the library's events and programs.

- Please stop by the library to pick up a calendar with a list of events and programs so you can join in on the fun.

Recap of Upcoming Events:

- **Wednesday, February 1st**
 - Scavenger Hunt
- **Thursday, February 2nd**
 - Tax Preparation from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Friday, February 3rd**
 - Anime Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 6th**
 - Anime Club via Zoom at 3:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, February 7th**
 - Video Game Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, February 8th**
 - What's New for Medicare in 2023? At 10:00 a.m.
 - Crafternoon: Perler Beads at 3:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, February 9th**
 - Tax Preparation from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Friday, February 10th**
 - Anime Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 13th**
 - Anime Club Via Zoom at 3:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, February 14th**
 - Video Game Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, February 15th**
 - STEM: 3D Pen Art at 3:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, February 16th**
 - Tax Preparation from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - Medicare 101 (with Medicare Part B Enrollment Demonstration) at 12:00 p.m.
- **Friday, February 17th**
 - Anime Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 20th**
 - Giant Game Day from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - Anime Club Via Zoom at 3:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, February 21st**
 - Video Game Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, February 23rd**
 - Tax Preparation from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - LEGO Builders Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Friday, February 24th**
 - Anime Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Monday, February 27th**
 - Anime Club at 3:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, February 28th**

- Video Game Club at 3:30 p.m.
- Medicare Part D at 12:00 p.m.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush reports:

- Get all information of what's going on at Clewiston Golf Course Facebook.
- Get on our E-mail list by going to the City of Clewiston Website. Go to the golf course division and at the bottom of the page you can sign-up on Constant Contact and get all Clewiston Golf Course information.
- Rates have changed for the Season for Non-members \$45.00 Plus Tax 18 Holes and \$22.50 Plus Tax for 9 Holes.
- Group Rates are available and we run a Monday Special after 12pm. Call the golf shop for more information.
- Walking is permitted all day.
- Golf Shop Hours are 7:15am-5:00pm. The first tee time is 7:30am. Carts are due in at 5:30pm daily. The golf course is open 7 days a week.
- Advertise a Tee Sign out on the golf course. If you are interested in advertising your business at the golf course call 863-983-1448.
- The Driving Range has a new token machine now. Get your tokens in the golf shop.
- Golf lessons and Club Repair are available at the club from PGA Professional Robbie Rush. Contact golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Clewiston Golf Course can supply all your golfing needs. You can inquire in the golf shop for whatever merchandise you need.
- Ladies Day - 8:30am Tuesday's
- Senior Men's Group - 9:00am Tuesday's and Friday's
- Men's Group - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Call golf shop for times.

For more information call the golf shop 863-983-1448

Community Development Director/Fire Chief Travis Reese reports:

- After the last cold snap you may have noticed a lot more dead vegetation. Fire danger is currently moderate, however this can change rapidly. Please remember to be cautious whenever burning outside.
- As redevelopment continues on East Ventura you may have noticed two brand new single family homes being built. Both new homes are 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, and approximately 1200 square feet.
- The dilapidated docks located inside the Industrial Canal on US Hwy 27 coming into Clewiston, have been removed by the owner. This small change makes a big impression on visitors entering our city from the east.
- The last of the mobile homes on WC Owen have been relocated, making way for new multi-family residential development.
- As Florida winter comes to an end, now is a good time to get your AC's serviced and ready for the coming heatwave.

Code Compliance Supervisor Debbie Clay reports:

LAWN/LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE



We've all seen the occasional property that lets its lawn maintenance go to the point where tall weeds and overgrown bushes seem to be the only features on the lot. It makes the property very unattractive, unsightly, and also harbors rodents and other vermin that are both unsafe and unhealthy for our residents and visitors. These conditions create a greater potential of fire hazard during our dry months.

Overgrown weeds, bushes, trees, grass and vegetation on improved property within the city shall be maintained at a height of less than eight inches and shall prevent encroachment upon sidewalks, easements, and alleyways which create potential traffic safety hazards. Trimming vegetation to improve visibility is one of the most effective ways you can enhance traffic safety in your neighborhood.

All shrubs that overhang any street or sidewalk on the property must be maintained. The branches of any tree extending over any public sidewalk, street or other public way should be trimmed so they do not obstruct vision of the travel of motorists and people. Overgrown trees and shrubs endanger us all when they block our view of traffic signals or signs, obscure street lamps and fire hydrants.

A well-maintained yard is also an effective **crime prevention** tool. Lawns that are not being cared for give criminals the impression that the property is unattended and might be an easy target.

Did you know that the City of Clewiston has municipal codes that pertain to weeds, overgrown lawns, shrubs and hedges? Also, there are codes which assign the duty of responsibility for the maintenance of easements, right-of-ways, sidewalks and alleyways to the abutting property owners.

These ordinances are in place to increase the livability, **safety**, desirability and appearance of all of our neighborhoods.

The complete City of Clewiston Ordinances is available online and may be accessed utilizing the City of Clewiston website: <https://www.clewiston-fl.gov/> or Municode Library website: https://library.municode.com/fl/clewiston/codes/code_of_ordinances.

If you have any questions about how to achieve/maintain compliance with these or any other City of Clewiston Ordinances you may contact our office at 863-983-1454 extension 309 or Code Compliance Supervisor: debbie.mcneil@clewiston-fl.gov

Debra Clay

Community Improvement Division



**Police Chief Tom Lewis reports:
Police Department**

ACCREDITATION PROGRESS UPDATE – Over the last 19 months, we have been working hard to prepare the police department to be accredited for the first time in the 98-year history of the agency. We are very pleased to announce that we have secured the dates of December 12-14, 2023 as our official accreditation assessment dates. During this time, the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will send a team of subject matter experts to the Clewiston Police Department for a three-day on-site assessment. After proving compliance to the team (including policies, equipment, facility requirements, training, personnel interviews, etc.), their report will go to the CFA Accreditation Commission for review. We can expect to receive our accredited status during their February 2024 Conference. This accredited status will show the public, whom we proudly serve every day, that every aspect of our operation is operating under best practices and outside experts get a continuing first-hand look at our operation.

On January 26, 2023, the Department held another *Coffee with the Chief* program. The program was hosted by First Bank and the Clewiston Chamber of Commerce. The program is a way for the public to get an inside look at the police department and animal services operations and get answers directly from the Chief on any topic or concern. And of course, the presentation included giving away a dozen coffee mugs as folks hear about how their money is being spent and what the vision for the police department's future looks like. If your business is interested in hosting one of our programs, please contact the Clewiston Chamber of Commerce.



Animal Services

In the month of January 2022, Animal Services reported the intake of 28 cats and 45 dogs.

On January 18, 2023, members of the police department's Chief and Commanders teamed up with Hendry County Emergency Management staff and installed hurricane panel anchors after an anonymous donor provided the hurricane panels. The Animal Shelter is now much better prepared to protect our facility and care for animals in the event of a significant storm. A huge thank you to Hendy County Emergency Management for their assistance.



On January 18, 2023, the outside dog kennels at the Animal Shelter received a much needed upgrade as 7 of our kennel gates were replaced. Not only does this increase the safety of our staff, but also our animals. A huge thank you goes to the City Commission and the City Manager for their support!



On January 23, 2023, an Inspector for the Florida Department of Health visited the shelter for a surprise inspection. The Inspector explained that this inspection is completed once every two years and is unannounced. She checked every expiration date on our vaccines and controlled substances, checked our logs, checked our licenses, and then checked the entire facility for cleanliness. By the end of the inspection, she learned that since our last inspection we changed to a no-kill shelter. She stated that the place smelled great, the cats and dogs were clean, and everything was in order. She commented that she was "very impressed" with the changes and looked forward to telling the other Inspectors about the change.

Highlighted Training

Beginning January 23, 2023, Sergeant Tom Levins attended the third of a three-week FBI-LEEDA Command Leadership Institute series. This week was hosted by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office in Titusville, Florida. During the week, topics are based on credibility, command discipline and liability, dealing with problem employees, and leading change within an organization.



Beginning January 30, 2023, Sergeant Tom Levins attended a week-long Internal Affairs Investigations course. The course was hosted in Jupiter, Florida and focused on the legal requirements while conducting investigations to ensure due process and other potentially liability issues are handled properly.

General Services Director Williams reports:

Our first shipment of the new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) electric meters will arrive this April! Throughout 2023 all water and electric meters will be replaced with new meters that are smarter, more accurate and environmentally friendly. Customers will only need to create an account on the AMI portal after the meter change out, so they have real-time access to their utility account. We are looking forward to the many capabilities that our AMI system will provide once it is deployed and operational.

The foundation for the 80 ft. flagpole on Hwy 27, east of town, has been poured and the concrete is curing. We look forward to the pole installation in the upcoming weeks.

- **Electric Crew Activities:**
 - Installed 47 Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) “pilot” meters throughout our service territory to perform system validation testing.
 - Repaired two primary spans on Alabama Avenue;
 - installed crossarm and cutouts in Commerce Park;
 - replaced an underground service on Trinidad Avenue;
 - removed vegetation from lines on Della Tobias, 13th St., Kentucky, and Virginia Avenues;
 - repaired street lights;
 - repaired downed power line on Lopez Street;
 - repaired downed line by gate B in front of USSC.
- **Water Sewer Crew Activities:**
 - Repaired water break on 6” cast iron line, installed new $\frac{3}{4}$ tap.
 - Performed AMI testing with Contractor Sensus technicians and attended one day training;
 - responded to sewer backup complaints at 446 Sugarland Hwy, 500 S Francisco Ave and 1039 Della Tobias;
 - restored water service to 904 Mississippi Ave. and 540 E Sagamore Ave;
 - addressed airlock issue at elementary school lift station, pumped down the station twice;

- replaced 4 water filters for service lines on Della Tobias Avenue;
- installed new water meter and valve at 540 E Sagamore Avenue;
- replaced 3" PVC pipe at the golf course;
- inspected lift stations with Icon engineers;
- shut off water to Florida Ave residence for repairs; discovered leak on customer's side; disconnected water service to two residences, leak on customer side;
- performed utility locates from Commercio Street to Alverdez Avenue and 705 S WC Owen Ave;
- monitored lift stations, pumped down the golf course and ball field lift stations;
- replaced elbow from ¾ PVC pipe to the customer's meter.
- pumped down and cleaned Commerce Park lift station pump;
- reset Esperanza Lift Station;
- back filled hole caused by 4" water break on Della Tobias Avenue.
- The waterline project on Alverdez will conclude soon, completing the third stage of the rehabilitation project.
- The septic to sewer project for Army Corp offices is complete. Denco Corp is seeding and sodding grounds.
- The sewer department received a new front loader this week
- **Customer Service Department**
 - Your Utility partners with customers to bring renewable power to the electric grid. If you'd like to learn more about net metering, please visit the FTC consumer information site at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0532-solar-power-your-home> .
 - 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 attic insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you more information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
 - *IT'S LIGHTNING SEASON!* 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.
- **Facility Maintenance:**
 - Numerous repairs were made last month to city facilities:
 - Repaired (4) Air conditioning units
 - electrical repairs to the batting cage at Stalls Field,
 - repaired plumbing and a display cooler at the Golf Course Pro Shop,
 - repaired an exhaust fan at Community Development building,
 - replaced a water heater at the Youth Center,
 - repaired wiring at the Animal Control facility,
 - repaired the sprinkler at the boat basin,

- Staff also assisted the Finance Department move file cabinets at City Hall, removed and stored Christmas decorations, and finished painting at the Sweetest Town Playground.
- Superintendent Mike Young is in Gainesville renewing his mosquito control certifications
- **Street Division:**
 - Staff continues to maintain all of our street signs throughout town and continues to collect shopping carts and return them to the business of origin.
 - The pot hole battle is ongoing, while we also remove trash debris piles and palm fronds from our city streets.
 - We also repaired the sprinkler systems at the Golf Course and Civic Park.
 - Staff resurfaced 300 ft of asphalt on Del Monte roadway, repainted “stop bars” at intersections and striped city parking lots.
- **Solid Waste:**
 - Staff continues to recycle material gathered from all city office buildings,
 - Please remember that a fee will be imposed for removal of excessive volume or difficult to collect items.
- **Ball Fields:**
 - AYSO Youth soccer is ongoing and we are ensuring that our fields are safe.
 - Staff is getting the equipment ready and truckloads of new clay were brought in for the upcoming Clewiston High School Baseball and Softball seasons.
- **Parks & Recreation:**
 - Park equipment is maintained for safe usage by all of our residents at all times,
 - the John B. Boy Auditorium is kept ready for events and repairs are made as needed,
 - we continue painting picnic facilities at Clewiston Sweetest Town Playground.
 - Staff is upgrading the sprinkler system at Civic park.
- **Central Garage:**
 - Procuring parts for our older equipment continues to be challenging,
 - Staff performs generator maintenance to ensure our standby generators are ready for service.