

The City Manager's Monthly Report provides an update of staff action related to projects, programs and services.



Upcoming Meetings & Events October 2015

09 3:30pm DEDAB
 10 7-9pm Music in Amph, Simulcast
 11 7:30am Pink Feet 5K/10K
 12 5:30pm Workshop
 13 6pm Parks Advisory
 15 9am DRC Meeting
 17 10-2 Visioning Workshop
 7-9pm Music in Amph, Then2Now
 19 5:30pm Agenda Review
 6:30pm Commission Meeting
 20 3pm Firefighter Pension
 21 7pm Planning & Zoning
 23-24 dusk-10pm Spooktacular
 26 5:30 pm Workshop
 27 9am Pine Ridge Manufacturing Program Ribbon Cutting
 27 5:30 pm Senior Advisory
 28 5:30 pm Special Magistrate



City Manager's Monthly Report

City Manager's Office

- An update on the Customer Service Survey System: During the month of September, the City Manager's Office collected 51 customer service surveys. Fifty were marked "excellent" and one was marked "excellent/good." There were no negative comments and only one suggestion to have a Spanish-speaking customer service representative in the permitting area at City Hall.
- Staff is working with Schneider Electric on an energy and sustainability project to determine if a performance-based energy program would be feasible and beneficial for City Hall and possibly other facilities. Schneider would identify possible energy savings at City facilities. Once the cost-savings measures are implemented the savings are then used to pay Schneider, resulting in a cost neutral program for the City.
- City staff has embarked on the educational phase of our "Proud to Grow With Us" campaign. For the next three months, Enforcement Services, Waste Pro and Public Information staff will be working to educate residents on household garbage "do's and don'ts." The Solid Waste page of the Web site, which is referenced in the November/December newsletter, was enhanced. Photo examples will be used on the Web site and on Facebook to encourage residents to be ready for the beginning of the year when they can expect stricter enforcement.

Public Information

- The City Newsletter transitioned to delivery via City utility bills as a cost saving measure. Approximately 10 percent of City households do not receive utility bills. To reach these households, the newsletter is available online, released to our e-mail subscribers and available at all City facilities.
- Staff launched a photo contest in support of Florida City Government Week. Amateur and professional photographers of all ages are invited to enter their best images celebrating "My City : I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It" between Oct. 18-24. Contest information is on the City's Web site. Photos will be displayed in the lobby at City Hall.
- Staff shot photos and videos at the grand openings for the Walmart Neighborhood Market and Florida Hospital's Health Park. The photos will be posted on Facebook and made available to the businesses. DeltonaTV will air a pre-opening program for Walmart and Florida Hospital.

Office of Economic Development

- Staff prepared the City's financial portion of the City Improvement Plan (CIP) with regards to the Southwest Deltona Community Redevelopment Area.

- Met with the Parks & Recreation Department from the City of Ocala to talk about their progress on the reconstruction of Fort King. They shared ideas on how to develop Thornby Park H.E.R.E. (Historical. Educational. Recreational. Environmental.) . The project aims to utilize Thornby Park as an ecological and historical tourism generator, developing economic development within the City. It includes three components—an enhanced arbor walk, a fantasy children’s park based on a similar park at Kanapaha Gardens in Gainesville, and a re-erect of Fort Kingsbury similar to the replica of Fort Foster at Hillsboro State Park. The concept of Thornby H.E.R.E will be discussed at the Oct. 12 Commission Workshop.
- Assisted with the grand openings of the Walmart Neighborhood Market and Florida Hospital’s Health Park. Public Information prepared and sent the e-invite for Walmart. City staff worked with Walmart staff on the event program and press release for the event. City staff provided a podium, sound system, scissors and setup at the event. City staff helped distribute Florida Hospitals e-invite for the grand opening, sending it to area elected officials, Chambers of Commerce and business organization.

Building & Enforcement Services

- The pilot Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) Program continues to progress well. Enforcement Services staff is preparing a report to the Commission showing savings the program has brought to the City. The report will be completed, following the collection of data gathered through the end of October. Halifax Humane Society has begun their second year of the grant which allows us to spay and neuter feral cats from Deltona. Halifax estimates they will have performed 602 surgeries this year under the grant for a total of 1,204 surgeries.
- Resident volunteers and caregivers have stepped forward to begin an education program where they will go out and talk to residents who call Animal Control complaining about cats. These volunteers will explain the TNR program and work to resolve concerns. Volunteers are a big component of the program. When they are actively trapping cats and scheduling surgeries, there is a reduction in the workload of our Enforcement Services Officers, allowing them to concentrate more on beautification.
- The backyard chicken pilot program which began in March 2015 has not generated any complaints or issues from residents. Twenty-five residents received permits for the program.
- Construction Services issued six permits for new homes in September.

Finance Department

- The City Commission approved the budget for fiscal year 2015-16.
- Staff completed an inventory of all fixed assets for fiscal year 2014-15. The results will be presented to the City Commission along with a request for approval to sell/dispose of some assets.

Fire Department

- This month (September), staff conducted five contingency transports.
- Year-to-date, staff has conducted 44 contingency transports.
- We collected \$2,474.65 in revenue for contingency transports in September.

Structure Fires	6
Vehicle Fires	6
Wild Land, Grass, Trash	3
Miscellaneous Fire Calls	50
ALS Medicals / MVA	253
BLS Medicals / MVA	352
Hazardous Conditions	14
Service Calls	41
Good Intent	81
False Calls	18

Total Calls for Service 824

- Year-to-date, we have collected \$8,898.94 in revenue from contingency transports.
- The Department has been working to educate the community about the dangers of kids in hot cars. The Firefighters Union, State Farm and Halifax Health collaborated to purchase a temperature reader from Safe Kids Worldwide. The display aims to help reduce the number of deaths from heatstroke.



- In cooperation with the National Weather Service's Melbourne Office, the Fire Department hosted a SKYWARN Spotter Training Class on Sept. 29. Several city employees participated. The training was for those interested in public safety and communications during extreme weather events. SKYWARN is developed and taught nationally by NWS meteorologists to enlist trained weather spotters who can report or be called to verify severe and hazardous weather NWS is monitoring. Spotters provide NWS with "ground truth." Hosting this class, helps Deltona with its "Storm Ready Community" renewal.



Human Resources

- Staff is preparing for the City's Annual Employee Health & Benefits Fair, 9-11 a.m., Nov. 4, in the Commission Chambers.
- Began working with Management Advisory Group (MAG) on a City-wide compensation study.
- Conducted defensive driving courses on Sept. 16 and 23.
- The City welcomed two new employees this month: David Pollard, Water Operator, and Michael Phelps, Storm-water Technician.
- Risk Management conducted a Fall protection safety class.

Law Enforcement

- A utility pole damaged by an auto collision, caused the closure of Howland Boulevard overnight on Sept. 18. Future road closures should incorporate changeable message signs and social media notification to aid in informing the public.
- Our pilot program for Juvenile Offender Compliance appears to be a success. Between June 1 and Aug. 31, juvenile related crimes were reduced, in total, by 48 percent. The following are some notes on the program and statistics in comparison to the Summer of 2014:
 - 193 attempts to contact juveniles on probation were conducted.
 - 35 curfew violations were documented.
 - Residential burglaries increased by 11 percent.
 - Assaults and batteries were reduced by 36 percent.
 - Conveyance burglaries were reduced by 64 percent.
 - Family disturbances were reduced by 67 percent.
 - Business burglaries and disturbances increased from one to two.
 - Robberies, persons shot, pursuits, stolen vehicles and thefts were all reduced.

Parks & Recreation

- A new roof was installed at the baseball fields at Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex benefiting West Volusia Youth Baseball.
- The roof of the gymnasium at Wes Crile Park was repaired. Field #2 was re-sodded and lights were installed at the Baseball/Softball Field at Wes Crile.
- Irrigation lines were installed at Thornby Park.
- The basketball courts at Campbell Park were completely redone.
- The first ever Festival of Nations took place at Dewey O. Boster on Sept. 19. Although there were some very talented acts on the performance schedule, there was a lack of attendance overall. The event team is evaluating alternative dates for next year's date, being careful not to compete with other similar area events and perhaps during a time when the weather is more temperate.
- On Sept. 30, staff hosted a public information meeting on the lighting and sports improvement projects coming to Manny Rodriguez and Dwight Hawkins Parks. Initially, there were concerns about the field lighting being intru-

sive. Using technical drawings and by sharing information on how the lights are controlled, staff was able to alleviate concerns about the lighting. Park staff and the president of the Deltona Little League shared how these improvements will provide lit, safe environments for both practice and games, benefitting two youth athletic programs and the many children that participate in these programs. Staff explained that other improvement phases may include sidewalks, pavilions, grills, vegetation and trees along the perimeter, swings, additional parking and perhaps a walking trail. About a dozen neighborhood residents who live near Manny Rodriguez Park also expressed concern about traffic and noise. Staff assured residents that increased law enforcement patrol would be available if needed.

Public Works & Utilities

- The City has been awarded the 319 Grant for the Brickell Stormwater Project in the amount of \$363,500, a water-quality and wetlands creation project similar to Audubon Park, but on a smaller scale. The plans and specs for the project are ready for bidding and staff has already obtained the District permit for construction. Upon finalization of the contract and after receiving Commission approval, Public Works is prepared to bid and begin construction of projects planned in the upcoming fiscal year. This project will give the City additional phosphorus and nitrogen credits under the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Basin Management Action Plans for Lake Monroe.

Planning & Development Services

- Planning & Development staff received notification that the City was awarded the Florida Department of Transportation Bold Initiative Landscape grant, \$54,335 for fiscal year 2017, which begins on July 1, 2016. Landscaping for the State Road 472/Howland Boulevard Beautification Project is proposed from Howland Boulevard west and the Interstate-4 northbound off-ramp to the Interstate-4 overpass.
- Staff prepared a second grant submittal for an FDOT landscaping grant to cover the Interstate-4 northbound off-ramp to Graves Avenue within the State Road 472 right-of-way. The grant will provide just over \$15,000 for project plantings.
- Planning staff has been working with Parks & Recreation and Public Works staff on landscaping the City entryway sign on Saxon Boulevard as well as landscaping the City-owned vacant lot at the northeast corner of Normandy Boulevard and Saxon Boulevard.
- Working to promote the Community Visioning & Strategic Planning Workshops planned with the Florida Institute of Government. The workshop for residents will be from 9 a.m. to noon, Oct. 17 and the workshop for the City Commission will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 7. Both will be in the Commission Chambers.
- Planning staff met with the developers of RaceTrac to discuss their future Deltona projects. We discussed access potential for their Welcome Center Drive location as well as the timing of construction for the Saxon Boulevard and Finland Drive location. RaceTrac says they are ready to begin construction at the Saxon/Finland location.
- Our department has presented the Phase III Land Development Code Amendment Package to the City Commission, with adjustments to be made prior to the amendments being processed. One of the adjustments was to revisit driveway standards on residential lots.
- Staff completed the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee's Annual Report and prepared the agenda memorandum to bring it before the City Commission.
- Staff presented the proposed Community/Senior Center concept to the City Commission for development within Howland Crossings. The Commission supported development of the center.
- Staff presented ordinances to the Planning & Zoning Board allowing for a comprehensive sign plan to be used by blighted development to improve the appearance of their development. Also, a moratorium on the use of private package plants was brought to the Planning Board to revisit standards that allow such a utility, in light of all of the efforts by the City to install central sewer facilities.
- Completed the Volusia County checklist for the first submittal of the Community Redevelopment Area to the County. This will start the request for the additional information process.

