City of Corning

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THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

FROM: STEPHEN J. KIMBROUGH, CITY MANAGER

DATE: JANUARY 20, 2012

FURLOUGH DAYS:

January:
Friday, January 27th

February:
Friday, February 10th
Friday, February 24th

Holidays:
Monday, February 20th

SCHEDULES:

John Stoufer: John remains out of the office recovering from knee surgery. Barring no complications, he should be returning to work within 4 weeks.

CITY MANAGER:

Budget Stuff:

The Audit should be coming to the Council for public review on February 14. The Draft is done and in the City Manager's hands for final review and preparation of the "Management Discussion and Analysis" which serves as the introduction to the Audit.

Preparation of the Mid-Year Budget Report is on track for presentation the same evening. As of December 31, 2011, the General Fund is performing as projected and revenues are a little better. I think Council will be cautiously pleased.

Our Management is working on a new Capitol Improvement Program for presentation around the first meeting in April.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Petro Well Testing:

We have two water wells at the southwest corner of the Petro Truck Stop site. Both wells were disconnected out of fear of contamination from an offsite source (TA). The Regional Water Quality Control Board has been monitoring the contamination for a number of years and has a lot of data. We are currently investigating the possible reuse of one of those wells. We've hired local Hydro-geologist Bill Bergman of Geo-Plus to conduct some pumping tests to determine if the well could be re-utilized. So, while the pumping is occurring, he, and others are monitoring adjacent offsite wells to see how the sustained pumping affects the groundwater plume. Of course, if the well can be re-utilized we'd save a lot of money as compared to drilling a new well & building a new well house, etc. This could also facilitate the looping of our water system in the southwest quadrant of the City that's currently served by a single water main. See next item.

Waterline Extension-SW Quadrant:

John, Ed Anderson and Steve Kimbrough met with Engineer Tom Venus of Broadbent & Associates, an engineering firm from Chico. Broadbent is working for Pilot Truck Stops. Pilot has acquired some responsibility for contamination that originated on the former Dudley-Petty site. For that reason they currently are required to monitor and maintain 7 or 8 filtration systems on domestic water wells serving dwellings and agricultural parcels along Toomes and Houghton Avenues. The Regional Water Quality Control Board now wants a more permanent solution. Mr. Venus is therefore looking into what it would take to connect the properties to the City water system.

City Engineer Ed Anderson has done a preliminary system design to extend and loop the water system in the area. If completed, that project is expected to cost upwards of $1.12 million.

Clark Park Well:

Trent Construction continues to work within the well house building. The USDA Inspector stopped by City Hall on Tuesday and asked the expected completion date for the project. We relayed the information provided by the Contractor which was that the generator would not be delivered until sometime in March. The inspector was satisfied with the progress but noted the "USDA-required" sign was down. John asked Kendel Trent to reinstall the sign.

Deep Freeze:

According to the news reports, the thermometer reached a low in the upper teens in the early morning hours on Tuesday Jan. 17th. There were numerous waterline freezes and breaks in the City. Public Works Staff was busy shutting off water services so that repairs could be made; then restoring service to a number of residential and commercial users.

City facilities fared better, with no noted freeze damages. The crew also provided sand to the Blue Beacon Truck Wash frontage, where water from the washed trucks generally collects along the road gutter, to improve traction on the icy road edge.

On a brighter note, as of this writing the weather forecasters are predicting a series of significant rainstorms over the next week or so. It is long overdue. Patrick Walker has had the crew make necessary preparations for the wet weather; checking and cleaning catch-basins and storm drains.

Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan:

John attended the outreach meeting of the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan in Red Bluff on Wednesday afternoon. The meeting was intended to be a Workshop that would both provide and receive information to/from the public regarding how the Board and the process has evolved, and the direction the Regional Water Plan Group should proceed. Instead, the meeting became quite contentious. Many in attendance were skeptical about the purpose of the plan and the authority of the Governing Board. Emotions were running quite high. Afterwards, John joined Board Chairman Leigh McDaniel to personally speak with a few of the attendees in an attempt to let the folks know that we were indeed members of the community and shared many similar values and concerns. There was another meeting scheduled later Wednesday evening in Colusa. As of this writing, no word on how that meeting turned out.