



City of Corning

794 Third St. Corning, CA 96021 (530) 824-7020 Fax (530) 824-2489

THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER JOHN L. BREWER, AICP
DATE: JULY 12, 2012

FURLOUGH DAYS:

July:

Friday, July 13th
Friday, July 27th

August:

Friday, August 10th
Friday, August 24th

September:

Friday, September 7th
Friday, September 21st

HOLIDAYS/SCHEDULES:

June 25, 2012 - July 6, 2012: Assistant City Attorney Jody Burgess will be unavailable.

July 5th – August 31st: City Attorney Michael Fitzpatrick will be unavailable.

August 3rd – August 9th: Lisa Linnet on vacation...daughter coming home from Afghanistan!

September 15th – September 23rd: City Manager John Brewer on vacation.

CITY MANAGER:

Utility Poles on Fig Lane:

We took photographs to two separate power poles on the south side of Fig Lane between Columbia Avenue and Pear Street. One pole is severely bent, the second is leaning. We provided the photos to PG&E for their replacement consideration on Thursday.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour (WWTP):

I accompanied Councilmember John Leach on a tour of the WWTP. Kathy Stone was on hand to welcome us to the plant. Mitch Ampf of Southwest Water Company led us on the tour and provided a lot of detail about plant operations. If any other Councilmembers are interested in a similar tour, please let me know and I can get it scheduled.

Department of Water Resources (DWR) Meeting:

We received a letter from DWR, dated June 21st and directed to the Mayor. The letter announces that DWR will conduct a "Community Action Visit" to discuss our continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. The meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. here at City Hall. Because he is the also the Floodplain Administrator, Building Official Terry Hoofard will be the City's lead representative. Topics for discussion include administering our current floodplain ordinance, elevation certificates and construction within Zone "A" (the 100-year floodplain); development review of projects within Zone "A"; enforcement and any variances to the floodplain regulations the City has issued. Note that we've not issued any variances to the floodplain regulations.

Corning Chamber of Commerce 2012 Olive Festival:

The Olive Festival is a long standing traditional event that occurs annually in August. The parade and bed races are scheduled for Friday, August 24th to be held on Solano Street.

BUILDING 824-7027 • PLANNING 824-7036 • CITY MANAGER 824-7034 • CITY CLERK 824-7033 • FINANCE 824-7020

PUBLIC WORKS 824-7025 • POLICE DEPARTMENT 824-7000 • FIRE DEPARTMENT 824-7044

"THE CITY OF CORNING IS AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION-EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

The Festival will be held on Saturday, August 25th at the City's Woodson Park. South Street is normally closed for the Corning Fire Department activities and for the Rotary sponsored "Olive Drop". Walnut Street is also closed to westbound traffic to allow vendors access to and from the park for equipment/booth set up.

The Chamber has reported that Festival public involvement continues to grow. The Chamber is requesting that northbound traffic on Peach Street and the southbound traffic on Pear Street also be closed in order to accommodate the increase of vendors and community member attendance. Please see the attached map reflecting street closure information.

The Chamber is making arrangements with New Life Assembly for public parking and will be providing free shuttle rides to and from the festivities. City Staff has approved this request for street closures surrounding Woodson Park on August 25th.

Youth Fair:

Carol Curry of Northern Valley Catholic Social Service has provided a letter requesting to conduct their annual Youth Fair event at Northside Park on Saturday August 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. They've also asked for City support including striping for diagonal parking around the perimeter of the park, providing a porta-potty and having an employee on call and available to respond to emergencies that might occur. I will respond to Carol that the City will again provide the support she seeks. We'll schedule the parking striping, etc.

CITY CLERK:

"Notice of Offices to Be Filled" and Election filing dates:

Filing period for offices in our District **opens on Monday, July 16, 2012 and closes on Friday, August 10, 2012.** If any incumbent fails to file during the nomination period, there will be a five day extension through 5 p.m. on August 15, 2012 for anyone other than the incumbent officer. Corning's elected "Offices to Be Filled" at the November 6, 2012 elections are:

- ❖ **Mayor** (2 Year Term)
- ❖ **City Council Member, 2 Positions** (4 Year Term)
- ❖ **City Treasurer** (4 Year Term)
- ❖ **City Clerk** (4 Year Term)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Airport Survey:

We received notice that a surveying firm sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration, (and of no cost to the City) had scheduled to complete some mapping work at our Airport during the week of July 16th. We informed Brian and Carol Carpenter that this group would be onsite taking measurements of all facilities and flight obstructions within the area.

2012 Paving Projects, etc.:

Inadvertently the water service line to the City owned residence located on Blackburn Avenue was omitted from the project specifications. This line was included on the drawings however.

Staff has prepared an addendum to add a 1" water service to the 2012 Paving Project Specifications and Bid Sheets. This addendum will be faxed to Plan Holders (Contractors) and Exchanges for review and inclusion in the bid documents.

Marguerite Avenue Reconstruction Project:

We have essentially finished the street subgrade excavation and have begun importing aggregate base (gravel) for the street. We anticipate importing, placing and compacting between 2,000 and 2,400 tons of gravel.

Solar Power Lease:

Bill Brick of Ecoplexus had previously provided information about an alternative process that had the potential to speed the PG&E entitlement process. City Attorneys Jody Burgess and Michael Fitzpatrick reviewed the information. Mike and Jody then spoke with me about the process that'd require the City to join with Ecoplexus to form a "Public-Private Partnership".

If you remember the City Council meeting where we discussed the possible land lease for solar power generation, the advantage was its simplicity. It's easy to understand a land lease. Other solar power options are not nearly as simple. Some earlier proposals to City Staff involved Power Purchase Agreements (PPA's) with complicated mathematic formulas and compounding projections for future utility rates. The variation of those projected rates can significantly affect the bottom line and make a PPA proposal seem much more attractive. Largely for that reason, Staff had been reluctant to present a recommendation for Council consideration.

We determined that the "Public-Private Partnership" alternative is quite complicated and greatly compromises the simplicity of the Land Lease alternative. So, instead of pursuing that, the company will continue with the standard entitlement process for the solar arrays at the WWTP.

LED Streetlights Proposal:

I recently met with Jim Evans of Titan LED to discuss conversion of our streetlights to more energy efficient LED lights. The conversion could result in about a 70% energy cost savings. Mr. Evans provided only sketchy information regarding the process, coordination with PG&E, warranty information, and maintenance cost information.

This conversion would mean replacing the entire light hood, not just the bulbs and it appears that the cost per fixture is approximately \$750 plus a \$125 installation cost per fixture. Mr. Evans stated that there is a PG&E energy savings incentive of up to \$125 per fixture for the conversion. He also stated that PG&E could finance the conversion costs with no interest for up to 10 years. Since the anticipated installation costs are equal to the PG&E incentive, the net cost per converted fixture would be \$750.

For an idea of the costs involved, Mr. Evans counted 65 streetlights on Solano Street between City Hall and the freeway. The total costs to convert just these 65 streetlights, with the PG&E incentive of \$125 per fixture factored in, would be approximately \$48,750. As this clearly illustrates, the total cost to convert all the streetlights within the City would be considerable.

I have completed some quick math to determine the value to the City. Currently the City pays approximately \$10 per month per streetlight to keep them lit. The LED lights would reduce that rate to about \$3 per month per light, therefore the City could potentially save \$7 per month per light. With PG&E financing, and if we continue to pay the current \$10 rate, it would take 107 months (or 9 years) to pay for the conversion costs and start realizing an energy savings. The projected useful life of the LED fixtures is about 15 years.

The current streetlight arrangement includes PG&E maintenance. This is important since we'd otherwise have to buy and stock bulbs, rent or purchase a boom truck (with possible additional maintenance costs), and train Staff to perform the work. If ever we opt to convert to LED it would be in the City's best interest to ensure retention of the PG&E maintenance program. Mr. Evans wasn't sure if that would be possible. I informed him that we were not interested in any conversion that would result in the elimination of our current maintenance agreement with PG&E. He will be getting back to me with more detailed information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:**Patrol:**

In addition to responding to 102 calls for service, a total of 37 officer reports were taken and there were 85 officer-initiated incidents. Officers made 21 misdemeanor and 1 felony arrests, 49 traffic stops and issued 28 citations of which 5 were infractions, 21 were misdemeanors, 1 animal-related and 1 unclassified during the period of July 7-July 12, 2012.

