



City of Corning

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THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER JOHN L. BREWER, AICP
DATE: JUNE 14, 2012

FURLOUGH DAYS:

June:

Friday, June 15th
Friday, June 29th

July:

Friday, July 13th
Friday, July 27th

August:

Friday, August 10th
Friday, August 24th

HOLIDAYS/SCHEDULES:

Wednesday, July 4th

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

CITY MANAGER:

Potential "Dogs at Events" Ordinance:

City Attorney Mike Fitzpatrick has researched and compiled a first draft of an ordinance that, if enacted, would prohibit dogs at City or Chamber of Commerce sponsored events such as the car show, olive festival, rodeo, parades, etc. We discussed the matter at our Wednesday staff meeting.

Staff questions if the ordinance is really needed. Frankly, except for the mention of the matter at the recent Council meeting, there doesn't appear to be a "groundswell" of support.

The City currently has a leash law that requires dogs to be restrained. Also, Police Officers are typically quite busy during community events with traffic direction and crowd control, and their regular patrol tasks. Asking them to warn and even issue citations to people for bringing their dogs seems burdensome. Enforcing such an ordinance would be difficult and might create negative feelings about the Corning community. Consider debates between officers and pet owners about "pit bulls" vs. "Chihuahuas". Imagine a Police Officer confronting folks coming from out of town to attend the car show with their dog. Those people would be left with a very negative image of our community and likely wouldn't attend another event here. That's contrary to the "friendly small town" image I think we'd like to portray.

So, the consensus of staff was that the ordinance would be difficult to enforce, add yet another responsibility to the Police Department, and create conflict with visitors and citizens at community events. For those reasons, staff is reluctant to support an ordinance banning dogs from community events and we'll not be bringing the ordinance forward. If the Councilmembers feel differently, please advise.

As an alternative, perhaps we could suggest the Chamber of Commerce modify their advertising program to include notice advising of "Dog-free" events, as is done in other communities. That would likely achieve similar objectives, but without the punitive "citation" association and the potential conflicts.

I briefly discussed this idea with Valanne Cardenas. I told her I'd be happy to meet with the Chamber Directors to further discuss the matter.

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 Pavement Management:

Last year a company called Hill International conducted some pavement tests at Corning Municipal Airport. The testing was sanctioned by the California Department of Transportation as part of the statewide Airport Pavement Management System. We received the resulting report. In summary, the pavement is in good shape. The report does recommend some maintenance measures including a slurry seal on three short taxiways with an estimated cost of \$3,000. We'll incorporate those costs into a subsequent budget.

Woodson Park Automobile Window Damage:

A Public Works Maintenance Worker was trimming weeds at Woodson Park on Wednesday. He accidentally hit some gravel that damaged a side window on a vehicle parked in the vicinity. We have arranged for the window glass to be repaired as soon as possible.

Petro Well Pump Test:

We have assembled the temporary pipe and connected it to the storm drain system at South Avenue. We plan to begin the test pumping on Monday morning. While the pumping is occurring we will be monitoring the groundwater elevations and flows in area monitoring wells. We'll also be taking water samples to check the water quality.

2012 Paving Project:

We're working to identify more accurate widths and quantities for the planned Solano Street and Blackburn Avenue Paving projects that we plan to bid and complete this summer. Our objective is to have the plans and specifications prepared and ready for bidding as soon as the Council adopts the 2012-2013 Budget on June 26th.

Marguerite Avenue Reconstruction:

We had Precision Surveying from Orland stake the centerline grades for the Marguerite Avenue reconstruction project. Pat Walker and Tracy Johnstone met with County Public Works staff to look at their pavement grinder, which they've graciously offered to loan to us. We expect to start the pavement grinding within the next few weeks and then follow with the chip sealing. We will attempt to keep one lane of the street open to thru traffic. We'll also publish a notice of the work in the newspaper.

If all goes well maybe we can utilize a similar County/City strategy to resurface Columbia Avenue South of Fig Lane.

Final Budget Preparation & Staff Report:

Roy Seiler was in town on Wednesday to assist with the compilation of the final budget info and Budget Adoption Resolution. One issue of note was that two items on the "Important Projects" list (page xvi) were neither included in the draft budget nor on the CIP projects list, since they'll be funded from the Water Capital Funds; and not the General Fund. The projects are the Blackburn Avenue waterline extension in front of the high school (\$100,000) and the water meter replacement program (\$25,000). Those two projects will be included in the final budget document.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Personnel:

The second dispatcher/clerk applicant will be finalizing tests and we have established a tentative hire date of July 9, 2012.

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 160 calls for service, a total of 45 officer reports were taken and there were 82 officer-initiated incidents. Officers made 13 misdemeanor and 9 felony arrests, 28 traffic stops and issued 11 citations of which 2 were infractions, 9 were misdemeanors during the period of June 6-June 13, 2012.