



City of Corning

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THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER JOHN L. BREWER, AICP
DATE: MARCH 13, 2015

JLB

SCHEDULES:

John Brewer: City Manager John Brewer will be out of the office Wednesday, March 18th thru Monday, March 23rd. Lisa will cover all day to day issues. In the event of a disaster, Police Chief Don Atkins will be the "Acting" the 18th, 20th – 23rd, Fire Chief Martin Spannaus will be the "Acting" on the 19th.

CITY MANAGER:

Potential Refinancing of Existing Debt:

Jeff Land of Brandis-Tallman in San Francisco provided some information regarding the possible refinancing of our 2005 Certificates of Participation (COP's). A refinancing "window" is about to open up for that COP debt for sewer and water improvements that totals about \$1.8 million. That debt currently has an interest rate of between 4.65% and 5.65%. The alternatives he provided include both public and private refinancing options. Both would result in savings for the City and would not lengthen the term of the loan. At this moment it appears the private refinancing option, at an interest rate of about 3.05% would result in more significant savings in the magnitude of about \$20,000/year. We'll continue to refine our analysis of these options. Of course, ultimately, any refinancing of the debt would need Council approval.

In addition to researching the refinancing of the 2005 COP's, we asked Mr. Land to investigate our options for refinancing our other Sewer & Water debt to take advantage of the near record low interest rates. Mr. Land advises that the rates may begin to increase over the next year or so. Our criteria is to take advantage of lower interest rates to lower our repayment costs while making sure the loan terms are not lengthened. We have gathered the information on the existing debt and will immediately mail it to Mr. Land for his use in the re-fi investigation.

Streetscape Project:

The State Architect has approved our Solano Streetscape Plans and Specifications. Dawn Grine has been compiling the considerable packet of documents that must accompany the Plans and Specs. to the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The CTC meets in Fresno on May 27th and 28th. City Engineer Ed Anderson and I may be attending that meeting to answer any questions that might arise that could delay their approval of this important project.

Rodgers Theater Restoration:

We've scheduled another concrete pour for Saturday morning. This is the last section of the auditorium floor remaining to be placed. We have scheduled an "Open House" event at the Theater to show the community the progress we've made. At the same time, staging the opening event will demonstrate to the State Department of Parks and Recreation our significant progress toward completion of the Theater rehabilitation. The event will occur on Tuesday March 24th, just after the adjournment of the City Council meeting. Live Music by the North Fork Band and refreshments (courtesy of Linda Lima) will be provided.

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"

2015 Street Re-Paving Project:

I've completed the Photomaps showing the proposed street and sidewalk improvements that will become part of the bid packet for the 2015 CDBG Street Paving Project. John Stoufer and I are ironing out some paperwork details with the State Department of Housing and Community Development (H & CD) while Ed Anderson reviews and makes comments on the Photomaps. I'll add Ed's comments to the maps before we print and bind the Photomap copies and send them out for bidding.

Corning Community Park-Phase2:

We're looking at opening Phase 2 of the Park on a Saturday in late April. We need to coordinate the opening with the Clark Brothers who are Grandsons of the Lennox family and have paid for the monument and plaque that is displayed in the parking lot. We'd also like to open the soccer fields at the same time, but the grass isn't sufficiently dense to accommodate play at this time, and likely won't be in a month or six weeks (more on that below). It looks as if we'll need to have a staged opening, where we open the parking lot, restrooms, playground, bridge and sidewalks before we open the soccer fields to organized play.

Ed, John Stoufer, Steve Lindeman and I met with Kendel Trent and Sierra Landscaping (the Landscape Contractor) onsite on Tuesday (3-10) to discuss the weed problem that is affecting the soccer fields and other lawn areas of the Park. The Contractor is responsible to monitor and abate the weeds. We will not accept the fields as satisfactory until the weeds are abated and the grass is sufficiently dense to withstand regular play. We expected the grass areas to be nearing maturity at this point. But the combination of seed loss due to the soaking rains that followed hydroseeding and the proliferation of broad-leaf weeds will likely delay use of the fields.

According to the Landscape Contractor, they were unable to apply herbicide to the broadleaf weeds until the grass areas were mowed a third time. That third mowing recently occurred. The herbicide was subsequently applied to kill the weeds. There will be a period before the weeds die and additional grass seeding can be done. Once the seeds are applied, the grass will take some time to fill-in with sufficient density to withstand regular soccer play. Sierra Landscape is preparing a plan that will minimize the delay so that we can completely open the park to the public.

Discussion on Consolidating Tehama County Landfill and Solid Waste JPA's:

On Thursday I met with Kristina Miller of the Tehama County Landfill Agency to hear of their plans to consolidate the two Joint Power Authority's (JPA's) involved with Landfill and Solid Waste activities in Tehama County.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**Senior Center:**

A new outdoor non-slip carpet has arrived and will be installed at the front entryway to the Senior Center sometime this week.

Sewer:

Public Works has been busy unplugging sewer laterals.

Water:

Public Works Meter Reader/Maintenance Worker Jeremy Mosher has been busy reading water meters and upgrading/replacing some of the old meters.

Streets:

Public Works is working hard at patching potholes throughout the City.

Parks:

Public Works Maintenance Worker Del Braiser has been working diligently keeping the Parks looking.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 171 calls for service, a total of 31 officer reports were taken and there were 62 officer-initiated incidents. Officers made 15 misdemeanor and 4 felony arrests, 33 traffic stops and issued 25 citations of which 1 was felony, 19 were misdemeanors, 5 were infractions during the period of March 4, 2015 through March 11, 2015.