



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 JLB
DATE: MARCH 27, 2015

SCHEDULES:

Lisa Linnet: Lisa will be visiting her daughter/granddaughter from April 2-7, 2015.

CITY MANAGER:

Potential Refinancing of Existing Sewer/Water Debt:

As reported previously, we asked Jeff Land of Brandis-Tallman in San Francisco to provide some information regarding the possible refinancing of all the City's sewer and water debt. That debt resulted from improvements we've made to the sewer and water system over the last 20 years. It includes the expansion of the WWTP, replacement of the sewer collection and water distribution systems (pipes) and constructing the Clark Park Well.

Mr. Land "crunched the numbers" and provided the information on Wednesday via email. Roy Seiler and I are evaluating this information. At first glance, it appears the City could save nearly \$50,000/year without extending the terms of the three loans. The savings would benefit the Sewer and Water Enterprise Funds, not the General Fund. That "windfall", coupled with the electrical cost savings we expect to reap from the Solar Power Purchase Agreement, may forego the need to implement upcoming utility rate increases to our customers. We'd also consolidate our debt so that instead of having three separate payments to deal with each calendar quarter, we would have one.

Streetscape Project:

We are presenting our complete Plan and Specification Packet to Caltrans District 2 Staff on Friday. Caltrans Staff will review the information for accuracy and completeness and forward it all to the California Transportation Commission for their consideration and approval in May. City Engineer Ed Anderson and I (or the Public Works Director) may be attending that meeting to answer any questions that might arise that could delay their approval of this important project.

Rodgers Theater Restoration:

The "Open House" event on Tuesday night was very successful. Lester Fox and his "North Fork Band" provided entertainment and Linda Lima provided refreshments for the event.

On Wednesday we sent our request for disbursement of the 20% Retention (\$44,000) to the State Department of Parks and Recreation. We included photos and flyers from the Open House Event with that request.

2015 CDBG Street Re-Paving Project:

Ed Anderson and I are working to finish the details on the Sidewalk ADA Improvement Plans that'll become part of the project. We believe we've provided all the necessary documents to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (H & CD) to satisfy their list of "Special Conditions". Once they provide their written confirmation of that, we can advertise and seek bids for the repaving and sidewalk improvement project.

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"

4th Quarter Sales Tax Data:

In the Mid-Year Budget Report we advised the Council that Sales Tax Revenues were not meeting projections. The primary factor affecting this shortfall was lower fuel costs. At that time Staff advised that we could miss the 2014-2015 Budget Sales Tax Projection by as much as \$100,000.

On Thursday morning, we received the preliminary 4th Quarter 2014 Sales Tax data from HdL. As expected, Sales Tax from Fuel Sales is down and that's affecting our bottom line. However, Sales Tax from Auto Sales is up a little. As a result, our 4th Quarter sales tax shortfall will likely be in the range of \$35,000 to \$37,500 instead of the \$50,000 we anticipated with our Mid-Year projections.

If the trend continues thru the 1st Quarter of 2015, our total sales tax shortfall for FY 2014-2015 would be in the \$70,000-75,000 range instead of the \$100,000 magnitude projected at mid-year budget report. It's not great news, but just a bit better than we feared at mid-year budget.

Severn Trent Parkson Helsingie Repairs at WWTP:

The "Helsingie" is an auger device that removes the plastic and other nonorganic material from the process. "Parkson" is the name of the manufacturer of our particular helsingie device. Without this auger process removal, we would have major issues with pumps clogging and lines becoming plugged, as well as an added burden on the process in general.

As part of Severn Trent's normal maintenance on the helsingie, the brushes on the auger are replaced. In the process of the recent change out, Severn Trent personnel noticed that the basket assembly was damaged. A bid to replace the basket was acquired and it was \$8,000 for just the material; the labor charge from Parkson is \$1,000/day. Instead, Severn Trent Staff Member Sonnie Dance has offered to make the repairs in house. The materials were purchased and Severn Trent personnel completed the repairs in house with a material cost of \$1,500. All labor cost, regular hours and overtime were included in the project at no additional cost to the city. The job presented some major challenges. Thanks to the hard work of Sonnie and Travis Barber, they were able to work thru them to complete the repairs and get the helsingie back in service. Thanks also to Severn Trent Managers Kathy Stone and Mitch Ampy for their work on this important repair project.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Streets:

Public Works has been pruning the dead wood in the City's Ash trees; this will be on going. Spring is here, and Public Works has begun firebreak mowing of City properties. They began at the Airport with the assistance of Fire Chief Martin Spannaus.

Sewer:

I am happy to report no reported sewer problems this week.

Water:

The City successfully passed the States Inspection of the City's Water System; they found that everything was in order.

Parks:

Public Works had some issues with the ball field lights at Clark Park. Power had to be shut down for two days for safety. Patterson Electric was called to make the necessary repairs; the lights are now safely working.

Sprinklers are being repaired in all the Parks and routine maintenance is being performed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 217 calls for service, a total of 39 officer reports were taken and there were 70 officer-initiated incidents. Officers made 18 misdemeanor and 3 felony arrests, 27 traffic stops and issued 24 citations of which 1 was felony, 20 were misdemeanors, 1 was an infraction, 1 was animal-related and 1 was unclassified during the period of March 18, 2015 through March 25, 2015.