



City of Corning

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THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER JOHN L. BREWER, AICP
DATE: MARCH 8, 2012

FURLOUGH DAYS:

March:

Friday, March 9th
Friday, March 23rd

April:

Friday, April 6th
Friday, April 20th

May:

Friday, May 4th
Friday, May 18th

SCHEDULES:

March 13th & 14th: Chief Spannaus will be attending training in Sacramento.

CITY MANAGER:

Position Change and Office re-location:

John is now moved into the City Manager's office. Steve will do business from the Public Works Director's office for now.

Lisa sent out announcements of the retirement of Steve and Tony and the appointment of Don Atkins and I to our respective positions.

Branding Meeting:

Mayor Strack, John Stoufer and I attended the Tehama County Branding Meeting at the Red Bluff Community Center Tuesday morning. Roger Brooks and others, including Kate Grissom of Rolling Hills Casino made presentations on the branding concepts. Their ideas were very well received. We have brochures at City Hall if you'd like to see the marketing ideas that have resulted.

PUBLIC WORKS (P/W's) DEPARTMENT:

SVIRWMP Board Meeting:

I attended the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (SVIRWMP) Board Meeting in Willows on Monday. The consultants presented some preliminary goals and objectives that were discussed among the Board and with those members of the public who attended. There were several Tea Party members present who posed questions to the Board and the Consultants. Unlike the contentious atmosphere at Red Bluff in January, the dialogue at the Willows meeting was much more positive and courteous.

Second Street/North Street Intersection:

We recently had a request from the Corning High School District Staff to consider installing a Stop Sign at the T-Intersection of Second Street and North Street. Dea Hamilton relayed that she'd seen several near misses and two accidents at that location.

I spoke with the Police Chief and found there've been no recent reported accidents at that location. City Engineer Ed Anderson suggested the installation of a "Yield Sign" for now to see if that adequately addresses the concerns. If it doesn't we can then take the further step of a Council hearing and consideration of a Stop Sign.

Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough Study:

The Sacramento River continues to erode its east bank along the frontage of Woodson Bridge State Park. Some time ago there was talk and some preliminary studies of some upstream grading that would encourage the river channel to relocate to the Kopta Slough and thereby avoid exacerbating that erosive river and make a new bridge necessary at South Avenue. That drastic relocation could make our sewer outfall obsolete, perhaps requiring their relocation.

The Department of Water Resources is interested in revisiting that issue. I volunteered the use of our City Council Chambers for the initial meetings to study feasibility, we expect the meetings take place later this month.

Southwest Quadrant Water Extension:

Ed Anderson, Steve Kimbrough and I met on Wednesday with Engineer Tom Venus and Mr. Joey Cupp, the Environmental Manager of Pilot/Flying J Truck Stops that retains responsibility to address historical groundwater contamination, and Eric Rapport and Bob Crandall of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. I asked Steve to attend because of his background knowledge of the contamination issues. Pilot/Flying J is currently maintaining carbon filtration systems on six separate domestic water wells in the area north of the Truck Stops.

The meeting was quite productive. We discussed alternatives for extending City water service to the properties with domestic wells that have solvent contamination. We had previously presented Pilot/Flying J with a plan and cost estimate to extend City water services to these properties. Pilot/Flying J offered a scaled down proposal, and we countered with another plan that they have largely accepted. In the end, we'll benefit from an extended water system that is looped for redundancy and add water customers. The affected property owners will have reliable and clean City water and the neighborhood will have access to fire hydrants.

Before Pilot/Flying J presents their plans to the affected owners, we want to make sure we have Council concurrence. We will present that plan for Council review and possible approval on March 27th. Once that occurs, Pilot/Flying J can begin direct conversations with the affected owners to solicit support for the water extensions and connections. We also discussed ancillary issues such as working in County Right-of-Ways, cross contamination, well abandonment, and the cost of City water service as opposed to water well operation costs.

In the meantime, Pilot/Flying J will study the economics. The City will look into the County Encroachment Permit process as well as the LAFCO process for extending City services into the unincorporated area.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

Park Playground Equipment & Gazebo:

On Tuesday, March 6th the Recreation Commission recommended that Staff work with the Sales Representative from Xccent Playgrounds to finalize the design and equipment for the playground within Phase I of the Park Project. Once completed, Staff will present final playground equipment features and prices to the Council for approval.

At the same meeting, the Recreation Commission recommended that Staff work with NSP3 for the purchase of a gazebo and rubber mulch for surfacing the playground area. Once again Staff will bring the final design and pricing to the Council for approval.