



The Clear View

A newsletter for the Citizens of Clear Lake

Volume 14 - Number 2
March 2016
www.cityofclearlake.com



Fire Department receives donation of Polaris UTV

The Clear Lake Fire Department in January received a donation of a new 2016 Polaris Ranger 900 Crew Cab UTV courtesy of Mark and Diane Holt. Mr. and Mrs. Holt had previously donated a Fire and Rescue boat to the Department back in June of 2015.

The Ranger is equipped with a heated cab to allow personnel to stay warm when working on the Lake in the winter. It also is equipped with tracks and a winch to ensure the Ranger will not get stuck in the snow or mud. The tracks also enable the vehicle to travel on the lake across snow drifts in bad weather to reach a snowmobile accident victim or assist in a medical issue. With 68 horsepower, the Ranger has plenty of power to get the job done. The 1,000 pound box capacity will allow the department to swap the tracks for wheels in the summer and fall and put the grass fire fighting pump in the box and use the vehicle for grass and field fires where off road capabilities are needed.

The City wishes to extend a very sincere appreciation to the Holt family for making this needed piece of equipment a reality for our Community.

Celebrate Earth Week



CLEAR LAKE
Earth Day

Refresh Yourself
Your Community

Celebrate community and Clear Lake with a week of Clear Lake Earth Day activities. Sign up your family, neighborhood, or business today and lend a hand by giving back to the community in April. You may take a suggested site or choose one of your own.

On Thursday, April 21st, the North Iowa Green Expo will be held at the Surf Ballroom, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Check out the energy-saving and earth-friendly products and services from area businesses and organizations at North Iowa's fastest-growing green expo.

The region's popular early-season, "chip-timed", 5k & 10k races begin at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, April 23rd. Register in advance at www.earthdaynorthiowa.org. Also, on Saturday, April 23rd, the "Community Cleanup" and outdoor festival will take place. Check out www.earthdaynorthiowa.org for the latest activities for the whole family throughout the week to celebrate Earth Week in Clear Lake.

Fiscal Year 2017 Budgeting Process Underway



Mayor Nelson P. Crabb; City Administrator S. Lawrence Flory; the City Council; and City staff have been busy since November putting together the basic elements for the FY16 (amended) and proposed FY17 municipal budget for the City of Clear Lake. Residents have the opportunity to attend and offer their thoughts and comments about city services and the budget during a number of city council meetings and workshops during this time. Additionally, there will be a budget hearing to present information on the proposed budget. The budget hearing on the proposed FY 16 amended and FY 17 municipal budget is set for March 7th, at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers. The budget must be certified to the State of Iowa Department of Management by no later than March 15th.



Mayor Nelson Crabb

Once again, every vote counts, exercise your right

On February 1st, the City Council adjusted its regular meeting time so that any of the staff, members of the public, or elected officials who wished to also attend the Iowa Caucus could do so. I was asked by someone if I thought that decision was really necessary. My response was that I was favorable to doing our part as a local government to make it as convenient as possible for citizens to exercise their right to vote and be present at this

occasion. Regrettably, my friend was not a participant at either the City Council meeting or the Caucus. Sadly, he prefers to be a sideline critic; an increasingly common attitude.

During the fall and winter of every 4th year, the Nation turns its attention to Iowa. Our State is one of the few to hold a caucus. As Iowans, we get the chance to lead in showing support for candidates. Former Senator George McGovern, a democratic contender in 1972, stated that

“Iowa is terribly important. It is the first test in the Nation, where we get any test at all.” I was able to participate in the Caucus this year and found it an incredible experience to become more engaged with many of my friends and fellow Clear Lakers about important public discourse that is relevant to our City, State, and Nation.

The right to vote is one of the most precious obligations we enjoy in a free and democratic republic. George Jean Nathan once said, “Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote.” Please, regardless of your political leanings, get out and vote in EVERY election.

Meet New Ward 1 City Council Member - Mark Ebeling

Following the regular City election, Mr. Ebeling was sworn in on December 23, 2015.



What is your desire for public service?

I have always been interested in the way our city works. After watching all the positive events of the past few years, I decided this was a good time to take a more active role in the way our community is formed. I have lived in this city almost my entire life and I want to keep this city the great town I have always known.

What do you enjoy most about living in the City of Clear Lake?

The people. Everyone is very friendly and helpful. I know many residents all over the city and I know that we all take pride in where we live. I also enjoy the location and being able to enjoy easy access to metropolitan areas to the north and south.

What would you like to see done on city council?

I'd like Clear Lake to continue to be a welcoming environment for both businesses and families. We need to work to bring new businesses so we can maintain a strong tax base. We need to concentrate on watching our bottom line and making sure we spend within reasonable limits.

What is your favorite memory growing up in Clear Lake?

Clear Lake was always a fun place when I was growing up. The 4th of July was always fantastic. But by far the best memories were spending time on the Lake whether it was during the summer months or winter.

Tales from the Vault

by Jennifer Larsen, City Clerk

One of my responsibilities as City Clerk is to record and preserve the official minutes from the meetings of the Clear Lake City Council. Here are some excerpts from the minutes of a Clear Lake City Council meeting from the “old days” which you may find interesting.

“The City Council met in regular session as Board of Health at 8:00 o'clock P.M. on April 3, 1939. Members present: Mayor Phillips and Councilmen Huntting, DeBruyn, Winnie, Scherf, Andersen and Health Officer N. W. Phillips. The Health Officer's report for the year was read and is as follows: The annual report of the Health Officer shows we have the following cases of contagious diseases reported – Scarlet fever 16, Impetigo 3, Influenza 2, Whooping Cough 15, Chickenpox 4, and Measles 6. The reason for the small number of cases of Influenza reported is due no doubt to the mild type of disease in this locality. Complications following the mild cases have resulted in death in a few cases especially in elderly people. The sanitary conditions in the City are good. The milk supply is ample and good. We are assured by the State Dairy Inspector that samples of milk distributed in the City will be collected from time to time and analyzed by the State without cost to the City. Toilets both public and private are in good condition. The collection and disposal of garbage remains the same. A change in the present system might be well considered at some future date. Motion was made by Andersen and seconded by Huntting that the report of the Health Officer, N.W. Phillips, be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried, all members voting aye.”

The Clear View Newsletter is printed on recycled paper



A New Look Hitting the Streets

After decades wearing the black and gold police patch, the Clear Lake Police Department will be sporting a new look in 2016! The department will be getting new uniform shoulder patches.



New patch

In the late summer of 2015, the City's uniform vendors informed the department that its supply of patches was depleted. Upon contacting the company that produced the patch, it was learned that we would have to submit a new design for an order of new patches. They did not retain the template for our design.

After speaking with police staff and city leaders, it was suggested including Ventura on any new order of patches.

Chief Pete Roth said, "Adding Ventura to the design concept was important to us. Our patch, as well as our badge, is a symbol that represents our commitment to serve and protect both communities."

The new patch was also designed to clearly identify 'POLICE.' "We wanted it to complement the uniform and portray a professional look to the public," said Roth.

Police Dispatcher Whitney Hill, volunteered to design several concepts for department and city input. After several designs, a few tweaks, and a department vote, one emerged as the winner!

The new patch is referred to as a 'teardrop' style that are common to many police departments around the country. The colors are navy blue with white lettering and borders. It features the sailboat logo in the middle, with both cities listed around it. Iowa was added to the bottom to ensure no one confused our communities with cities from other states!

The final design was presented at Clear Lake and Ventura council meetings and received many positive comments.

The department will order the new patch and have them sewn on uniforms as soon as possible. This will be the third known patch worn on uniforms of the CLPD.



Old patch



Large Item Cleanup Program

The 2016 Spring Large Item Pickup will take place April 11th to April 14th. Residents are encouraged to use this opportunity to dispose of large items that cannot be discarded through their weekly garbage service. The Large Item Pickup map will appear in the [Clear Lake Mirror Reporter](#) on April 6th, listing the dates the City will pick up in your area and the items that will and will not be picked up.

City residents can have old appliances and/or electronic items picked up during Large Item Cleanup for a cost of \$15 an item. Stickers can be purchased for \$15 each at Clear Lake City Hall, 15 North 6th Street. **Stickers must be purchased by 5:00 p.m. on April 13th.** Items that require a sticker are: furnaces, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, stoves, washers, dryers, microwaves, copy machines, water heaters, fluorescent light fixtures, televisions, computer monitors, and printers. Pickup of appliances in all areas will be on April 14th. Please have appliances with stickers attached by the curb by no later than 7:30 a.m. on April 14th.

Please also be aware that the City WILL NOT pickup any items that may be recycled through the Landfill of North Iowa's electronic waste-recycling program. Landfill customers may drop off VCR's, DVD players, stereo equipment, computer towers, mouses and keyboards, input devices, scanners, video surveillance cameras, fax machines, and cordless phones for recycling. Many of the above items may be recycled free of charge at the Landfill.

Police Department welcomes new full-time dispatcher

The Clear Lake Police Department is pleased to welcome Brandon Turner as a new full-time dispatcher. Brandon joined the force on January 4, 2016. Prior to joining the department, Brandon served in the US Air Force Security Forces for six years.

Brandon is currently studying to become a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and resides in Garner with his wife and four children. Brandon stated, "I'm excited to begin a career in public safety and look forward to serving the citizens of Clear Lake."



Watermain Flushing Schedule Set for Spring

The Clear Lake Water Department will begin flushing watermains in April. Flushing will be done from April 18th to April 20th, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Why does the City flush watermains? Watermain flushing is performed to maintain the distribution system to desired standards. Flushing is used to remove iron and other deposits that may build up over time in some parts of the system and is performed to bleed the system of air pockets. Flushing moves water through parts of the system where it may have lost the desired concentration of chlorine and fluorine due to relatively low water usage. It also allows Water Department crews an opportunity to inspect hydrants for tampering and verify they are operating properly for fire protection.

How often does the City flush watermains? Water Department personnel generally perform flushing operations twice a year, usually in the spring and fall. Flushing may also be performed after repairs have been made to fix breaks or new lines that have been added to the water distribution system to ensure the system is properly disinfected.

What should residents expect when the City is flushing watermains? Residents may experience low water pressure and some discolored water when the Water Department crews are flushing in their neighborhood. Any change in the direction or rate of flow of the water due to watermain break, fire use, heavy sprinkling, and flushing can cause naturally occurring deposits in the pipe to be churned up and mix with the water, affecting its appearance. In most cases, the "rusty" water is temporary and will go away within about 5 minutes by letting the water run through an unfiltered cold water tap until the system clears. While discolored water may not look pleasant, it is not a health risk. Residents may also notice the water is cloudy or has a chlorine smell. Tiny air bubbles may be trapped in the water by the churning action causing it to look cloudy. The churning action may also cause chlorine to be released from the water, affecting smell and taste.

Notice of flushing is placed in the Clear Lake Mirror Reporter. If you have no water pressure during flushing operations, please notify the Water Department at 641-357-5267.

PLEASE NOTE that City offices will be closed for Good Friday on Friday, March 25th.

Earth Week at the Clear Lake Public Library

On Monday, April 25th, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., there will be an Earth Week Family Night at the Clear Lake Public Library focusing on bumblebees and their importance to our environment. A guest reader will read in the Story Corner. Children will be able to take home their own seedling that they plant, as well as a craft. The event is most appropriate for children from pre-school to the lower elementary grades and their accompanying adults. Please phone the library to register at 357-0315.

On Tuesday, April 26th, at 6:30 p.m., Lime Creek Nature Center Director, Mike Webb, will present a program on Planting a Pollinator Garden for adults. Each one of us can help monarchs, bees, and other pollinators by planting the right nectar plants in our gardens this spring. You won't want to miss this important Earth Week event!

Downstairs at Downton

Are you a fan of PBS masterpiece programs? If so, you'll love our new *Masterpiece Book & Film Club*. The farewell to Downton Abbey event on March 15th, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., is the club's premiering event.

We'll enjoy a traditional English tea with scones and presentation by Historian Kathy J. Wilson on the reality of running a house like Highclere Manor, the real Downton Abbey. Please register by emailing Denise at clplassist@gmail.com or by signing up at the library. Space is limited. Fancy clothes are optional!

The *Masterpiece Book & Film Club* will meet seasonally to coincide with great Masterpiece shows. Stay tuned, watch PBS Masterpiece on TV, or stream from the website pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/, then join us for related events at the library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Clear Lake Parks & Recreation is Accepting Applications for Summer Employment 2016

Job Applications will be accepted/reviewed for the following positions:

- **Summer Program Supervisors** – Must be at least 15 years of age.
- **Aquatic Center Lifeguards** – Must be at least 15 years of age. All Lifeguard candidates must enroll in and pass the lifeguarding class for future lifeguards. Applicants are responsible for paying for course fees.
- **Aquatic Center Concessions Worker** – Must be at least 15 years of age.

Applications are available at the Parks & Recreation office, at City Hall, or on the City of Clear Lake website at www.cityofclearlake.com. Applications for Lifeguard are due by March 18th, all other applications must be submitted by March 28th. Applications can be dropped off at the Parks & Recreation office or at City Hall.

For more information please call the Parks & Recreation office at 357-7010.





WE AREN'T OUT OF THE WOODS YET

Although winter is winding down, residents are reminded that Clear Lake has seen some pretty significant snowfall events well into April and even early May the last few years.

The Public Works Department is determined to provide Clear Lake with the highest possible snow removal services. This can only be achieved through a true partnership between residents and the City. The City generally commences plowing operations when snow accumulations are approximately two inches on City streets. Snow plowing and pre-treatment application will occur as determined by the Public Works Director based on total accumulation, prevailing conditions, and weather forecasts. The City makes every effort to remove all snow from each street as soon as possible when plowing becomes necessary. In doing so, we ask our residents to consider where they park their cars during snow storms. As a reminder, there is NO

on-street parking during a declared “snow emergency”. Please check the City’s various facebook pages and website for more information and postings in that regard.

Lastly, the City sincerely appreciates your efforts in making sure the streets are passable for our loaded dump trucks, end-loaders, and snow plows!

City buys a new (replacement) street sweeper

The City is replacing one of its street sweepers. In February, the Council approved a bid for a new regenerative air sweeper for roughly \$185,000. The new Schwarze A7 Tornado will replace the City’s 2005/06 Johnston Vacuum Sweeper. The Schwarze sweeper will arrive in April and join the City’s other sweeper – a 2011 Elgin Pelican 3-wheel mechanical broom sweeper in keeping the City’s streets clean.

According to Public Works Director Joe Weigel, there are two primary differences in the types of sweepers used by the City and they both complement one another. The mechanical broom sweeper cleans the streets when the “gutter brooms”, located on the sides of the sweeper, flicks debris to the main broom in the center on the underside of the unit. The main broom then deposits the debris on a conveyor belt that dumps refuse into the sweepers storage bin (called a “hopper”).

The vacuum/regenerative air sweepers are mounted on a truck chassis and are more powerful than a mechanical broom sweeper. The gutter brooms push the debris toward the center pickup head which uses airflow swirling debris and a vacuum process that sucks heavier and fine debris from the streets. The vacuum/regenerative air sweeper can also drive much faster than the mechanical broom sweeper.

Weigel stated that depending on the time of year, the sweepers collect everything from sand to leaves. The sweepers generally operate in the early morning until late afternoon, but also work special hours. He also reminds residents not to blow grass clippings or leaves into the street. “We are cleaning the streets to keep debris out of the storm sewers and the Lake”, stated Weigel.

The City appreciates the cooperation of the Community in obeying the on-street parking regulations in order to assist the operators in doing the best job they can to clean the streets. Also, to do a good job cleaning, an operation speed of less than 10 mph is necessary, so the patience of the motoring public is very much appreciated.

While the new street sweeper has improved safety features such as a rear camera, LED lights, back-up alarms, and additional cab glass, please maintain an appropriate distance and be aware that the operator

is doing the best he can to watch for vehicles and operate the sweeper.



Reminder to Pet Owners

As a reminder the deadline for purchasing your 2016 dog license(s) is March 31, 2016 without penalty. If purchased before the March 31st deadline, the fee is \$3.00. ON and after April 1st, a \$1.00 penalty charge per month is added for each license.

Licenses may be purchased at City Hall, 15 North 6th Street and proof of current rabies vaccination must be presented at the time of licensing. Please call 357-5267 with questions.



City of Clear Lake Directory

CITY DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY911

Non-Emergency Police.....	357-2186
Building Inspection	357-6135
Cemetery	357-6135
City Administrator	357-5267
City Attorney	357-2139
City Clerk	357-5267
City Hall	357-5267
Fire Department.....	357-2613
Absolute Waste Removal	357-4517
Mayor.....	357-5267
Parks & Recreation.....	357-7010
Planning & Zoning	357-6135
Public Library.....	357-6133
Public Works.....	357-6135
Landfill of North Iowa.....	357-5452
Clear Lake Sanitary District.....	357-2019
Water Department	357-3911

City Council Meeting agendas are posted online and at City Hall. Rebroadcasts of City Council Meetings are available anytime online on the City's website and on CLVision Community Channel 1 on the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month as follows: Tuesday - 7 p.m.; Wednesday - 6 p.m.; and Saturday - 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Clear Lake City Council



Mayor
Nelson P. Crabb
357-3839



At-Large
Gary Hugi
357-6579



At-Large
Mike Callanan
357-5911



First Ward
Mark Ebeling
641-201-0430



Second Ward
Tony J. Nelson
357-0049



Third Ward
Jim Boehnke
357-7144



City Administrator
Scott Flory
357-5267



City Clerk/Editor
Jennifer Larsen
357-5267

**City Council meetings
are the first and third Mondays
at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.**

Additional meetings are scheduled as necessary.

Meetings, except for the Parks & Recreation Board and Library Board, are normally held at City Hall, 15 North 6th Street, Council Chamber. For an agenda or to verify exact date and time, please call City Clerk's office at (641) 357-5267.

Library Board

(Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month)

Tom Arndorfer	Jana Severson
Scott Johnson	Bennett Smith
Diane Glynn	Pat Weigel
Elizabeth Cherry	

Parks & Recreation Board

(Meets 4th Wednesday of each month)

Tim Raber	Chyrl Bergvig
Brenda Anderson	Darron Jones
Linda Hopper	Amy Hogg
Scott Lester	

Planning & Zoning Commission

(Meets last Tuesday of each month)

Lori Broghammer	Julie Angle
Al Penfold	Arnold Prohaska
Chyrl Bergvig	Al Duea
Davin McLeod	

Board of Adjustment

(Meets as needed)

Gail Robinson	Cerise Sissel
Fred Muth	Bob Swanson

Visit The City Of Clear Lake Website at www.cityofclearlake.com.



The

March 2016

Clear View

Clear Lake, Where People Make The Difference



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