

Town Manager Report - November 2023

This month began the holiday season and the Town Hall office staff have decorated the Town Hall office for Christmas. The Christmas tree in the front office was from the Arts & Crafts show held at the Penney Retirement Community. The public works employees have been preparing the town trailer and Christmas sled for the Town Council float for the Town's Christmas Parade.

The water line replacement grant has finally been released to begin. I met with the engineer for the project and walked the whole designated area to get as much done as possible. I will be updating the residents regularly when the project's construction begins and during the process until completion.

Andrew Greene with the Florida Rural Water Association (FRWA) assisted the public works department with calibrating residential water meters and checking for galvanized lateral lines. This process will continue until all water meters have been checked. Andrew is also assisting with the USDA grant to get a new pick-up truck for the Town.

The Town's bucket truck was sold, due to high maintenance costs for \$6,000.00 and that payment should be received by the end of the month. The money received will also go towards purchasing the new pick-up truck.

The Clay County Fire Department held three days of training, for all County fire personnel at our Town's water tower this month. This was pretty interesting to watch, the firefighters climbed to the top of the water tower and repelled down to the ground, as part of their training.

A few nearby residents had their water shut off for a short time to connect the new house being built on Dwight Street to water and sewer. This connection had to be bored under the road.

The Town had the SCADA System demo installed at the master lift station to see how it works. This system is showing the Town staff how to have full remote control and data available by using the telephone. I am considering this system as a future investment for the Town.

All of the water sampling for the water utility has been completed for the 2023 year. The annual nitrates and nitrites testing came back normal and is in good standing.

Passive Park was closed for a short time, due to some dangerous sidewalks. Three sections of sidewalk have been replaced, which eliminated tripping hazards. The park is now open for use for all residents.

I have attended all of the Town's required meetings for this month. In addition, the Town Clerk and I were invited to a luncheon to meet with Steve Strom and his wife, who is Vice President of the JC Penney National HCSC Alumni Club. He also had a presentation about Mr. Penney and his principles behind the Golden Rule later that day. Thank you Teresa Scott for the invite.

BY: David Cooper
Town Manager