

THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: KRISTINA MILLER, CITY MANAGER
DATE: August 7, 2020



CITY MANAGER:

COVID-19:

The City Council approved to use budgeted funding for community events and from General Fund reserves to support local restaurants and businesses, whereby the City will purchase awnings, canopies, tables, chairs, etc. and then lease them to a local business at no cost for their use. Items able to be purchased and subsequently leased would be limited to those that serve a future City purpose. A few restaurants have reached out to conduct outdoor dining and/or lease equipment from the City. Christina Meeds and Lisa Linnet are coordinating on this project; thank you both!

According to the County Public Health Officer, we are starting to experience a decline in cases. While the State is having issues with their software CalREDIE, Tehama County Public Health is confident in their numbers because we are small enough as a County to double check all reports of new cases. The State software is backlogged and because of such is showing an underreporting of new cases. The State is not confident when these issues will be resolved. As such, no new Counties will be added to the monitoring list at this time. For those Counties on the monitoring list (we currently are not) they must also close indoor operations of the following: Fitness Centers, Worship Services, Offices for non-critical sectors, Personal Care Services, Hair Salons & Barbershops, and Malls. Schools also cannot operate for in person learning once placed on the monitoring list unless a waiver is approved by the County Public Health Officer. **Again, we are not on the monitoring list.**

I will again emphasize the importance for the sake of our local economy to wear a face covering, social distance, avoid touching your face, wash your hands, and avoid gatherings with people outside your household.

If you are interested in following what is occurring in Tehama County you may visit: <https://www.tehamacohealthservices.net/services/communicable-diseases/> -updated daily at midnight.

Tehama County Public Health encourages asymptomatic and symptomatic people to get tested by visiting: <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>.

Franchise Hauling Agreement Negotiations:

I met with Waste Management on August 6th. Both the City and Waste Management hope to finalize the Agreement in the next month. All policy negotiations are complete. There may be a few points of discussion in regard to indemnification and insurance. A few highlights of the proposed Agreement are:

1. Waste Management will conduct all billing. Right now, the City bills for residential service. Since the new Agreement has processes in place to minimize contamination in recycling carts, it was absolutely necessary for Waste Management to conduct residential billing. Contamination reduction is critical in light of China's requirements for a clean recycling stream (known as the Green Fence or Green Shield). Essentially, China no longer wants to be our dumping ground.
2. Provides a process for the transition to Waste Management performing residential billing with a six-month grace period for residents to become current. This is due to the fact the City bills after services are provided and Waste Management billing in advance.
3. There will be no new rate increases other than typical inflationary adjustments. In fact, a few commercial rates will decrease.

THE CITY OF CORNING IS AN EQUAL OPPORUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

4. Waste Management will be responsible for \$10,000 of public education and outreach each year to support recycling and waste reduction.
5. The franchise fee the City will receive each year will increase.
6. Requires a local phone number for residents to call and receive assistance.
7. Provides for liquidated damages where there have been performance issues previously. This will help prevent these same issues from being problematic moving forward.
8. Does not specifically resolve the requirement to recycle organics as a result of Senate Bill 1383. The regulations to support SB 1383 are still not finalized. There are also no food waste processing facilities in the area. As such, once the regulations are approved City Staff, in coordination with the Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency, will work on an Organics Recycling Program. Undoubtedly, rates will increase to support organics recycling.

Meeting with Regional Water Quality Control Board:

I met with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the tetrachloroethylene (PCE) plume that is being studied. The Phase 2 portion of the investigation revealed a PCE soil gas plume centered around the sanitary sewer alignments in the alley one half block south of Solano Street between Toomes Ave. and Third Street, and in the vicinity of the former Paramount Cleaners (Fifth Street and Solano Street).

PCE was released in wastewater discharged to the municipal sanitary sewer system by a private business or businesses many years ago and may have leaked into the subsurface through joints, cracks, and holes in the former vitrified clay sewer pipe, creating contaminant plumes in soil, soil gas, and groundwater. Based on the Phase 2 survey results, Central Valley Water Board Staff are applying for further funding to investigate 48 residential units within 100 feet of soil gas samples exceeding the cancer risk screening level (15 ug/m³) and/or non-cancer hazard screening level (1,390 ug/m³) for PCE. While further investigation around West Street School is also planned as part of the next phase, evidence to date does not show the plume extends into the school property. The Central Valley Water Board indicated that while funding for the next phase is not guaranteed there is a certain level of commitment by the State to complete the investigation, especially given the fact that the plume is located in a disadvantaged community. Further updates will be provided as they become available. We should know about the next phase being funded within the next three to six months.

CITY CLERK:

Elections:

To date the following individuals have filed papers for the following:

City Mayor (2-yr. term): Michael LePeilbet and Robert Snow.

City Council (4-yr. term – 2 seats): Jose "Chuy" Valerio (Incumbent), Lisa Lomeli, and Michele "Shelly" Hargens.

City Treasurer (4-yr. term): Incumbent Laura Calkins.

City Clerk (4-year term): Lisa M. Linnet.

The filing period runs through 5 p.m. on August 7th. Should any incumbent fail to file during the nomination period, there will be a five (5) day extension for that Office through 5 p.m. on August 12, 2020 for anyone other than the incumbent. Election documents are available from City Clerk Lisa Linnet at Corning City Hall, 794 Third Street, Corning. Please note, per State Mandate, face masks are required when entering Corning City Hall.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Playground Equipment:

The playground equipment removed from Yost Park and sold has been picked up by the purchaser and removed from the City storage.

Water Leaks:

- A water service line leak has been repaired by City Staff on Meadowbrook Lane.

- A water service line leak has been repaired on Houghton Avenue near Blackburn Avenue.

Sewer Repairs:

The sewer lateral for Burger King has been repaired. A temporary patch in the pavement has been made to allow for the drive thru to be utilized. Staff will coordinate with Burger King and place permanent asphalt in the near future.

RECREATION/PLANNING DEPARMENTS:

Planning:

On August 18th, the Planning Commission will be considering the following:

- Public Hearing for the TK Ranch Subdivision;
- Variance for a 5-foot setback instead 10-foot at 1221 Pear St.;
- Use Permit for the potential relocation of the Liquor Cabinet II's to neighboring building.

Recreation:

This past week was the last of our Summer Camps. Christina will be putting together a Fall Program with guidance given by the Tehama County Health Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 156 calls for service, a total of 29 officer reports were taken and there were 95 officer-initiated incidents, including 26 traffic stops. Officers made 7 misdemeanor and 2 felony arrests. Officers issued 14 citations, of which; 7 were misdemeanors, 6 were parking, 1 was unclassified during the period of July 29, 2020 through August 5, 2020.

Training:

Officers continue to participate in POST Portal Training and Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Other POST on-line training continues for Patrol and Dispatch personnel.

Notice:

For the health and safety of our Citizens, Officers, Dispatchers, and Staff our lobby will remain closed due to COVID 19. Please use the intercom system at the lobby door if you need our assistance.

“What you do today can improve all your tomorrows.”

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Corning Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) Call Volume:

The Corning Volunteer Fire Department responded to 16 calls for service last week, they consisted of: 14 medicals, 1 traffic collision, and 1 investigation.

The Orland, Capay, and Butte City Volunteer Fire Department Call Volumes:

The Orland, Capay, and Butte City Volunteer Fire Departments were dispatched to a combined total of 10 calls for service last week, they consisted of: 7 medicals, 2 fires, and 1 traffic collision.

Training:

Training for the Corning Volunteer Fire Department consisted of control burning, with emphasis of safety, proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), hydration and heat management.

“The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not”. -Thomas Jefferson