

Lake Helen News



**MOVIE IN THE PARK:
ZOOTOPIA
FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2016
in BLAKE PARK**

Movie begins at 8:45pm

Rain or Shine

Remember to bring Lawn Chairs or Blankets, Snacks & Bug Spray

*Special Thanks to David Hughes
(David Hughes Painting) for sponsoring the Movie in the Park as well
as setting up and coordinating the event.*

**FIRE ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING ON THURSDAY,
AUGUST 11, 2016 AT 7:00PM AT CITY HALL**

In July, the City Commission adopted an Initial Assessment Resolution for the Fire Assessments Rates on the Property Tax Record. At the end of July, a letter was sent to every property owner within the City Limits of Lake Helen explaining the Assessment for their property. This revenue is needed for help pay for the city's contract with Volusia County for Fire Services.

For a Single Family Home with \$100,000 Assessed Value,
with taxable value at \$50,000:

Volusia County Fire District Millage: 4.08150

Cost for Fire District would have been: \$200.44

Lake Helen Fire Assessment: \$129.00

For a Single Family Home with \$188,444 Assessed Value,
with a taxable value at \$138,444:

Volusia County Fire District Millage: 4.08150

Cost for Fire District would have been: \$565.06

Lake Helen Fire Assessment: \$129.00

Single Family Homes will be Assessed \$129.00 per home annually

Vacant Land will be Assessed \$26.00 annually

Commercial will be Assessed \$0.19 per Square Foot annually

A Maximum Rate will also be set at this meeting: \$201.00 per home, \$40.00 per vacant lot, and 29 cents per square foot of commercial property.



MILLAGE RATE REDUCED FROM 9.8 TO 7.8 PUBLIC HEARINGS IN SEPTEMBER

At the Regular City Commission Meeting on Thursday, July 14, 2016, the City Commission adopted a tentative millage rate of 7.8 for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017. This is a 20% rate decrease. The City's Property Tax Rate this current fiscal year is at \$9.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value, close to the state constitution's cap of \$10.

Budget Hearings will be held September. The first budget hearing is set for Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 7:00pm and the final budget hearing is set for Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:00pm. As always, the public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY AT MELISSA PARK

On Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., the City Commission held a groundbreaking ceremony at Melissa Park (450 W. Ohio Ave) for a new Pavilion. The Pavilion has been a goal of the City Commission, especially Vice Mayor and Zone 2 Commissioner Vernon J. Burton. The structure will be 30 feet by 30 feet and will be constructed by hdg Construction LLC (Ryan Hannah). The community is excited for the addition to Melissa Park and looks forward to many events in the future.



PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION COMMISSION (PLDRC) VACANCIES

The PLDRC is the City's Local Planning Board. Three Vacancies are available for this important board. The Planning and Land Development Regulation Commission responsibilities include: Recommendations to the City Commission on applications for amendments or special exceptions to the City's Ordinances, act as the Local Planning Agency and act as the Local Land Development Regulation Commission. The board meets the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm at City Hall but can also be asked to hold special meetings throughout the year. Applications for the board can be obtained by contacting Becky Witte, City Clerk by email: bwitte@lakehelen.com, phone 386.228.2358. Applications are due by Friday, August 26, 2016 at 4:30pm. Applicants must be City of Lake Helen Residents and should plan to attend the September 8, 2016 City Commission Meeting (at 7:00pm at City Hall).

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE SPECIAL MEETING Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 9:00AM at City Hall

The City Commission is in the final stages of approving the Comprehensive Plan, a long-range 20-year plan that sets the framework for the physical development of the city. The Comprehensive Plan Update will help encourage a prosperous, educated, healthy, equitable and resilient lifestyle while maintaining the character and historic quality our citizens cherish. On Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 9:00am in City Hall Commission Chambers the City Commission will hold a Special Meeting to review the Elements, decide on changes or modifications and discuss the future of land use within the "gem of Florida." Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

Next Florida Licensing On Wheels at City Hall on Friday, August 5th from 10AM until 2PM inside City Hall.

Florida Licensing On Wheels mobile offices brings motorist services directly to the Customer. FLOW mobiles offer the following services:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Convert out of state license (\$48.00) | Renewals (\$48.00 for Class E; fees vary for CDL) |
| Replacements for lost or stolen license (\$25.00) | Address/name changes (\$25.00) |
| ID cards (\$25.00) | Reinstatements (fees vary) |
| Emergency Contact Information Registration (free) | Tag renewals (fees vary) |

There is no testing of any kind (CDL, Hazmat, Learners permits or driving test)

PROPOSED REVISED CITY CHARTER FOR VOTE ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 30th

A Charter Review Committee, consisting of Lake Helen residents, recommended a Revised City Charter to the City Commission. The City Commission is bringing this to the voters on Tuesday, August 30th. The Charter Review Committee set a goal of ensuring the most cost efficient and responsive government for the residents.

The Revised Charter:

- ✓ Consistent with the City's current operations
- ✓ Establishes a Commission/Manager form of government (which is consistent with current operations)
- ✓ Creates 4 year staggered terms of office for Commissioners and Mayor (which saves money, approximately \$5,000 was spent for the 2015 Elections)
- ✓ Eliminates language which conflict with, have been preempted by or is redundant with State law.

Community Educational Workshops:

- ❖ Revised City Charter Educational Workshop on **Monday, August 8, 2016 at 6:00 pm** at the **Lake Helen Villas Clubhouse** (711 Lemon Ave, Lake Helen)
- ❖ Revised City Charter Educational Workshop on **Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 7:00 pm** at **Hopkins Hall** (192 W. Connecticut Ave, Lake Helen)

Light Refreshments will be served at the Workshops

For more information, to ask questions or see how you can help educate:

- ❖ Stop by City Hall to speak with Becky Witte (City Clerk) or Jason Yarborough (City Administrator) or Call City Hall (386) 228-2358
- ❖ Contact your Mayor or Zone Commissioner
- ❖ Speak to one of the former Charter Review Committee Members (Jim Connell, Steve Gutshall, Ann Robbins, Rick Basso or James Goodman)

Opportunities to Vote on the Ballot Question:

SHOULD A REVISED CITY CHARTER BE ADOPTED?

- Yes, in favor of revised City Charter
- No, opposed to revised City Charter

Early Voting: August 20 thru August 27 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM
at Department of Elections, 125 W. New York Ave, DeLand
or Deltona Regional Library, 2150 Eustace Ave, Deltona

Election Day: Tuesday, August 30th from 7:00AM - 7:00PM
at Hopkins Hall (192 W. Connecticut Ave, Lake Helen)

Please Visit the Educational Booth on Election Day across from Hopkins Hall.

| Important Lake Helen Phone Numbers | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Lake Helen Police Department & Fire Protection -- All Emergencies: 911 | |
| City Hall: (386) 228-2121 | Police Department: (386) 228-2145 |
| Library: (386) 228-1152 | Post Office: (386) 228-2227 |
| Lake Helen Events Committee: Kelly Frasca at 305-793-3303 / frasca.cityoflakehelen@gmail.com | |
| West Volusia Saddle Club: www.westvolusiasaddleclub.com | |

| <h1>AUGUST 2016</h1> | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
| 1 | 2 | 3 City Commission Special Meeting (Comp Plan) at 9:00AM | 4 | 5 Florida Licensing on Wheels at City Hall | 6 Market in the Park Speed Show at Equestrian Center | 7 |
| 8 City Charter Educational Workshop 6pm at the Villas | 9 City Charter Educational Workshop 7pm at Hopkins Hall | 10 | 11 | 12 Movie in Blake Park: Zootopia at 8:45pm | 13 Market in the Park | 14 |
| 15 First Day of School | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Early Voting begins Market in the Park | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Market in the Park | 28 |
| Early Voting: August 20 thru August 27 from 8:00AM to 5:00PM | | | | | | |
| 29 | 30 VOTE! 7AM-7 PM Hopkins Hall | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 Market in the Park Speed Show at Equestrian Center | 4 |
| 5 Labor Day | 6 | 7 First Budget Hearing at 7:00pm | 8 City Commission Regular Meeting at 7:00pm | 9 | 10 Market in the Park | 11 |



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