

Week Ending: January 18, 2019

Witte Thoughts for the Commission

The agenda packets for the City Commission Workshop on the 22nd are available in your mailbox at City Hall or online at www.lakehelen.com. We have a full agenda for discussion of Financial Management Services, the 2019 Election Ballot, Recycling at Parks (from Todd Preston), Lake Helen Lake Grant Opportunities and starting FY 2019/2020 Budget Preparation.

"You should never stay at the same level. Always push yourself to the next."

~Marnelli Dimzon~

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings

Tuesday, January 22nd at 7pm
City Commission Workshop

Thursday, February 14th at 7pm
City Commission Regular Meeting

Events

Saturday, February 2nd
11am until 1pm
Public Works Ribbon Cutting
at 551 Lemon Avenue

Saturday, February 2nd at Noon
Market in the Park
Doggie Plop Bingo 50/50

Cross Walk at Main and Euclid

Thanks to Mayor Raisler and Lewis Long the County has agreed to install a crosswalk at Main Street and Euclid Avenue. They will be upgrading the sidewalk (to comply with ADA requirements, adding signage and will install the crosswalk at the intersection. Work should commence sometime in February.

Public Works Vacancy

On Friday the 11th, staff published the vacancy announcement for the Public Works position. We hope to return to the City Commission in February with a candidate.

Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO III)

Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO) III

Dates: March 1-2, 2019 at Holiday Inn Tampa, FL

If you would like additional information, please let me know.

4- Hour Ethics Course

Annually Elected Officials are required to have 4 hours of Ethics

Training. At this time there are no local classes being offered, but

the Florida Institute of Government offers a 2019 Online Ethics

Course for \$79.00. Please let me know if you would like further

information: <https://iog.fsu.edu/online-ethics>.

I anticipate opportunities for the class will be presented during 2019.

Financial Management & James Moore

January 22nd Zach from James Moore will attend our workshop to discuss the options of Financial Management through a firm (in lieu of a full time employee on site).

Volusia League of Cities Meeting

With new leadership at the Volusia League of Cities, the City of Holly

Hill was selected for the March 2019 dinner (Lake Helen was

supposed to host). We will be hosting sometime in 2020.

FWC on Lake Helen Lake: Early this week CJ from FWC was on Lake Helen Lake with Joe Hammett discussing the removal of the Hydrilla in February. They plan to use a herbicide -Procellacor More information can be found at <http://procellacor.sepro.com/about-aquatic-weeds/hydrilla/>



Macy Park Boat Ramp Graffiti Clean Up

Thanks to Rick Mullen and David Hughes for cleaning up the Graffiti at Macy Park Boat Ramp. David spent 2 ½ days cleaning the Boat Ramp and adding a clear coat. It looks wonderful!

Mayor Raisler informed us of the heavy graffiti on the boat ramp in late fall.

Keep us informed of issues throughout the city – we appreciate it and we see great results!

Water Meters at Lake Helen Villa

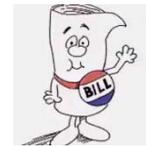
The team at Lake Helen Villa has picked up (and paid for) their first set of meters to install at homes throughout the Lake Helen Villa. The case has 24 meters. A submeter agreement (to allow us to read and bill the residents) will be coming to the commission when all meters have been installed.

Ivy Hawn has requested a similar submeter agreement which I will be sharing with you in February or March. The apartments, daycare, home and school share a master meter. Submetering will allow the city to assisting with billing without losing the benefits of the master meter.

Lake Helen Lake Bill Appropriations Request

I spoke with Eric Raimundo at Representative Santiago's Office. He was submitting the Appropriations Request Mayor Raisler submitted in December for Lake Helen Lake. He said the process will be:

1. Submit Appropriations Request (his office)
2. Staff (in Tallahassee) will review the appropriations request
3. The Bill Drafting Commission will draft as an Appropriations Request
4. A Bill Number will be issued, and we can track online!



Sales Tax Referendums

Senate Bill 336 was introduced this week by Senator Brandes of Pinellas County. The bill would negate local government's ability to amend local discretionary sales surtaxes during a special election. The link to the bill is found at: <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2019/00336>

Interim County Manager George Recktenwald has discussed this issue with their lobbying team and will monitor the bill very closely as the beginning of the legislative session begins on March 5.

NewsService of Florida Post:

RESTRICTION ON TAX REFERENDUMS RE-EMERGES January 15, 2019 NSF Staff A Senate Republican will make another attempt to require local governments to hold sales-tax referendums during general elections.

Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, filed a measure (SB 336) on Tuesday that would block local governments from holding such referendums during special elections. Brandes' bill is filed for consideration during the 2019 legislative session, which starts March 5. The House passed a similar proposal during the 2018 session, but the measure died in the Senate. Supporters of the proposed restriction contend tax referendums should not be held during what are often sparsely attended special elections. But critics have argued, in part, that sales-tax issues can get lost on lengthy general-election ballots.