



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

MARCH 2014



CLINTON
South Carolina

MARCH 3, 2015

MASC Award Application: The city applied to the Municipal Association of South Carolina for a Municipal Achievement Award for the Clinton High School Firefighter Education Program. The City Manager, Director of Public Safety, and personnel from the Department of Public Safety as well as a student in the program all went to Columbia this week to present the program to a panel of judges. The awards will be announced over the summer.

PARD Grant: The city received a grant from the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism as part of the PARD (Parks and Recreation Development) program. The grant will fund improvements at Lydia Bailey Children's Park's playground, improvements to the playground at Josh and Ella Savage Park, and the repair of the basketball court at Josh & Ella Savage Park.

MUNIS Utility Billing: The MUNIS implementation team spent this week continuing to work on transitioning our utility billing operations from the old computer system to the new system. A discussion regarding what the new bill will look like was had, and it was determined that a focus group of citizens should have the opportunity to comment on the new bill design before it is put into use. Interested citizens should contact Amanda Addison, 864-833-7505.

TANTULUS Meter Implementation: City personnel met with their counterparts at the City of Newberry to discuss how the two cities could work together to assist Clinton in the implementation of the TANTULUS meter system. The City of Newberry has personnel trained in the splicing of fiber optic cable, which is a skill the City of Clinton will need during the implementation process.

Frontage Road / West Corporate Center Drive: Remobilization continues to prepare to complete the frontage road construction project and the intersection widening at the intersection of West Corporate Center Drive and SC Highway 56. Work is scheduled to restart on March 16.

Radio System: The radio system used by the Department of Public Works is decades old, and no longer works well enough to be reliable. The need for better communications was apparent during the November snow storm, so the City of Clinton solicited proposals from various radio companies for a new radio system for the Department of Public Works. The system could be tested by the Electric Distribution Division before committing to the new system for the entire department. After reviewing several bids, a Motorola system was selected and has been ordered. The new system should be in place in late May.

There's an App for us: The senior staff continue to test an application for mobile phones that will allow citizens to log and track work requests. We hope to have the app ready for public use in April.

Thornwell Water Tank Valve Installation: Department of Public Works crews and private contractors began to prepare the Thornwell Street Water Tank for a control valve replacement planned for next week. The tank will be temporarily off line while the work is completed. Customers should not notice a difference in their water service while the work is underway.

MARCH 13, 2015

Budget: After a long week of fine tuning the budget, the document draft will be distributed Monday to members of City Council. A draft will also be placed on the city website. The budget is balanced and includes no electric utility rate increase for the first year in many years.

Fiber System Expansion: The City of Clinton met with Presbyterian College this week to discuss expanding the city's fiber network. The network allows for interested parties willing to invest in fiber equipment to utilize an optical fiber network for data, internet, and telephone.

Economic Development Strategic Plan: Final drafts of the proposed economic development strategic plan are in hand, and the plan will be presented to the Clinton Economic Development Corporation on March 31st and to City Council in May.

Pole Attachment Fees: The City notified other utilities utilizing City of Clinton poles that it intends to renegotiate the pole attachment fee structure. Previous attempts at renegotiating the structure were unsuccessful, so the city has retained legal counsel to assist.

Business License Bill: The City Manager attended a Municipal Association of South Carolina meeting regarding proposed legislative changes to the business license program. If the proposed

bill passes, the city would lose over \$750,000 annually, resulting in significant operational reductions.

Spotlight on Agriculture: The annual Clemson Extension Laurens County Spotlight on Agriculture dinner was held this week. Congratulations to Clinton High School educator Annette Vaughn who received the horticulturalist of the year award for her work at Clinton High School.

Annual Statewide Tornado Drill: The City participated in the annual statewide tornado drill this week. All departments practiced their tornado response plans and reviewed emergency protocols for post tornado operations.

Project SWITCH: The second Project SWITCH (Stop Working in the City Hall) day was held this week. The city manager spent several hours riding along with PSO Shane Harris to observe public safety