

**FRIDAY LETTER**  
**August 13, 2010**

**Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:**

Good Friday to the City of Oviedo, its fine staff and dedicated City Council. We had a very long but very productive meeting and review with two rating agencies on Wednesday. Those rating agencies were Standard & Poor's and Moody's rating agencies. Both are rating the City's proposed \$36,000,000 Bond Issue in connection with the Alafaya Utility acquisition and capital upgrades. In this economic time, all rating agencies have become very meticulous and careful in their analysis and ratings for potential bond holders. A strong double AA credit rating will translate into a lower bond interest rate and hence will be less burdensome on our residents. Accordingly, we went to the maximum effort to prove the City's credit worthiness. On Tuesday, there were 80 written questions from the Rating agencies and the day of the evaluation, there were 30 more written questions. Our team answered them all as quickly as we received them. A Thank You to Dianne Holloway for coordinating our responses to the written questions.

The written questions were the prelude to the Ratings presentations and oral questions from the Ratings agencies through the entire Wednesday afternoon. Our Acquisition team was present in force for the Rating presentation and oral questions. Attending were the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Director of Finance, Public Works Director, Utility Manager, PFM, PRMG, CPH and Brian Armstrong. We had prepared a 40 slide power point presentation in advance and divided up the presentation between our team leaders.

The City Manager provided the introductions, the City credit strengths, City demographics, the benefits of acquisition and reorganization. The Public Works Director provided an overview of the existing City of Oviedo water, waste water and reclaim system. He followed with an overview of the existing Alafaya system. PRMG gave a very detailed Financial Review of the Acquisition's fiscal benefits and impacts. The Finance Director gave a detailed presentation on the City's Plan of Debt Financing and Bond Schedule. The City Manager concluded the presentation with a reiteration and summary of the City's credit strengths. Throughout the presentation, representatives of Moody's and Standard & Poor's had several questions and some questions they held until the end of the presentation. The Ratings presentations must have gone very well as representatives from South West Underwriters, P.F.M., & Nabors Giblin & Nickerson all commented that it was a very strong Rating presentation and the strongest presentation they had seen in well over a year.

Some of my activities this week included:

- Meeting with Karl Hodges
- Meeting regarding Alafaya Utilities
- Rating Agency calls for Alafaya Utilities
- Meeting regarding Masci with CPH
- Staff Meeting

**Please see the informational items for the week as reported by City Departments:**

**POLICE:**

Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, two new officers were sworn in by Chief Chudnow. Officer John Cox and Officer William Powell become the newest members of the Oviedo Police Department.

At the request of the Commission on Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Chief Chudnow conducted an on-site review of the University of South Florida Police Department to verify current compliance of standards that were deemed out of compliance during the regular on-site several months ago.

Chief Chudnow assisted in facilitating Orientation Day 2 of the Leadership Seminole Class 20 at Canterbury Retreat & Conference Center.

Oviedo police personnel, including an Oviedo detective who is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children task force (ICAC), assisted the Office of the Attorney General with the Central Florida arrest of an adult male for soliciting sexual activity with juveniles.

Officer Van Heusen scheduled and conducted the countywide School Resource Officer meeting hosted at Jackson Heights Middle School. All agencies in Seminole were represented. A variety of school issues were discussed. The guest speaker was Laura Bosco from the Office of the State Attorney. SCPS Coordinator of School Security Bob DeVecchio also attended the meeting.

Community On Patrol volunteers Lori Heinis and Danny Ashman responded from home and assisted patrol officers and detectives during the recent homicide. They secured the outer perimeter and provided traffic control for the section of Twin Rivers Boulevard closed down during the investigation, allowing police officers to return to enforcement duties.

Crime Prevention Officer Grace Robertson was notified of the outcome of a recent court trial involving a burglary investigation she conducted while assigned to Patrol in August of 2008. In that case, an unknown person broke into a residence on Camanche Street and removed over \$14,000 worth of property. During her investigation, Officer Robertson located and took samples of blood from the crime scene. A DNA match later was obtained, resulting in an identification of a felon with a Career Criminal status. Officer Robertson and the Police Evidence Specialist were among those who testified at the trial. The career criminal, Michael Jones, was found guilty and now is facing a sentence of 15-30 years. Officer Robertson's meticulous investigation was instrumental in the conviction.

### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

The City of Oviedo Cross Connection division is going automated with a recent Florida Department of Environmental Protection ruling permitting records to be stored digitally. Prior to this approval, ten (10) years of records were required in hard copy. This made the retention requirement a filing cabinet nightmare. Over 25,000 hard copy records were amassed filling six cabinets in maintaining compliance. To cost effectively undertake the daunting task of digitalizing the old records, staff participated in the recent Workforce Central Job Fair program. During the fair, a candidate was selected to assist City staff in digitally scanning these documents to eliminate the need for hard copy storage. The Workforce program has no cost to the City and provides a unique opportunity for the individual to learn and practice new job skills. The workforce participant will serve for a period of twelve weeks.



1,464,000.00 in automated radio read meters were received this week. Siemens has been contracted to convert the remaining 7,500 manual read water meters to automatic read. The new meters will improve customer service by providing hourly water use and leak detection data to aid in water conservation stewardship. Siemens analysis of the automated meter reading revealed the automated radio read meters will pay for themselves within 10 years by providing more efficient billing services. Specifically, the Utility will save man-hours and equipment currently required for reading meters. This rehabilitation project is anticipated to be completed by Siemens in four months following the start of installation.



## **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

The HR staff worked diligently this week to process and follow up on employee benefit selections for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The department has received and reviewed 199 enrollments to date. Employees must have their final selections to HR by August 20<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday, Connie Collins attended the PRM Human Resources Roundtable meeting attended by other area Human Resources Professionals and attorney Mike Pierro from Allen, Norton and Blue, P.A. Topics of discussion included the Family Medical Leave Act changes, on-line safety and supervisory training, performance evaluations, trends in workers compensation, social networking and HR applicant tracking systems. Connie also attended the City's Safety Committee meeting on Thursday where the FY 2010-11 Safety Audit Schedule, member assignments and Safety Policy Manual revisions were discussed.

Also on Wednesday, Barbara Faulk, along with Darlene Jordan and Mike McManus, attended the Workforce of Central Florida Re-Employment Connection event. Two participants from WCF were selected for assignments at the City: Monica Suarez-Picquet for the HR Assistant position and Yolandita Malpica for the Scanning Technician position in the Cross-Connection section of Public Works. To date, the City has benefited by receiving 1200 hours in free staffing from Workforce of Central Florida.

This week, Crystal Hanson represented the HR Department by attending the Emergency Management Team meeting conducted by Chief White and Barbara Taylor.

## **RECREATION AND PARKS:**



The gymnasium is currently accepting registrations for Kids Rock. This after-school program gives children the chance to improve techniques and push themselves by engaging in several cooperative climbing games and activities.

The Youth Basketball and Volleyball championship games came to an end this week. Players were able to participate in a fun, exciting tournament environment. All games consisted of introductions, music, live game announcements and crowd interaction during timeouts and halftime.

This week, at Riverside Park, 138 campers participated in activities at both Middle School Camp and Club Riverside. Field trips for this week included Pointe Orlando, the Museum of Science, and Wet-n-Wild. Today will consist of a day filled with parties and farewells as this week concludes the summer season.



Registration is now open for the Fall 2010 Adult Softball season with leagues still available on Wednesday (ASA men's), Thursday (USSSA men's) and Friday (ASA coed) nights.

Open registration for the Fall 2010 Adult Flag Football season is also underway. Games will take place on Sunday mornings at Long Lake Park.

Fall Youth Flag Football registration is open. Oviedo NFL Flag is the premier youth football league for boys and girls ages 5-14 (age as of October 2, 2010). This recreational program provides young players a fun and exciting opportunity to engage in non-contact, continuous action, while learning lessons in teamwork. Four age groups are offered: 5/6, 7/8, 9-11 and 12-14. Games will take place on Saturday mornings, beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Don't miss this rewarding opportunity!





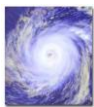
Family Archery class will begin registration on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. This six-week program will take place on Saturdays, beginning September 11<sup>th</sup> through October 16<sup>th</sup>. Participants, ages 8 and above, (adults too) can enjoy learning Olympic-style archery in a program that develops life skills, such as sportsmanship, self-confidence and friendship. The Beginner's Level course will be offered from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Oviedo Sports Complex. For Archers who have already completed the Beginner's Level, or those with previous archery experience, an Advanced Level course will be offered on the same dates from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Parks staff has been busy with the final preparations for the re-opening of Friendship Park. At Shane Kelly Park, work continues on field renovations. Routine maintenance, regular work requests and daily activities continue.

Facility Operations Maintenance staff received the approval for the installation of an upgraded air conditioning system for the IT server room. Routine maintenance, regular work requests and daily activities continue.



### **FIRE/RESCUE SERVICES:**



Chief White and Barbara Taylor provided an Emergency Management Plan and FEMA Documentation training session to Department Directors and their key staff. In addition, the 2010 hurricane forecast was provided for the remainder of the season. The training session also highlighted recent Emergency Management initiatives, including the selection of Debris Monitoring Services, Debris Removal Contractors, proper FEMA Documentation, and other related topics.



The University of Central Florida has re-defined their Emergency Management Plan for Storm Threats for home football games which incorporate 3 distinct levels of evacuation. They include:

- Level 1: Partial evacuation of the stadium.
- Level 2: Full evacuation of the stadium (non-emergency).
- Level 3: Full evacuation of the stadium (emergency situation).

The evacuation plans will utilize event staff to provide direction to the attendees with PA system announcements and game board information and directions. In addition, the following Severe Weather Policy will be utilized:

- Yellow Activation Level: A storm is approaching with potential lightning. Patrons will be permitted to exit the stadium and re-enter (not normally permitted) after the threat has passed.
- Red Activation Level: A storm is imminent and lightning has been detected. The game, if in progress, will be suspended and evacuation of the stadium will begin. Patrons may seek refuge under the stadium seating as well as other campus locations and private vehicles in parking areas and parking garages. Game will resume after a 10 minute warm up period for both teams and the storm is no longer deemed a threat.

Lightning warning equipment has been installed throughout the UCF campus!



Chief White attended the City Manager staff meeting, Central Florida Fire Academy Board of Directors meeting, Oviedo Historical Society Steering/Event Committee meeting, and provided an Emergency Management training session to Department Directors & staff in partnership with Finance-Purchasing Coordinator Barbara Taylor.



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced the following recalls:

- LG Electronics Tianjin Appliance Co. announces the recall of the Goldstar Dehumidifier because the compressor may fail and result in a fire. Sold at Home Depot and Wal-Mart stores nationwide. Manufactured in China. Call 877-220-0479 for recall information.
- P. Graham Dunn announces the recall of the Wooden Toy Rattle which allows the metal rattle component to become exposed and present a choking hazard. Sold to on line retailers in the U.S. Manufactured in China. Contact the vendor at 800-828-5260 for recall information.

**Please note the following meetings and work sessions.**

<b>Upcoming Meetings</b>		
<b>Monday, August 16, 2010</b>	<b>Executive Session</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, August 16, 2010</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, September 9, 2010</b>	<b>CRA Board Meeting</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, September 9, 2010</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Gestrich".

Richard Gestrich  
City Manager