

## FRIDAY LETTER

August 27, 2010

### Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Greetings and a very good Friday to the dedicated staff and Council of the Top 100 City of Oviedo. Well, as of 6:26 p.m.yesterday, it is finally official. The very progressively minded residents of Oviedo approved the City's Charter Amendment by nearly a two to one margin. With all 12 Precincts reporting, the Oviedo Charter Amendment received 3256 Yes Votes and 1840 No Votes. Truly a resounding victory for the City Residents, the City Council, staff, and our Acquisition Team. I spoke to Mr. Bentkofsky and the acquisition of Alafaya Utilities and the associated plant improvements will be the largest capital expenditure project ever undertaken in the history of the City. Couple that with the undeniable fact that we are in one of the worst recessions ever experienced by the City and it is a truly remarkable vote of trust and confidence that the City received. It's time to do some more work and close on this purchase.

On another note, I brought to end and conclusion, yesterday, the long standing litigation with Masci Corporation. Masci Corporation representatives signed and delivered the final Settlement Agreement yesterday. Masci representatives are holding in escrow a Joint Stipulation and Motion for Dismissal with Prejudice. They should release the Joint Stipulation today and a saga that began in 2005 will come to a close.

Finally, I received an interesting proposal from CMF Public Media to produce an audio documentary. The audio documentary would follow our emergency management operations up to-through- and- after a weather emergency, such as a hurricane. The request came through Chief White's office. He and I have not had an opportunity to discuss the proposal, because he has been out due to an illness.

Some of my activities this week included:

- DRC Meeting
- Meeting regarding Medici's
- Conference Call with Tew Cardenas
- Meeting regarding Red Light Cameras
- Meeting regarding Mitchell Hammock/Lake Jesup
- Staff Meeting
- Meeting with Sandy Bierly regarding Hammock Reserve

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

### **RECREATION AND PARKS:**

Siemens and the City have begun installing recommended components from the energy audit. Installation of an ionization unit is currently being installed in both the Riverside pool and Aquatic Facility pools. Anticipated completion of this part of the audit is August 27<sup>th</sup>. The Solar Film Project at Riverside Park started this past week. Completion of this project is slated for the last week of August.

Fall Youth Flag Football registration is now 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, 8-11 and 12-14. Games will take place on Saturday mornings, beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are always looking for energetic volunteer coaches to lead our teams. Don't miss this rewarding opportunity!





Fall Youth Cheerleading is now registering at Riverside Park. This recreational program provides participants the opportunity to learn the basics of cheering and root on our youth flag football teams during their games on Saturday mornings. The program is open to those between the ages of 6 and 14. Participants will receive a full cheerleading uniform and pom-poms.



Family Archery class is now registering for the fall session. This 6-week program will take place on Saturdays, 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. Don't miss this great family-friendly opportunity.



Oviedo Adult Softball has begun its Fall 2010 season at the Oviedo Sports Complex. Good luck to the 51 teams competing on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights! Games begin at 6:45 p.m. each night at the softball fields.

At Shane Kelly Park, work continues with the field renovations. Final grading has been completed on Field #1 and sprigging will begin on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, the sports lighting at Shane Kelly is being repaired due to a lightning strike.

Renovations to the restrooms at Boston Hill Park are now underway. The installation of floor and wall tile is now complete. The project continues with the planned installation of new partitions.



An end of summer clean up is taking place. At the Gymnasium and Aquatic Facility, sidewalks have been pressure cleaned and touch-up painting to interior walls has been completed.

The landscaping has been removed and the concrete pad poured for the new Liebert A/C unit for the IT server room. The Liebert A/C unit is anticipated to ship on September 7<sup>th</sup>, and pre-installation work from the electrical contractor and mechanical contractor is scheduled for September 1<sup>st</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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



Chief White was presented with a \$500 donation from the Rotary Club of Oviedo to be applied to the Free Smoke Detector Program. The account was depleted this past year and the usual insurance companies and retailers were unable to support the program this year. The Rotary Club of Oviedo discovered the budget situation and graciously elected to step up and provide the \$500 donation. Chief White was presented with the check during this week's breakfast meeting.



August 29<sup>th</sup> marked the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina which devastated Louisiana and Mississippi, including Pass Christian, a community in the Mississippi coastal region. This is a city that local governments, including Oviedo, elected to embrace and provide post disaster relief efforts beyond the normal FEMA disaster response efforts. Oviedo and others were in this community for several weeks/months and provided critical government services. Oviedo assisted with the creating of a Building Department capable of issuing permits, etc., as well as assisting on the severely damaged utility infrastructure, including water main repairs. Upon arrival, our crews found a water main system with less than 20 psi and upon leaving the community had initiated sufficient repairs to raise it to 60 psi, a true and meaningful effort.

We are closely monitoring several tropical developments in the Atlantic region which will likely continue for the next several weeks as we continue into the "peak" tropical season.



A local Public Media Foundation (CMF Public Media: [www.cmfmedia.org](http://www.cmfmedia.org) ) is seeking permission to complete a documentary on the City of Oviedo Emergency Disaster Response Program. The audio style documentary would highlight preparation, response and recovery efforts in accordance with the Comprehensive Disaster Response Plan and be utilized as a tool to show citizens how a local government prepares for and responds to disaster situations. The proposal will be under review among City staff and the City Manager. The opportunity does have the ability to further demonstrate our disaster readiness and perhaps some of those reasons the City remains a top 100 community.



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

- Williams-Sonoma recalls baby bottle warmers due to burn hazard. Sold as brand name Beaba Express Steam Bottle Warmers nationwide. Manufactured in China. For recall information, call 877-548-0850 or visit [www.williams-sonoma.com](http://www.williams-sonoma.com)
- Baby Hammocks recalled by Mamalittlehelper due to suffocation hazard. Model 1010, 1020, BL222. Sold on line exclusively. Manufactured in Malaysia. Contact 866-612-9986 or visit [www.mamalittlehelper.com](http://www.mamalittlehelper.com) for recall information.
- Char-Broil recalls Vertical Gas Smokers due to injury hazard. Model number 07701413. Sold at Wal-Mart and other retailers from 2008-2010. Contact 866-671-7988 or visit [www.charbroil.com](http://www.charbroil.com) for recall information.
- Milestone AV technologies announces the recall of the Flat Screen TV Wall Mount model LF-228-B1 and SLF2 which has an improper fitting bracket that may result in a fall hazard. Sold at retailers, including Costco. Contact 877-894-6280 or [www.milestone.com/recall](http://www.milestone.com/recall) for information.
- Lakeshore Learning Materials recalls the Magnetic Maze Board due to choking hazard. Sold via Lakeshore Learning Materials nationwide and on line from [www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com). Manufactured in China. Recall information available by calling 800-428-4414 or [www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com)

### **POLICE:**

Chief Chudnow met with Mr. Gestrich, Lonnie Groot, Bryan Cobb, and Shawn O'Rourke to discuss the City's options regarding installation of red light cameras pertaining to the new Florida State Statute regulating their operation.

Commanders Coleman, Jacobs and the Chief met with Dru Boulware regarding special event planning. Additionally, the entire Command Staff met with Darlene Jordon to discuss the status of Police IT projects.

Chief Chudnow and Lt. Beavers met with Sanford Police Chief Brian Tooley to present the findings of an internal investigation Oviedo Police conducted for Sanford Police at the request of Chief Tooley.

Chief Chudnow also met with Oviedo High School Principal Bobby Lundquist to discuss the upcoming school year including topics such as truancy, traffic, and safety issues.

The Chief attended the graduation of a prospective new officer from the Law Enforcement Academy at Valencia Community College. He also interviewed an applicant for one of the vacant police officer positions.

Chief participated in the fundraiser for the Oviedo Citizens In Action at Pollo Tropical.

Chief participated in a conference with all members of the Florida Police Chief's Association regarding association award procedures and participation.



From left to right: City of Oviedo's Tom Radzai, Mayor Persampiere, OMPMA President Jim Pridemore, Subway's Tom Reilly and OPD LT. Dennis

The president of the Oviedo Marketplace Merchants' Association sent out a media release about new signage on State Road 417 that alerts drivers on the Greenway of the exit to the Oviedo Marketplace Mall. The new signage is the result of a cooperative effort by Mayor Dominic Persampiere, the Merchants' Association Board and the Oviedo Engineering Manager. The media release included a picture of Oviedo Mayor Dominic Persampiere along with Engineering Manager Tom Radzai, Merchants' Assn. President Jim Pridemore, Board Member Tom Reilly, and the Police Community Relations Lieutenant (also a board member) who is in charge of the C.O.P.S. & Volunteer Center at Oviedo Marketplace.

Oviedo Police, with the Multi-Agency Gang Task Force, have developed information on local and regional vehicle burglaries, as well as the use of a stolen credit card from one burglary. Stolen property was recovered and returned to the owners.

Oviedo Police Communications Center Dispatchers have gotten into the Football Spirit to help raise money for Sanford Police Officer Lonnie Taylor, who is fighting a serious illness. After losing his leg to cancer, Lonnie has much physical therapy ahead. For a \$3 donation, you can have the logo of your favorite professional, college or high school football team turned into a hanging mobile. Our very talented Dispatcher Jennifer Sullivan makes the colorful hanging mobiles, customized with a fan's name, for every team sponsored. Many are displayed in dispatch and so far almost \$100 has been raised. Whether you pick up your team mobile right away or have it displayed throughout the fundraiser before you take it home, your donation will go to help Officer Lonnie Taylor along his road to recovery. Dispatchers also participated in a fund raiser at Cici's Pizza in Orange City which raised an additional \$112 dollars for Officer Taylor. When you get a chance, come by the Police Communications Center and check out the football field, goal posts and all the decorations. You almost can feel fall in the air!

### **PUBLIC WORKS:**



A RecycleBank program announcement letter will be mailed out with the September 2010 water bills to all City garbage customers. To increase recycling, the innovative RecycleBank program encourages residents to recycle more through a unique rewards program. The announcement letter from the Mayor introduces the rewards program that will begin on October 4, 2010.

Each residence will receive specific instructions (post card) the last week of September from RecycleBank on how to register for recycle points. It's easy, as recycling makes cents! All the resident needs to do is register with RecycleBank and notify them of their recycling activities to gain rewards. The back of the letter includes a reminder of the many recyclable items Republic Services, the City's franchise waste and recycler collector, will pick-up curbside. Additional RecycleBank program information is available on the front page of the City's web site.

Clark Street: OPC finished paving Clark Street yesterday from Aulin Avenue to Executive Drive. This project is now complete.

Clonts Street: OPC has installed two speed humps on Clonts Street for speed control/traffic calming. The speed humps are located between Forest Trail and S.R. 434. Striping of the speed humps was also completed.

North Lockwood Blvd. Trail/Sidewalk Project: The substantial completion walk through occurred yesterday. In attendance was City Staff, FDOT, and Wilbur Smith (City's CEI). The sidewalk was walked and minor items need to be completed by the contractor, MJS. City Staff will need to sod some minor areas so erosion does not occur. Overall, the walk through went well.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:**

Barbara Faulk made a conditional offer to Himanshu (Herman) Patel for the GIS Coordinator contract position. With the acquisition of Utilities, Inc., conditional offers were also made to Lead Operator Don Hasty, Plant Operators James Alday and Jerome Hampton and Lift Station Mechanic Scott Learned.

Connie Collins advised Department Directors on two employee discipline issues and three medical issues concerning workers compensation claims. Numerous communications were made between insurance providers concerning active Workers Compensation and Family Medical Leave claims.

The staff spent time revising the Employee Benefit Brochure which summarizes all of the current employment benefits and updating the information for FY 2010-11.

The staff met with the World Risk Management broker Andy Cooper on August 26 to review the liability policies for the current year.

Crystal Hanson worked with the HR staff to review, audit and finalize employee benefit selections for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The changes have been forwarded to the insurance providers and to payroll for input.

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

<b>Upcoming Meetings</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 &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Budget Public Hearing</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, September 20, 2010</b>	<b>Regular Meeting &amp; Final Budget Public Hearing</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, October 4, 2010</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>

Sincerely,



Richard Gestrich  
City Manager