

December 2011 – Polk City Newsletter



- Polk City Utilities **emergency number** is **1 866 815 0074**. Please use this number **only for emergencies**.
- If you have any questions regarding utilities **Monday through Thursday during Business Hours**, please feel free to call Polk City Utilities - **863 874 4808**.

City Council Meetings are the second Monday Night each Month at 7:00 PM

Christmas and New Year's CLOSURES

- **Christmas** **City Hall** **Library**
- **New Year** **City Hall** **Library**
- **Martin Luther Kind Day CLODED**



Polk City Christmas Parade – What a beautiful and fun parade again this year! Fantastic Floats! Thank you to all the participants. After the parade the children were thrilled with Polk City's visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus and each of them left with a gift.

We will be collecting non-perishable food at the library for our local food banks.

Congratulations to the Grand Marshall and Citizen of the Year Award.

- Grand Marshall – XXXXX is the owner of our local Hungry Howies Pizza. Mr. XXXXX has been a supporter of all of Polk City's special events as far back as we can remember. Thank you for all you have done for the citizens of Polk City.
- Citizen of the Year – XXXXX is the owner of Pierce Construction. Mr. XXXXX has also been a supporter of all of Polk City's special events as far back as we can remember by supplying and setting up the event lights in the park for our city events. Thank you for all you have done for the citizens of Polk City.
- Float Awards went to the following organizations:
 - 2011 Spirit of Christmas Float New Life Community Church
 - #1 Float
 - #2 Float

A Big Thank You - to our local Polk City businesses who participated in our first "Shop Polk City" newsletter. We look forward to even more participation next year. There are still a few days before Christmas to shop "Polk City".

Polk City Planning and Zoning Board

The Polk City Council would like to sincerely thank the Polk City Planning and Zoning Board for their hard work keeping the city moving forward. The board spent hours reviewing countless documents prior to the meetings and the result is a plan that Polk City can be proud of. Chair – Charles Wilson, Mr. Mackinzie, XXXXX We look forward to working together for continued success in 2012.

Our Beautiful Plants – Thanks, again this month, go out to Carol and John Levengood for donating the beautiful arbutus, Liriope grasses, irises and rose bushes planted at the front of the City Government Center.

Vote – It is time to register to vote in the upcoming 2012 elections. If you are not registered to vote, there are several ways to do so.

1. Visit Polk City Government Center or the Polk City Library to get a voter registration form.
2. Go online to the Polk County Supervisor of Elections (<http://www.polkelections.com/content.asp?c=1>) and download an application.
 - You will need one of the following forms of identification
 - Florida Drivers License #
 - Florida ID #
 - Last 4 numbers of your Social Security #
3. Call (863)534-5888 – Polk County Board of Elections - if you have any questions about voter registration.

Subway(Polk City) Wins National Award for Cleanliness – Our own Subway shop won a national award for cleanliness in November. Congratulations to owner XXX for a job well done. We love our sandwiches!

Green Swamp Stompers – Attention all Cloggers! There are openings for Beginning Cloggers starting January 10, 2012 at 5:45 PM in Polk City. This is great exercise, a wonderful way to have fun, learn to dance, and meet new friends. Ages 5 and up are welcome. Contact Maureen at 863 984 1696.



American Legion –Great News to Report

The Veterans in Polk City responded to our call for help and we reached the number of Veterans needed to apply for Polk City’s own American Legion Post. We will keep you posted on the progress. Thank you for your interest and quick response. If you have any questions, please contact John Forsburg at 863 984 4696 or BJ132@netzero.com for more information.

2011 Polk City Year in Review (just a few of the highlights of a busy and successful 2011)

A lot has happened in Polk City over the last year. This is a good time to take a look back at 2010.

January 2011 –

- Polk City presented with a plaque in recognition of their efforts to revitalize Polk City by Sunshine Pharmacy
- Activity Center Fees decreased to \$100 plus tax for Polk City citizens.

February 2011

- Overview of the GAI report on Polk City Utilities “as is” reviewed with City Council
- Resolution 2011-01 Work began to prepare documents for Municipal Bonds for Polk City
- Blue Recycling Bins are distributed to Polk City citizens

March 2011

- Ordinance 1273 – Mobile Homes
 - Allow for mobile homes in the R-4 (mixed residential use) zoning district repealing all other ordinances – passed
- Review and update of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR). A required planning report for all cities.
- Collection of Readiness to Serve charge was placed on the Property Tax Bill starting in 2011.

April 2011

- Water and Wastewater Optimization Plan/Financial Optimization/Revenue Sufficiency presented to City Council by GAI
- Council agreed to purchase Cardinal Hill Property

May 2011

- 2010 City Audit Review – Auditor notes were half of what they were in 2009 and they continue to improve this year.
- Trudy Block received award for her work as Acting City Manager for the past year.

June 2011

- CDBG Grant awarded to Polk City for \$650,000 to replace water lines in the Railroad Heights area.

July 2011

- The yearly report for water quality was sent to all Polk City Utility customers. Polk City Utilities Drinking Water meets and/or exceeds ALL federal and state quality standards.

August 2011

- A Record Breaking Year for the Polk City Library Summer Program. 107 children signed up for the summer program

September 2011

- Polk City was issued municipal bonds enabling Polk City to pay the debt owed to Polk County, restructure other debt and begin execution of plans to optimize Polk City Utilities.
- Standard and Poor (bond rating agency) gave Polk City an A- bond rating. The A- rating, with the addition of bond insurance, which brought Polk City’s bond rating up to a AA rating, provided an advantage to Polk City in getting the lowest possible interest rate of 4.92% on the municipal bonds.

October 2011

- Polk City Budget completed for 2012
- Safe Haven Halloween was a huge success again this year with games and over 400 bags of candy distributed to the kids.
- Family Dollar Opens

November 2011

- Polk City had its first “Shop Polk City for Christmas” newsletter.
- Polk City Property Tax went down this year
- Dollar General Market begins construction

December 2011

- Christmas Parade

Thank you to all our citizens who faithfully attend the Polk City Council Meetings. This is a great way to be updated on the latest news and to talk with the Council Members.



Polk City Council and Staff wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

