

June 2012 – 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 call Polk City Utilities - **863 874 4808**.

City Manager Patricia Jackson patricia.jackson@mypolkcity.org Phone 863-984-1375 ext 237
Mayor Joe LaCascia joe.lacascia@mypolkcity.org Vice Mayor Michael Blethen michael.blethen@mypolkcity.org
Councilor Trudy Block trudy.block@mypolkcity.org Councilor Kelly Downing kelly.downing@mypolkcity.org
Councilor Don Kimsey don.kimsey@mypolkcity.org Phone for an appointment with any council member call 863 984 1375 ext 221

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

June City Council Meeting Monday, June 11, 2012 7:00 PM
July City Council Meeting Monday, July 9, 2012 7:00 PM



CLOSURES – July 4, 2012

Fourth of July – City Hall and Polk City Library

Summary of May 14, 2012 City Council Meeting

- Proclamation – Pledge of Civility for May – A reminder that we should be kind to one another and discuss the issues in a polite manner
- Utility Deposits – Water Utility deposits were changed to \$150 for inside and outside the city.
- Request to Approve Street Paving – Approval was given for the City Manager to prepare a Request for Proposals for street paving to submit to Council at the June meeting.
- Award Bid for the Water, Wastewater and Reuse Water System Improvements
- Consideration of change from City Council to City Commission – This would require a referendum and a vote in the next election. This decision was delayed with the suggestion that there should be a City Charter Review prior to the municipal next election.
- Polk City received the deeds from Polk County for the Mount Olive Systems-property
- Proposed Ordinance 2012-1291, Solid Waste Management was discussed. The ordinance will be updated and presented at the June City Council Meeting

Summary of May 21, 2012 Polk City 2011 Audit Review Meeting

- Polk City's 2011 Audit was the best Polk City has seen in several years. The City has come a long way in 2 years. Spending was under control and revenue exceeded expenses. Thanks to everyone in Polk City who pitched in to make this possible. The work continues to make living in Polk City even better than it already is. The 2011 Audit is on the website - www.mypolkcity.org

2012 Hurricane Season – 2012 Hurricane Info

The season officially began on June 1, 2012 and ends on November 30, 2012. Information for Hurricane Preparedness can be found on the Polk County website - <http://www.polk-county.net/> under "VISITORS". There you can find where the Emergency Shelters are located, hurricane preparation, and emergency phone numbers.

Illicit Discharge Identification and Reporting Session - June 19th FREE

The City of Polk City Public Works Department, in conjunction with Polk County's Natural Resource Division has scheduled a public session in Polk City on **Illicit Discharge Identification and Reporting** on **Tuesday, June 19th at 10:30 AM at Polk City Government Center**.

An illicit discharge is any harmful chemical or pollutant that could seep into our lakes and streams. Plan to attend this informative session on protecting our water resources.

Keeping Our Waterways and Land Clean

Help to keep Polk City's drains and land free of pollutants and debris.

- Please do not throw anything into our street easements (ditches) or onto soil (oil, chemicals, paint, etc.) that could filter into Polk City's water supply. Dispose of all pollutants properly. If you are unsure what is considered hazardous waste or where to drop off the hazardous waste, go to the following website - http://www.polk-county.net/subpage.aspx?menu_id=46&nav=res&id=312

Polk City Library – June/July Activities

- June Book Club – The Polk City Library Book Club is reading, Barbara Delinsky's **Family Tree**. The Book Club meets on June 19th at 6pm.
 - The book club is going on summer vacation for July and August and will resume in September.

- 174 kindergarten, first and second grade students from Polk City Elementary visited the Polk City Library. The children were treated to storytelling and made a craft.
 - Polk City Library received wonderful thank you cards from the children.
 - Some of the favorites included, " Thank you for letting us come", " I loved the story, "You are great did you know I like to read", "The library is great", " So So So So great", "That was the best story ever", " Reading is fun So are you We can laugh So, much fun".
- **Polk City Library** is looking forward to another fantastic **Summer Library Program** this year.
 - **Wednesday's at 11:00 AM beginning June 13th.**
 - **Gatorland** will be kicking off the Polk City Library summer program on June 13th. Last year every child had the opportunity to hold a live alligator.
 - **June 20 – Safe Bike Class** – Each Child will receive a **FREE Bike Helmet**
 - **June 27 – The Balloon Man** – Jonathan Fudge
 - **July 11 – The Wonder Makers** – Let's make a mystery program
 - **July 18 – Phosphate Museum** – Make your own Fossil Imprint
 - **July 25 - Craft Day, Come and make a Treasure Box.**
- **July 25 will also be the last day of Summer Reading so there will be awards, and refreshments.**
For info call 863-984-4340
All programs subject to change

Around Polk City

- More news from Freedom Park, the electrical infrastructure has been reworked. This update to the system was desperately needed as we prepare for Polk City events.
- The center gardens on Commonwealth have been cleaned and trimmed.

In the News

- **Polk City Council OKs Utility Improvements** *Monday, May, 14, 2012*
<http://www.theledger.com/article/20120514/POLITICS/120519666>
 The City Council in Polk City on Monday unanimously approved \$984,700 in water and sewer improvements, the first projects financed by last year's controversial \$10 million bond issue. Published May 14, 2012
- **Polk City, Previously Troubled, Gets Clean Audit** *Saturday, May 26, 2012*
<http://www.theledger.com/article/20120526/NEWS/120529471>
 POLK CITY | After dealing with a string of problematic annual audits that highlighted Polk City's precarious financial situation, the City Council now has good news about its books..
 It received a nearly perfect audit last week from Lakeland accountant Mike Brynjulfson.
- **Polk's Tax Roll Expected To Decrease 5 Percent** *Friday, June 1, 2012*
<http://www.theledger.com/article/20120601/POLITICS/120609954>
 Polk County's tax roll is projected to drop an additional 5 percent, according to figures released Friday by Polk County Property Appraiser Marsha Faux. The overall value decreased from \$24.5 billion to \$23.2 billion.....
 Polk City Mayor Joe LaCascia said the drop wasn't a total surprise. "A lot of stuff was being sold very cheaply and there were a lot of foreclosures," he said.
 LaCascia said he expected the effect on next year's budget will be "disastrous," but won't have a clear idea until City Manager Patricia Jackson presents the budget later this year.
- **Polk Man Makes Mission Of Removing Illegal Signs** *Sunday, June 3, 2012*
<http://www.theledger.com/article/20120603/NEWS/120609790>
 Mark Lanier said he has picked up between 600 and 700 signs since the beginning of the year and continues to branch out to other areas beyond Polk City. (Note: Political signs are allowed for a specified period of time.)
- **Public Deeds: Gigs & Garlands** *Monday, June 4, 2012*
<http://www.theledger.com/article/20120604/EDIT01/120609784>
GARLAND: To the municipality of Polk City. After a long string of financial problems and negative annual audits, it received a clean financial audit late last month from Lakeland accountant Mike Brynjulfson.
 Mayor Joe LaCascia said Councilwoman Trudy Block deserves credit for reversing the fortunes of the insolvent city,



Congratulations to Our Polk City Graduates

We are proud of you!
 Have a great summer!

If you have community activities or news that would be of interest to the Polk City service area, please contact
Councilor Trudy Block at 630 853 3673 or trudy.block@mypolkcity.org