

CITY Spotlight CHOWCHILLA



February 2018; Volume 10, Issue 2

**CITY HALL OFFICES
BUSINESS HOURS**
Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM

CALENDAR

- Feb 10** - Greenhills Lions Club
Mardi Gras Dinner Dance, SFA
Portuguese Hall, 7PM
- Feb 11** - American Legion & VFW
Breakfast Fundraiser, VFW Hall,
7-11AM
- Feb 13** - City Council Meeting,
City Hall, 7PM
- Feb 17** - Chowchilla Athletic
Foundation Dinner, Eastman
Hall, Fairgrounds, 6PM
- Feb 19** - President's Day Holi-
day, City Offices Closed
- Feb 20** - Coffee with a COP,
McDonalds, 8AM
- Feb 20** - Community CONVER-
SATION, The Final Round
(Pheasant Run GC), 5:30PM
- Feb 21** - Planning Commission
Meeting, City Hall, 7PM
- Feb 22** - City Council Town Hall
Meeting, Fuller Elementary, 6PM
- Feb 26** - Edward Ray Day in
Chowchilla, All Day
- Feb 27** - City Council Meeting,
City Hall, 7PM
- Mar 9** - Stampede Cattle Drive,
Robertson Boulevard, 10AM
- Mar 9-11** - Western Stampede
Roping, Fairgrounds, All Day
- Mar 10** - Chicano Correctional
Workers Association Crab Feed
Dinner, Portuguese Hall, 5:00PM
- Mar 11** - Daylight Savings Time
Begins at 2AM
- Mar 11** - American Legion & VFW
Breakfast Fundraiser, VFW Hall,
7-11AM
- Mar 13** - City Council Meeting,
City Hall, 7PM
- Mar 17** - Chowchilla Lions Club
Spring Round-up Dinner, East-
man Hall, Fairgrounds, 6PM

Rushan, China selected to be Sister City

Recently the Chowchilla City Council approved formalizing negotiations with the County-City of Rushan in the Shandong Province of China to become its Sister City. Both cities have expressed a strong interest in forming a dynamic relationship based on mutual commercial and cultural exchange.

Rushan is a coastal county-city in China's northeast boasting a population of 562,000 residents in 14 cities spread over an area of 643 square miles. Its industries range from agriculture and seafood to technology and manufacturing all supported by multiple seaports, three airports and high-speed rail. Located on the Golden Coast of the Shandong Peninsula, Rushan is a travel destination with mountains and a 125 mile coastline with marinas and many beaches, including 12-mile long Silver Beach.

According to Mayor Dennis Haworth, "We are excited about Rushan's interest in our city. We have so much to offer them and, in turn, there is much that they can offer us. From a business standpoint alone, we are well placed geographically for them to join with Chowchilla in doing business in the San Joaquin Valley and the Bay Area. Likewise, I can see export opportunities for our future industries working in tandem with Rushan to sell American made products in China."

City Administrator Brian Haddix added, "Chowchilla has been approached by agricultural processors wanting to sell their products in China. This sister city relationship gives these processors a great conduit into a region of a half million residents and a country of 1.4 billion people. Plus, the cultural exchange opportunities that exist are immense. We welcome this partnership."

City strengthens code enforcement efforts

The City of Chowchilla is serious about maintaining a safe and desirable living environment for its residents through an aggressive code enforcement program. Recently, the City Council increased the pressure on non-compliant properties due to outstanding violations, resulting in liens on the properties, by creating a program where properties with excessive liens risk property foreclosure.

The lien foreclosure program is simple. Property owners with outstanding code violation liens are notified they have 30 days to pay the lien and fees and fix the violations. If they don't, the property is foreclosed and sold. The new owner pays off the lien and fees and brings the property up to code.

The new program has already produced positive results with non-compliant property owners. Some of these owners are in the process of selling to builders who want to fix up and resell the homes. Still others have contacted City Hall to pay off their liens and get into compliance with the City Code.

According to Mayor Haworth, "We're serious about code enforcement. Our residents take pride in their homes and deserve to have the City stand behind them by enforcing our laws. As word gets out of how serious we are we expect to see others cleaning their unsafe properties. This isn't just curb appeal, it's about being responsible for keeping up your property and our City safe and presentable."

"Come HOME to Chowchilla" promotional video

"Come HOME to Chowchilla" is the latest marketing tool to be used by city officials to promote Chowchilla to attract new homebuyers, businesses and investors to take a closer look at our town.

Over the past year eMotion Web Video filmed at events and places around town and recorded interviews that supported the fundamental message that Chowchilla is a destination community to call home. The video highlights our amenities, our neighborhoods, our activities, and most importantly our residents, who personify a feeling of caring and support not found in larger cities. Testimonials acclaim the Chowchilla values that enrich and strengthen the foundations of our community spirit.

The video will be used to promote Chowchilla outside the immediate community and share our hometown appeal throughout the region and the country, particularly to developers and real estate professionals. It will be distributed to decision-makers who search for viable communities in which to locate future businesses, bringing with them much needed jobs. "We often receive inquiries from persons interested in what our community has to offer a new business. We aggressively push out our message to corporate site selectors that Chowchilla is a business-friendly, family-friendly community where they should establish their next enterprise," says City Administrator Brian Haddix.

The "Come HOME to Chowchilla" video will soon be available on the City website and social media.

CITY OFFICES

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Chowchilla, CA 93610

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Web: www.CityOfChowchilla.org

CITY COUNCIL

Dennis Haworth, *Mayor*
Ray Barragan, *Mayor Pro Tem*
Waseem Ahmed, *Council Member*
John Chavez, *Council Member*
Mary Gaumnitz, *Council Member*
Brian Haddix, *City Administrator*

City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The agenda can be viewed or downloaded from the City web site.



PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall	(559) 665-8615
City Council	x 102
City Administrator	x 100
City Clerk	x 102
Airport Information	x 789
Building & Inspections	x 787
Code Enforcement	x 787
Community Development	x 787
Community Engagement	x 110
Finance	x 783
Fire	x 600
Human Resources	x 112
Planning	x 787
Police Department	x 785
Public Works	x 789
Recreation	x 110
Utilities	x 783
Anonymous Tips	665-8624
Chamber of Commerce	665-5603
City Bus (CATX)	665-8655
Fairgrounds	665-3728
Fire Department	665-8625
Mid Valley Disposal	237-9425
Police Department	665-8600
Senior Center	665-8647



accepted for in-person payments
made at Chowchilla City Hall



2018 water & sewer rates

In 2012, City Council approved a utility rate structure for the City Water and Wastewater Utility System. Utility rates fund the operation, maintenance and replacement costs to provide city water and wastewater (sewer) services. The utility rates change every January 1 (ending in year 2021) and the new rates first appear on each year's February utility bill. The amount of increase depends on the type of property such as residential, commercial, industrial, etc.

2018 RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE RATE

Non-Metered Residential Customers	Prior Year	2018
Single family - 7,000 sq ft lot size	\$40.78	\$43.63
Each additional 100 sq ft of lot size	\$0.32	\$0.35
Multi-family/unit/apartment (per unit)	\$23.09	\$24.71
Duplexes & triplexes (per dwelling)	\$30.82	\$32.98

Metered Residential Customers	Prior Year	2018
Meter charge (1-inch size)	\$16.81	\$17.98
Water usage up to 1,800 cu ft (per 100 cu ft)	\$0.79	\$0.85
Water usage above 1,800 cu ft (per 100 cu ft)	\$1.02	\$1.09

2018 RESIDENTIAL WASTEWATER (SEWER) RATE

Residential Customers	Prior Year	2018
Single-family dwelling	\$23.41	\$24.11
Mobile home or multi-family dwelling (per unit)	\$17.56	\$18.08

How your water & sewer rates are calculated

The types of water and wastewater (sewer) services provided to a property determines how the monthly charges are calculated by the City of Chowchilla to prepare the monthly utilities bills.

RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE – METERED CUSTOMERS

Charges for water consumption by metered residential customers is based on the amount of water used each month. There are two different levels, or tiers, of charges. The TIER ONE charge is calculated at the rate for the amount of water used up to 1,800 cubic feet (13,464 gallons). A TIER TWO charge is calculated at the rate for the amount of water used in excess of 1,800 cubic feet. The fixed monthly service connection fee is the cost to provide water service up to the property and is based on the size of the installed meter.

RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE – NON-METERED CUSTOMERS

Charges for water consumption by non-metered residential customers is based on a flat rate. Large size properties, duplexes, triplexes, multi-family units, apartments, etc., are charged additional rates per lot size and the number of units/dwellings.

COMMERCIAL WATER SERVICE – METERED CUSTOMERS

Charges for water consumption by metered commercial customers is calculated by the amount of water used each month. A single rate is charged for each 100 cubic feet of water consumed. The fixed monthly service connection fee is the cost to provide water service up to the property and is based on the size of the installed meter.

COMMERCIAL WATER SERVICE – NON-METERED CUSTOMERS

Charges for water consumption by non-metered commercial customers is based on a flat rate that is multiplied by a variable determined by the type of business that is operated. For example, a retail store or office building variable is determined by the square foot measurement of the building, whereas the variable for a restaurant is determined by the number of seats in the establishment.

RESIDENTIAL WASTEWATER (SEWER) SERVICE

Monthly wastewater charges for residential customers are based on a flat rate.

COMMERCIAL WASTEWATER (SEWER) METERED SERVICE

Wastewater charges for commercial customers with a water meter are determined by multiplying the monthly cubic feet of metered water usage by a factor that is determined by the type of commercial operation conducted on the property.

COMMERCIAL WASTEWATER (SEWER) NON-METERED SERVICE

Wastewater charges for commercial customers without a water meter are based on a fixed rate that represents the cost of treating the wastewater discharge multiplied by a variable determined by the type of business that is operated. For example, a retail store or office building variable is determined by the square foot measurement of the building, whereas the variable for a restaurant is determined by the number of seats in the establishment.

SAVE TIME - Pay utilities bills ONLINE

Using Xpress Bill Pay is a simple, safe and FREE way to pay your monthly City water, wastewater (sewer) and trash disposal bills. It's easy to setup your account.

Visit the new City website at www.CityOfChowchilla.org and click on the HOW DO I... link. From there select Online Bill Payments under the Submit heading. You will be redirected to the Xpress Bill Pay website where you can create a new account using information found on your City utilities bill.

