

CITY Spotlight CHOWCHILLA



August 2018; Volume 10, Issue 8

CITY HALL OFFICES BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM

CALENDAR

Aug 4 - VFW Auxiliary Chili Cook-off, VFW Hall, 11AM

Aug 8 - Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce Paint Night, Farnesi's Steakhouse, 6PM

Aug 12 - American Legion & VFW Breakfast Fundraiser, VFW Hall, 7-11AM

Aug 14 - City Council Town Hall, Elementary School District Board Room, 6PM

Aug 15 - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Aug 21 - Coffee with a COP, McDonalds, 8AM

Aug 28 - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Sep 3 - City Hall Closed - Labor Day Holiday

Sep 7-9 - Canine Agility Club of Fresno 2018 AKC Agility Trials, Fairgrounds, 8AM

Sep 9 - American Legion & VFW Breakfast Fundraiser, VFW Hall, 7-11AM

Sep 10 - HOW (Helping One Woman) Fundraiser Dinner, Farnesi's Steakhouse, 6PM

Sep 11 - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Sep 15 - Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce Classic Car & Custom Bike Show, Veterans Memorial Park, 10AM

Sep 18 - Coffee with a COP, Starbucks, 8AM

Sep 19 - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Sep 20-23 - American Cowboys Team Roping Association (ACTRA) California Chapter Finals, Fairgrounds, All Day

City resumes two-day a week outdoor watering

City of Chowchilla officials are pleased to announce that the City's two large production drinking water wells are now in-service and customers can water outdoor landscapes up to two-days a week.

Residential and business addresses that end with an EVEN number are allowed to water on TUESDAY and/or SATURDAY, and property addresses that end in an ODD number can water on WEDNESDAY and/or SUNDAY. NO outdoor watering of residential or business properties is allowed on MONDAY, THURSDAY or FRIDAY.

Public parks, schools, and outside common areas (medians, berms, roadway shoulder strips, public areas, etc.) are allowed to water on MONDAY and/or FRIDAY to help spread the demand for outdoor water through the week. NO outdoor watering of these properties is allowed on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY or SUNDAY.

Outdoor watering is still PROHIBITED EVERY DAY BETWEEN 10:00AM and 7:00PM.

"Our City staff, particularly those in the Public Works Department, have had challenge after challenge when the City's largest producing well failed in mid-April," said Mayor Dennis Haworth. He added, "They worked alongside our contractors to repair and replace much of the well's components including the wells shaft, motor, electronics, etc., that were damaged or failed in just a cascade of events causing the three month shutdown."

Mayor Haworth continued, "We know how challenging and frustrating this problem was for our residents and businesses. I am grateful for all of the sacrifices made by so many that helped maintain adequate system pressure and our water safe to drink for all our customers. I'm so glad to see this difficult time behind us."

Well #14 is fully repaired and received approval from the State of California to begin putting safe

—Continued on back page

Local public safety sales tax on Nov. ballot

The Chowchilla City Council responded to the strong desire expressed by the community to enhance police and fire services by approving a local sales tax measure to add 1% to the current sales tax rate for retail purchases within the Chowchilla city limits.

This measure will be on the November election ballot and will require a 67% voter approval since it is a special sales tax intended to directly benefit public safety. If approved the local sales tax would change from 7.75% to 8.75% and it is projected to generate \$1.3 million the first year. It is important to point out that the sales tax increase will end after 8 years as a "sunset clause" is included in the sales tax initiative ballot language.

A recently commissioned independent telephone survey conducted in April and May by opinion research firm FM3 Research, shows Chowchilla residents overwhelmingly support maintaining local public safety services. Ninety percent of residents approved of both the Police and Fire Departments, and strong majorities supported maintaining current levels of public safety services.

—Continued on back page

Chamber Classic Car & Custom Bike Show



The Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce Annual Classic Car Show is Saturday, September 15 at downtown Veterans Memorial Park at 600 W. Robertson Boulevard.

The show is open from 10AM to 2PM. Multiple vehicle category awards will be presented at the 2:30PM ceremony.

The Yard Dogs band will play oldies music. There will be food and refreshments along with merchandise vendors and an on-site 50/50 drawing to benefit Sober Grad.

For more details call the Chamber office at (559) 665-5603.

CITY OFFICES

130 South Second Street
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Telephone: (559) 665-8615
Fax: (559) 665-7418
Email: Info@CityOfChowchilla.org
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



Continued from front page—

November public safety sales tax vote

"We're gratified that our residents feel that we're doing such an excellent job" said Police Chief David Riviere. "Our police officers and volunteer firefighters work hard to keep Chowchilla safe, and we want to continue providing the services our residents rely on," he added. "However, 80% of residents believe the City's crime rate has increased significantly in the last few years, and 61% of residents say gangs and drugs are significant issues in the community."

Residents agreed the City needs additional funding for public safety services, to address these concerns and state takeaways from Chowchilla's budget.

"Over the last ten years, Sacramento has taken nearly \$3 million in local funds from Chowchilla, making it harder and harder to provide police and fire services at the level our residents expect and deserve," said Mayor Dennis Haworth.

Residents expressed support for key public safety services, including maintaining drug and gang enforcement and prevention services, protecting the local police department, and maintaining 911 fire and emergency medical response times. Said Fire Chief Harry Turner, "Chowchilla's fire and police respond to more calls for fire and medical emergencies each year, and it's getting tougher to maintain our fast response times." He added, "We must do more to ensure every call for fire or a medical emergency receives a fast response and saves lives."

"We look forward to continuing to discuss our vital community service needs and evaluating how best to maintain these services, particularly public safety and protecting our local funds" continued Mayor Haworth. "We are committed to keeping the public informed about the steps we can take to ensure that Chowchilla remains safe and provides the kinds of services our residents need."

Xpress Bill Pay
Innovative Internet Payment Systems

It's EASY and FREE!
PAY Your Utility Bill **ONLINE** at www.CityOfChowchilla.org

Continued from front page—

Outdoor watering returns to two-days a week

drinking water into the City network. Construction of the new well #1A was recently completed and following extensive treatment and flushing processes to rid the facility of coliform, a common occurrence with new well construction, the water successfully met the State's drinking water criteria to also be put into service providing safe drinking water to customers.

With these two wells in service City staff was able to take one other older well out-of-service to perform long-awaited maintenance including lowering them deeper into the ground water aquifer so they can pull more water. Another older well is scheduled for similar rehabilitation this coming fall.

For too many decades in Chowchilla there was a lack of infrastructure planning and a hesitation to adequately fund infrastructure development to keep up with a growing community. Today's City officials readily acknowledge these facts. The fiscal crisis that hit the country ten years ago also had a major impact on budgets that further limited regular maintenance and new well construction.

In the last five years all that changed. Capital development monies were assigned to water and wastewater projects that have resulted in two new wells being built with plans to build additional wells in the near future. Construction is underway on one of two planned 750,000 gallon water tanks that will provide storage backup to ensure constant water pressure during high use events. New booster pumps and pressure sustaining valves will soon be added to the water distribution network to improve and provide reliable water pressure to all areas of the city.

To help fund these projects a new solar array was constructed at the wastewater treatment plant that now provides about 90% of the power demands for the plant, as well as powering all the drinking water wells and other city facilities. The cost savings from taking these facilities off the PG&E electric grid, coupled with a projects bond financing program that provides a stable funding source, these infrastructure improvements are moving along at a faster pace than would have been available through traditional funding measures.

OUR TOWN
CHOWCHILLA
CITY COUNCIL TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14 - 6:00PM
School Board Meeting Room
Chowchilla Elementary School District
355 N. Fifth Street
OPEN DISCUSSION

- There is NO action agenda so YOU bring up the topics to discuss
- Share with City Council and staff your ideas to improve the city
- Seek answers to your concerns about the community