

Manning Matters

January 2020



HAPPY NEW YEAR

2020 State of Our City

As we enter into 2020, let's take a moment and reflect on 2019 and our achievements and progress. The City of Manning has an annual budget of 8.7 million dollars and has again received an exemplary audit review of our finances.

We have recently completed several projects, and currently have several underway. One project that has been completed is our upgrade to the Waste Water Treatment Plant. This was a three phase project that began in 2015. The most important outcome of this project is that the city increased our ability to treat wastewater from 2.5 to 5 million gallons per day, which is vital to economic growth for Clarendon County. The total cost of the upgrade is 21 million dollars.

The City has also completed a sewer line upgrade that serves the Clarendon County Industrial Park. This was funded by a \$500,000 SC Rural Infrastructure Grant. This upgrade is essential to providing adequate service to our most important site for economic development, and we are pleased with the results.

The Pocotaligo Nature Walk has also been renovated and has recently re-opened. The City received several grants to complete this project, which included \$126,000 from SC Parks and Recreation, \$100,000 from Duke Energy, and \$25,000 from the Clarendon County Soil and Water District. This park is located off of Highway 521 as you drive towards Sumter. We have been very fortunate in receiving these grants and are happy to provide another recreational outlet for the citizens of Clarendon County.

Other projects that are underway include the following:

- Our city has received a \$308,000 dollar grant from the Department of Commerce. These funds will be used to demolish approximately 24 dilapidated structures in the Dickson/Durant (Northeast) section of town. We will begin the bid process in January and hope to complete the demolition in the fall of 2020. This will drastically improve this neighborhood, increase property values and decrease crime in the area.
- We have also recently been awarded \$465,000 dollars from the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority to replace several small, outdated water lines within the City. This project will upgrade 3 inch water mains to 6 inch mains, providing much better water pressure along with fire protection in those areas. Lines will be replaced on portions of the following roads: Pine Street, E. Rural Avenue, Ragin Street, Bradham Street, Packard Lane, Nelson Circle, and N. Walker Street. We hope to begin this project in the spring of the year.

Happy New Year, and as always, let us remain true to our city's motto: *"Matchless for Beauty and Hospitality"*.

The People's Mayor,
Julia A. Nelson
Julia A. Nelson, MPA



Character Word of the Month

The character word of the month for January is gratitude. Gratitude is the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. Be sure to show gratitude to those around you.

*Gratitude
is the best
Attitude*



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Manning City Hall will be closed Monday, January 20, 2020 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It will reopen Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 8:30 am.

All are invited to the Mayor's Unity Service in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day from 10 am to 10:30 am at the City of Manning Fire Department Training Room, 38 W. Boyce Street.

Winter Fire Safety

The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

Kerosene Heaters

- Be sure your heater is in good working condition. Inspect exhaust parts for carbon buildup. Be sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.
- Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning fuel (coal, kerosene, or propane, for example) can produce deadly fumes.
- Use **ONLY** the fuel recommended by the heater manufacturer. **NEVER introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that type fuel.**
- Keep kerosene, or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in well ventilated storage areas, outside of the house.
- **Never** fill the heater while it is operating or hot. When refueling an oil or kerosene

unit, avoid overfilling.

- Refueling should be done outside of the home (or outdoors). Keep young children away from space heaters—especially when they are wearing night gowns or other loose clothing that can be easily ignited.
- When using a fuel burning appliance in the bedroom, be sure there is proper ventilation to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide.

Wood Stoves And Fireplaces

- Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.
- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be laboratory tested.
- Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in

front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.

The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.

Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.

Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. **NEVER** close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.