

City of Sweeny

February 2015 Newsletter

Scheduled Recurring Official Meetings for City Business:

- *Sweeny Economic Development Corporation - 2nd Monday of each month - February 9, 2015*
- *City Council - 3rd Tuesday of each month - February 17, 2015*

Recycle dates for February are the 5th and 19th.

We have fielded several inquiries regarding establishment of a "Quiet Zone" within the City limiting requiring passing trains not to sound their 'warning horn'. What we have found is that the process to do so is very expensive, and the cost (anticipated to be \$250,000.00) would fall to the City. To eliminate the requirement to sound the warning horn, all rails have to be looped into the system that raises and lowers the crossing arms. Currently only two of the four rails (one main rail and one switch rail) are wired to send commands.

Hurricane season is approaching and a couple of lessons can be learned from the rainfall (5.5 inches) received on Thursday the 22rd of January.

- *First, the City did drain fairly rapidly, but for the City to drain even faster, we need to be proactive in the process. What we saw was much accumulation of leaves, yard clippings and other material in and out of the culverts at street crossings and driveways. Citizens can help by properly maintaining their ditches throughout all seasons. By so doing, you help not only yourself, but your neighbors, as well.*
- *Utility easements were inaccessible in a couple of instances. This was also true after Hurricane Ike, but on a much larger scale. Over the years, these easements have been encroached upon by fences, permanent structures and trees. Makes for a bigger yard, but nearly impossible to bring in necessary equipment when a utility line (water, gas, sewer and electric) is damaged, and needs to be repaired. Restoring "Utility Easements" will help both you and your neighbors.*

February is National African American History Month; and a Proclamation has been issued to designate February as African American History Month within the City of Sweeny.

President's Day will be celebrated this year on February 16th.

Sweeny Chamber of Commerce plans are underway to celebrate its 50th anniversary, of service to the community, in March. These plans will continue the tradition of naming a "Man" and "Woman" of the Year as part of its celebration. Contact Traci Eaton, Chamber Executive Director, 979-548-3249 or sweenychamber@windstream.net, for nomination form and information.

For information, City ordinances are listed on the City website, www.ci.sweeny.tx.us.

As always if you have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Rodney Weems, Mayor
City of Sweeny Texas*

*Cindy King, City Manager
City of Sweeny Texas*