



# Crescent City Chronicle

## September 2013

### City of Crescent City, Florida

Courtesy of Crescent City's City Commission

Volume I Issue 7  
September 2013

## Crescent City's Utility Bill Explained

After reading a recent letter to the editor in the Courier Journal regarding Crescent City's "water" bills, we thought it appropriate to offer some response. We do not expect an explanation of the bill will make you happy about paying it, but we do hope that it will help you better understand the bill.

The \$82.81 referred to as the minimum bill for "water" in the letter is much more than a water bill; that \$82.81 pays for water service, sewer service and garbage pickup, plus applicable taxes and surcharges. The minimum monthly water rate is actually \$19.46 for the first 3,000 gallons; the sewer rate is a flat \$41.09 regardless of how much you flush down the drain; and the garbage service is \$14.25. Taxes and surcharges cover the balance of the \$82.81 minimum utility bill.

We do not profess to be the cheapest utility in region, but when you consider that this \$82.81 is buying you up to 3,000 gallons of water, unlimited use of the sewer system for your bathroom, kitchen and laundry (regardless of how much water you use), as well as twice-a-week garbage pickup and once a week yard trash pick-up for the month – the \$82.81 is going a lot farther than just paying for water service.

Regarding the concern expressed for a rate that promotes water conservation, Crescent City actually uses a tiered block rate and the water rates do go up with increased usage. The intent of this rate structure is to encourage conservation. Under this rate structure the minimum water bill of \$19.46 per month buys the first 3,000 gallons of usage. Any usage between 3,001 gallons and 5,000 gallons is billed at an additional \$2.16 per 1,000 gallons; any usage between 5001 and 9000 gallons is billed at an additional \$2.70 per 1,000 gallons; etc. If you do irrigate even twice a week, you can exceed 3,000 gallons of water in a month before you even consider use of the water for bathing, washing clothes and doing dishes. **More questions about the utility bill? Call 386-698-2525.**

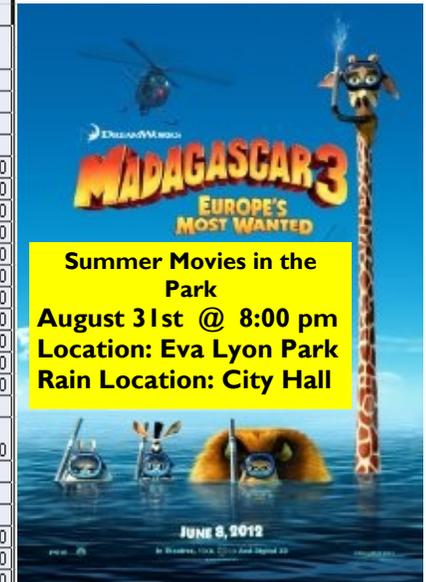
BUDGET SUMMARY					
CITY OF CRESCENT CITY - FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014					
Millage Per \$1,000					
General Fund: 8.5914					
Voted Debt: 0					
		General Fund	Special Funds	Enterprise Funds	Total Budget
Cash Balance Forward		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES</b> Millage					
Ad Valorem Taxes	8.591	\$ 475,528.00	\$ 28,904.00	\$ -	\$ 504,432.00
Sales and Use Taxes		\$ 63,952.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,952.00
Franchise/UT Taxes		\$ 319,312.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 319,312.00
Licenses/Permits		\$ 27,900.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,900.00
Intergovernmental		\$ 136,499.00	\$ 98,500.00	\$ -	\$ 234,999.00
Charges for Services		\$ 2,600.00		\$1,577,500.00	\$ 1,580,100.00
Fines/Forfeitures		\$ 7,500.00		\$ -	\$ 7,500.00
Miscellaneous/Grants		\$ 119,883.00	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 64,124.00	\$ 186,657.00
Volunteer Fire Account		\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>		\$ 1,154,774.00	\$ 130,054.00	\$ 1,641,624.00	\$ 2,926,452.00
NON-REVENUE TRANSFERS		\$ 277,354.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 277,354.00
Reserves		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND TRANSFERS</b>		\$ 1,432,128.00	\$ 130,054.00	\$ 1,641,624.00	\$ 3,203,806.00
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
General Government		\$ 609,184.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 609,184.00
Public Safety		\$ 579,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 579,200.00
Transportation		\$ 173,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 173,000.00
Parks and Recreation		\$ 49,725.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,725.00
Gas		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 551,039.00	\$ 551,039.00
Water		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 329,514.00	\$ 329,514.00
Waste Water		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 339,055.00	\$ 339,055.00
Capital Outlay		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 125,054.00	\$ 100,476.00	\$ 226,730.00
Debt Service		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178,261.00	\$ 178,261.00
Grants and Aids		\$ 18,219.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 44,825.00	\$ 68,044.00
Volunteer Fire Account		\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE</b>		\$ 1,432,128.00	\$ 130,054.00	\$ 1,543,170.00	\$ 3,105,352.00
NON-EXPENSE TRANSFERS		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 98,454.00	\$ 98,454.00
Reserves		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS</b>		\$ 1,432,128.00	\$ 130,054.00	\$ 1,641,624.00	\$ 3,203,806.00

**BUDGET SUMMARY AND DETAILED BUDGET PROPOSAL FOUND ON CRESCENTCITY-FL.COM/FINANCE.HTML**  
**At its August meeting, the Commission agreed to move forward with the millage rate increase from 8.1723 to 8.5914 and a budget will be presented at the September 12th regular commission meeting using this millage rate.**

**SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE:**  
**Crescent City will be conducting a special meeting for the sole purpose of discussing potential park improvements to Eva Lyon Park and a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program grant application for those improvements.**

**Location: City Hall Commission Meeting Room**  
**Date: September 12, 2013      Time: 6:45 pm**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



**Summer Movies in the Park**  
**August 31st @ 8:00 pm**  
**Location: Eva Lyon Park**  
**Rain Location: City Hall**

If weather interferes with the movie in the park, "the show must go on" and it will move to the City Hall Commission meeting room!

**City Hall Closed**  
**September 2nd**  
**for Labor Day**

**Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - September 10th** at 6pm in City Hall.  
 Main Agenda Item: Site plan review of proposed improvements to 3 Bananas

**City Commission Regular Meeting - Sept. 12th** at 7:00 pm

**City Commission Budget Adoption Hearing - Sept. 23rd** at 5:30 pm

To get your Crescent City community event posted here or to submit ideas for articles, send in the information by the 28th of the month to make the following month's issue:  
[newsletter@crescentcity-fl.com](mailto:newsletter@crescentcity-fl.com)  
 Phone: (386) 698-2525

**SPECIAL NOTE: Due to changes in the postal system requirements and a desire to provide a more understandable bill, Crescent City will be moving to a letter-sized bill by the end of 2013—no more postcard billing!**



# “Other Things” on the September Meeting Agenda

In addition to the first of 2 hearings to discuss the budget for FY2014, the City Commission will consider the following items:

### Resolution 13-08; Approval of FRDAP Grant Application for Eva Lyon Park

The City Commission will review proposed improvements to Eva Lyon Park and decide whether to approve the grant application for improvements to Eva Lyon Park.

**Ordinance No. 13-03 – Setting Crescent City’s 5-year Capital Improvement Program and Plan (SECOND READING)** This will be the second and final reading of the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program amendments for the Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the proposed 5-year Plan are available on the website under the Finance Department link:

[www.crescentcity-fl.com/finance.html](http://www.crescentcity-fl.com/finance.html)

**Ordinance No. 13-04 – Moratorium on Impact Fees (FIRST READING)** - In an effort to eliminate red tape and additional costs for new development, and in recognition that we have more than sufficient capacity in our current infrastructure, the City Commission will be formally adopting a moratorium on impact fees that they approved 3 months ago.

**Recommendation for Surveying and Due Diligence for Miller Property** - The final step prior to seeking developers for the Market Square property owned by the City will be completion of the site plan survey, phase 1 environmental survey and geotech survey. We have proposals for this work

to be approved.

**CDBG Public Hearing and Appointment of a Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF)** - the Commission will consider another CDBG grant and discuss the potential uses for use of this grant opportunity. The Commission will also appoint a Citizen Advisory Task Force to help develop the application and make a formal recommendation to the Commission regarding uses for the grant at a later meeting.

**Improvements to City Hall** - This will be a continuation of earlier discussions considering improvements to City Hall. Roof repairs as well as façade improvements will be discussed. Full agenda at [crescentcity-fl.com/agenda.html](http://crescentcity-fl.com/agenda.html)

## WHAT DOES IT COST TO FIX UP A PARK?

In the wake of on-going discussions to consider improvements to Eva Lyon Park, I assume many people are already asking: “Well how much does it cost to fix up a park?” or “Why don’t we do it now rather than wait for a grant?”

To answer the first question, I will go over some of the renovation and construction estimates for the proposed work at Eva Lyon Park:

### Renovation Items:

Tennis Court—\$37,000 (~\$25,000 for just

doing the concrete surface without striping, fencing or nets)

Restrooms — \$5,000 (fixtures, doors, paint)

Resurface/Paint Shuffle Board Courts— \$5,000 to \$10,000 depending on repairs needed)

Replace Swing Sets and Spring Toys — \$5,000 to \$10,000 depending number and quality)

Miscellaneous Support (trash cans, parking, irrigation, water fountain, bleachers, landscaping and signage) — up to \$40,000..

### New Construction Items:

Playground Equipment (slides, climbing walls, tunnels) —\$20,000 to \$25,000

Basketball Court — \$25,000

Picnic Shelter — \$25,000

Walking Trail — \$15,000

In answer to the second question, the City could decide to do some or all of these improvements at any time, but it would limit our tax dollars to address the many needs we have in this community. If you believe this needs to be a priority, let your City Commissioners know it. **Hey wait,...there is a survey question in this issue of the Chronicle on this very topic!**

## IF YOU HAD \$500,000 TO SPEND ON THE CITY...?

Lets face it, our City has a lot of areas in need of improvement. Roads, drainage, parks, public buildings and grounds; you name it and it could use some sprucing up, if not a complete overhaul. But where to start? The City has done well in difficult times to set aside reserves from the Better Place Plan sales tax (a little over \$500,000 at this time). If you were in charge of this money, how would you prioritize the needs?

This is your chance to let us know where you think the money should be spent. Put the following topics in the order of priority you would address them (with “1” being the first priority and “6” being the last). These are broad topics, so feel free to explain any specific ideas you have for that area of need.

- \_\_\_ Parks
- \_\_\_ Roads
- \_\_\_ Drainage

- \_\_\_ Public Buildings—Improve Existing
  - \_\_\_ Public Buildings—A New Community Center
  - \_\_\_ Other (Please describe)
- Send your responses back to City Hall, 3 N Summit Street, Crescent City FL 32112 or email [newsletter@crescentcity-fl.com](mailto:newsletter@crescentcity-fl.com)



Just a Few Example Pictures:

Eva Lyon Tennis Court

Florida Av Storm Drain

Central Av Pavement

