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Spring cleaning, cell towers, holiday change topics for aldermen

with Clinton's Mayor and Board of Alderman to allocate monies on items they wanted to see done, such as multi-purpose paths along Arrow Drive.

Dexter Shelby, Director of Public Works, presented a report that showed 1,195 work orders received during calendar year 2017, with 207 orders for new water service.

Shelby also presented the dates for the City's spring clean-up efforts, which will be April 14-21, Monday through Saturday, at the old Northside Elementary School location on Old Vicksburg Road.

Residents may dispose of yard waste, bulky items, and other household debris free of charge. Items will not be accepted on Sunday. Roll-off dumpsters will be on site for Clintonians to dispose of items from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. ID will be required to determine that only Clinton residents are using the service. No hazardous waste, including items such as paint, paint thinners, or petroleum products, will be accepted at this clean-up session. Clinton Police will be on hand to ensure safety and security. Those making a drop-off of waste items are asked to line up on Long-

wood Place of the Briars neighborhood and turn west onto Old Vicksburg Road.

Nearly forty-nine roll-off dumpsters were filled during the City's fall clean-up week.

The Public Works Department may be contacted for additional information, 601-924-2239.

Representatives from AT&T were present to ask for conditional use permits to position small cell towers in three locations of two different wards in Clinton. The Ward 4 site is behind Merchants & Planters Bank, 133 Highway 80, with a wireless transmitter to be positioned on a 39-foot wooden pole. The wireless transmitters at the other two sites, 950 Highway 80 and 971 Highway 80, will be positioned on 33-foot poles. Those locations are behind the Japanese steakhouse, west of Rapid Oil Change, and between the City's Municipal Annex Building and Sonic.

These small-site cell towers will be the first in the state and are designed primarily to support greater data usage by customers. Telephone coverage will also be improved, hopefully eliminating "dead spots" in areas where a num-

ber of people might be employing phones, as in a large parking lot such as Walmart.

The positioning of the towers was approved by the Board of Aldermen. After AT&T completes its due diligence will all other agencies which might be affected by the height of the poles, the towers will be put into place by the end of the summer. Mayor Fisher, pleased with AT&T's efforts to improve service, said that Clinton "will be leading the way for the state in technology."

City Clerk Russell Wall presented an item for the Board to consider which concerned substituting one City holiday for another. He said that an informal poll of some 225 City employees indicated that a majority of employees wanted to replace the Confederate Memorial Day holiday with Good Friday. Such action could be approved based on the Mississippi Code, Annotated section 3-3-7. The Board members were informed that should such action gain a unanimous approval, it could be implemented this calendar year. If the vote were not unanimous, it could be implemented in subsequent years. The vote was 7-0

to substitute the Good Friday holiday, meaning City employees will take Friday, March 30, 2018, as a City holiday.

Any donations to specific uses within City departments must gain approval from the Board of Aldermen. The aldermen voted unanimously to accept a donation of \$12,500 from the Clinton Junior Civic League to benefit Clinton's Fire Department. Chief Jeff Blackledge expressed his appreciation to the Civic League for designating the funds to his department and indicated that the monies would be used to purchase body armor vests and industrial-strength flashlights. According to Chief Blackledge, the flashlights, called Smoke-Cutters, have a bright-angle head made especially for fighting fires. They can penetrate smoke with their brightness and narrow focus. Chief Blackledge said some of the department's personnel had been outfitted with the special flashlights, but the generous donation of monies raised through the Junior Civic League's annual gala would allow each firefighter to have the flashlight as standard equipment.

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