



THE BELLEAIR BEACH *BREEZE*

Winter 2015

City of Belleair Beach

Mayor

Rob Baldwin

Vice Mayor

Leslie Notaro

Councilmembers

Jeril S. Cohen

Pamela Gunn

Mitch Krach

John Pietrowski

Wanda Schwerer

City Manager

Nancy G. Gonzalez

City Clerk

Patricia A. Gentry, CMC

Finance Officer

Melanie Kruszona

City Attorney

Paul J. Marino

Community Services

Allen Godfrey

Administrative Assistant

Pamela J. Nightingale

Community Services Staff

Howard Chavis, Supervisor

Jana Mastilovic

Community Improvement Officer

Jack White

Upcoming City Council Meetings

December 7, 2015—5:30 pm

City of Belleair Beach
444 Causeway Boulevard
Belleair Beach FL 33786
727.595.4646
727.593.1409 FAX

Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm M-F

www.cityofbelleairbeach.com

Unscathed

We made it though another season without a scratch.

The National Weather Service forecasters had predicted a less-than-average 2015 hurricane season in May and re-stated that estimate in August, focusing on what were then growing El Niño conditions in the Pacific Ocean that were expected to have created disruptive wind shear across the Atlantic to disrupt tropical system formation.



This year's strong El Niño conditions seem to mirror those of the strong 1997-98 El Niño, according to a recent posting in NASA's Earth Observatory web blog.

From NOAA: The potential for a historic El Niño this winter and upcoming spring, even stronger than the 1997/98 El Niño will create:

- An enhanced risk of severe weather is expected, bringing increased chances for strong to violent tornadoes and tornado outbreaks
- Much wetter than normal conditions are also favored, with increased chances for episodes of heavy rain and river flooding

Given that the previous eight winters in Florida experienced storminess much below normal, the likely transition to a very active season may come as a surprise to those who are unaware.

Municipal Election

Our elections will be held on March 15th, 2016 This will coincide with the Presidential Preference Primary Election.

The Mayor and three (3) Council seats will be up for election.

Those whose terms will be ending are:

- **Mayor Rob Baldwin**
- **Councilmember Jeril Cohen**
- **Councilmember John Pietrowski**
- **Councilmember Wanda Schwerer**

Qualification for candidates begins December 11th at 8:00 am and continue until December 18th, 2015 at noon. Interested parties will need to contact Patricia Gentry, City Clerk at 727.595.4646 ext. 124.

September Meeting Highlights

There were awards given to members of the Gulf Boulevard Safety and Beautification Committee. Receiving the awards were Joseph Burke, Joseph Ford, Todd Gould and Edward Soter.

Mr. Burkel of Louisa Drive stated that 2192 Louisa Drive is an eyesore. He expressed that until the City ordinances had been given "teeth" by City council, nothing could be done to address these types of properties.

Pam Dubov, Pinellas County Property Appraiser, explained to City Council the untapped number of homestead exemption fraud cases there are and how the vendor would identify them. She reviewed the process and stated she would be the person to review and decide who is contacted. All contact would also be from her.

Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pinellas County Property Appraiser and Pinellas County Tax Appraiser, and the City of Belleair Beach.

Also approved was the expenditure to repair the fuel spill damage on Wedgewood Drive. Also to have City Attorney Paul Marino pursue reimbursement.

Council approved at first reading, a motion amending the date for the Annual Municipal Election to coincide with State or National Elections.

City council also approved opting out of the County's emergency housing ordinance and create the City's own ordinance.

Amending the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Belleair Beach and Susan More as Code Enforcement Special Master was approved.

There was a discussion on a conference call between Pinellas County Administrator, Mark Woodard, City Manager, Nancy Gonzalez and Vice Mayor Leslie Notaro regarding the 2017 Beach Nourishment Project.

A motion was approved to change the meeting time of the Monthly City Council Meeting to 5:30 by a 5-2 vote.

Unanimously approved a resolution to dispose of surplus, inoperable or obsolete equipment, materials and supplies.

Discussion continued on underground of utilities citywide.

Boats/Trailers in Driveways

Section 94-217

(b) Boats and trailers. Parking of boats and trailers within the RL district II shall be as follows:

(1) Outside parking of one registered and tagged boat and boat trailer or non-commercial utility trailer shall be authorized along the side of a house and in the rear for landlocked lots, provided the boat, boat trailer or utility trailer is obscured from view by an adjacent property owner in a manner consistent with this Code. Parking of a boat and boat trailer or utility trailer is prohibited in the front of a house, except for cleaning or temporary loading and unloading.

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT
Tid Bits**

Community Improvement Officer
Jack White



(2) The temporary parking of a boat in a residential driveway shall be permitted for a period not to exceed 48 hours for the purpose of washing, cleaning or detailing the vessel. Permit required.

To read the complete ordinance, please visit www.municode.com

OCTOBER CITY COUNCIL BRIEFS

The ordinance to move the Municipal Elections to coincide with State or National Election was approved 7-0.

Mr. Chris Row, of Bryant Miller & Olive, who is currently working with the Town of Longboat Key on its special assessment project to underground utilities was on hand to discuss the project with City Council.

Opting out of Pinellas County's Emergency Housing in Residential Low District II was approved 7-0.

A motion was approved to amend the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Belleair Beach and John Elias as Board of Adjustment Special Master.

The Council voted to table an item regarding Fuel Oil companies' delivery of gasoline and diesel fuel in the City. The Council directed the City Manager, Nancy Gonzalez to research gasoline and diesel fueling policies in other cities. City Attorney Marino was directed to pursue the line of communication between the fuel delivery owner's attorney and insurance company.

Council approved entering into an Interlocal Agreement between Pinellas County and the City of Belleair Beach for Design and Construction of Mast Arm Signalization at Gulf Boulevard and Causeway Boulevard.

It was passed 7-0 to extend the existing six (6) cent Local Option Fuel Tax (LOFT) an additional 10 years through 2027.

A new Ordinance to convene City Council Meetings at 5:30 pm passed at the first reading by a 5-2 vote.

A Resolution was approved to amend the Belleair Beach Personnel Manual regarding employee holidays.

Resolution 2015-8 calling for a General Election of four City Council members to be held on March 15, 2016 was approved 7-0. This includes the Mayor and three City Council seats.

The Resolution recognizing City Government Week, October 18-24 was approved 7-0.

November Notes

The City Council approved changing the meeting time of the monthly City Council meetings to a 5:30 pm start time. The vote was 6-1.

Engineering Services for the 2015 Master Drainage Plan Update was awarded to Multi-Lynx Companies, Inc.

Council also approved an amendment to Ordinance 10-07 to adopt a new schedule of Capital Improvements in the City.

Future options will be considered for the Fuel Oil Company deliveries into the City.

Discussion will continue on undergrounding of utilities at the December 7, 2017 City Council meeting.

TIME CHANGE ON COUNCIL MEETINGS—5:30 PM

City Services

POLICE

Belleair Beach contracts with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for round-the-clock police protection. In an emergency, Dial 911. For non-emergency call, the number is 727.582.6200. Follow this link to their website: [www. Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.](http://www.PinellasCountySheriff.com)

FIRE

Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue serves Belleair Beach. In an emergency, Dial 911. The non-emergency number is 727.595.1117.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue serves Belleair Beach, for an emergency, Dial 911. The non-emergency number is 727.595.1117.

BUILDING PERMITS / INSPECTIONS

The Pinellas County Building Department has the contract to issue all building permits and enforce building and zoning codes in the City. The building official assigned to the City is Glenn Wardell - phone number 727.464.3752.



MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS

City Hall issues the following permits: Hurricane re-entry permits, resident parking permits, on-street parking permits, garage sales and temporary storage units (PODS).

TRASH COLLECTION

Waste Management is responsible for trash collection. Residential trash is picked up every Monday and Thursday with Recycle being picked up on Friday. Condo trash collection on Tuesday and Friday, with recycle collected on Friday. Large item pick-up is scheduled directly with Waste Management. The Customer Services number is 727.572.8779.

Click here for the [http://www.Recycle Guide](http://www.RecycleGuide.com)

WATER AND SEWER

The Pinellas County Utilities Department provides water services and sewage treatment for our area with fees paid directly to them. They also bill the waste collection by Waste Management. To report leaks or have billing questions, call 727.464.4000. For sewer problems, call the Community Services Director at 727.595.4646 ext. 123. Reclaimed water is also available from Pinellas County Utilities - 727.464.4000

For questions or comments about these issues, or issues not listed here, please contact City Hall at 727.595.4646.

Holiday Events Around The County

Holiday Lights

November 27 - December 31, 2015

5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo, FL 33774



Suggested donation \$4 (13 years and older)

Sponsored by Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation, Inc., Bright House and the Tampa Bay Times

Holiday Lights in the Gardens every evening. The tradition array of light-lines paths with nightly free entertainment and visits from Santa Claus.

The event is the largest fundraiser for the gardens and depends on volunteers, sponsors and donations to reduce the cost of offering this holiday tradition in Pinellas County. More than 450 volunteers and generous sponsor donations make the Holiday Lights a success.

Dec 12, 2015 from 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Largo Central Park

101 Central Park Dr

Largo, FL 33771

Gather at Largo Central Park for a stroll through the beautiful lights and entertainment. Enjoy a variety of crafts and activities throughout the month for all ages. You won't want to miss the official Christmas tree lighting on December 5 at 7pm! Concession available each night. Dogs are not permitted in the park during large events.

December 6—Indian Rocks Beach Holiday Street Parade

From East Gulf and at 1:00 pm they will begin to weave throughout each "finger" ending at Kolb Park at 1507 Bay Palm Blvd.



Holiday Boat Parades

December 19—Indian Rocks Beach Boat Parade

Line up converges at 6:45 pm approximately 200 yards south of the southern end of the Holiday Inn Harbourside fuel Dock. The parade will head north, under the Walsingham Bride and weave throughout the "fingers", finishing off at Harbor Drive North.

Sunday December 21—Redington Shores at 6 p.m.

The parade starts at the Tom Stuart Causeway, with docking at the Pub.

Saturday, December 12—Island Estates Yacht Club Boat Parade

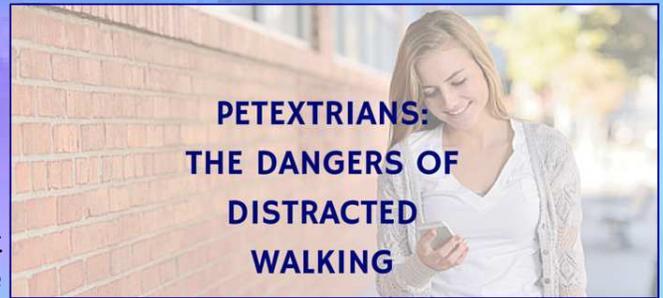
Saturday, December 12, 2015 6:30 pm. Coachman Park - 301 Drew St., Clearwater, FL 33756

Decorated boats assemble in Mandalay Channel and head to Coachman Park, under the Memorial Causeway Bridge and to the Clearwater Yacht Club's judging stand. Prizes awarded for best decorated boats.

Are You Safe?

From the Desk of Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

In recent weeks, numerous citizens have reached out to me to express their concerns about distracted walkers. "Petextrians" as they have been coined, are individuals who text while walking, and do so largely unaware of their surroundings.



**PETEXTRIANS:
THE DANGERS OF
DISTRACTED
WALKING**

While much emphasis has been placed on warning motorists about the dangers of texting while driving, an extremely dangerous behavior; in this edition I would like to place the spotlight on warning pedestrians, particularly teens, about the dangers of distracted walking.

The August Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) report cites several indicators that distracted pedestrians are increasingly to blame for vehicle-pedestrian crash-related injuries. For example: researchers at The Ohio State University found that between 2004 and 2010 the number of pedestrians killed while using a cell phone increased from less than 1% to 3.6%. The report also cites the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), stating that more than 1,500 pedestrians were treated for injuries related to cell phone use while walking in 2010. That number has more than doubled since 2005, despite the fact that during the same time period the total number of pedestrian injuries declined.

Couple this data with the fact that Florida is one of the most dangerous states in the nation for pedestrians and the situation becomes of even greater concern.

To avoid tragic accidents, we urge you to take proactive measures to be alert and aware of your surroundings when you walk. Remind your kids to do the same. Often teens can be seen engaged in distracted walking as they talk on the phone or stare into it to check out social media posts or receive and send a text.

A good rule of thumb would be to simply put your phone away when you get ready to cross the street. This will free your attention and allow you to focus on carefully scanning the intersection in both directions for cars, bicyclists, other pedestrians and road hazards. Make eye contact when possible with drivers, this will ensure that they are aware of you. Additionally, remember to utilize the crosswalk.



Don't be a "petextrian." By being fully aware of your surroundings you will help us accomplish our mission of "Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas."

To stay connected with news and information about the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, like us on Facebook; follow us on Twitter; or to receive our bi-weekly electronic newsletter Inside the Star sign up on our website at www.pcsoweb.com.