



CITY OF PALMETTO
PO BOX 1209
PALMETTO, FL 34220

Numbers to Know

Department of
Public Works
723-4580

Public Works Director
Code Enforcement
Fleet Maintenance
Planning Development
Project Management
Building/Permitting
Sewer, Water, Reclaim
Signs and Markings
Solid Waste
Stormwater & Ditches
Road & Bridge

City Hall
723-4570

Mayor's Office
City Clerk
Finance Department
Facilities & Events
Utility Billing

CRA Director - 723-4988
Building/Permitting -721-2166
Police Department - 723-4587
Treatment Plant - 723-6106

Commission Meeting Dates

All meetings are held in the
Commission Chambers
Meetings start at 7:00 P.M.

October 16th
November 6th & 27th
December 4th & 18th

The public is encouraged to
attend.

Commissioners

Jonathan Davis—At Large
Tamara Cornwell—At Large
Harold Smith— Ward I
Tambra Varnadore—Ward II
Brian Williams—Ward III

City News In Brief

Fourth Quarter

October 2017

www.palmettofl.org

From the Mayor



In our previous issue of "News In Brief" there was a lot of information about disaster planning. Little did I realize, we would have to use many of those resources as "Irma" came to visit. We were very fortunate that she did not arrive here with her full force and fury. A big shout out to all the people that worked so hard to keep us safe before, during, and after the hurricane. Great job to everyone involved!

We were fortunate to observe firsthand how linemen came from across the United States and Canada to help restore power and normalcy back to

our lives. Over 500 workers were housed right here in Palmetto at the Manatee County Fairgrounds. At the same time, hundreds of National Guard Members were housed at the Convention Center, also in Palmetto. In true form of the Palmetto community, many reached out offering to take food or treats to make their stay more comfortable. It is wonderful that both locations were able to accommodate these groups not only to help us locally, but also for the workers to have a base to work from in order to help all those in so much need south of here.

Driving through the city these past two weeks just highlights

once again what a great community we have. There were so many organizations including a tremendous number of young people and family groups that reached out day after day helping others in need with repairs, yard clean-ups, etc. For fear of missing someone, I will not attempt to name them all, but please accept the gratitude of a grateful community for all that you did.

In closing, please remember to shop local and support our community businesses.

Sincerely,

Shirley Groover Bryant
Mayor

From the North River Fire District

About this time each year, the North River Fire District observes "Fire Prevention Week." The District reminds our community to test their smoke alarms, prepare and practice EDITH "exit drills in the home" and talk to their children about such things as "Stop, drop and roll".

The District would also like to say thank you to each of you who heeded emergency officials' advice to evacuate during Hurricane Irma. By doing so, you aided Fire and EMS responders who could then focus on recovery efforts, rather than search and rescue efforts for victims of the storm.

We realize the stress of leaving your home and belongings behind, however those items can all be replaced. Your personal safety is our primary concern. We truly wish you well as we all get back to our normal routines.

Michael S. Rampino
Fire Chief

New Sponsorship for Movies in the Park



The City is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County for our Movies in the Park. The Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County provides and coordinates services such as school readiness programs in order to help all children develop the skills needed to achieve future educational success. They also provide support for parents as their child's first and most important teacher. We are excited to have the support and participation from this organization which is located here in Palmetto. "Movies in the Park" takes place on the first Friday of every month at Sutton Park. The movies start at dusk. We hope to see you there!

Jim Freeman
City Clerk

City of Palmetto Movie in the Park

Providing entertainment for Palmetto families to enjoy year around, the City of Palmetto shows a movie, free of charge, on the first Friday of every month.

Movie in the Park - where more than 3,000 current and classic movies are at our disposal.

There is no better place to be this season than Sutton Park. Grab a picnic basket and a blanket and enjoy the show. You bring the snacks, we'll bring the stars!



For more information about Movie in the Park, contact the Facilities and Events Specialist at 941-723-4570

Remember!
Popcorn and sodas provided before the movie starts

Sponsored by
Waste Management

Movie starts at dusk



From the Public Works Department

Thank you to all the residents who heeded the evacuation warnings. We experienced a lot of tree damage and some aluminum awnings were lost. We also had damage to homes from fallen trees, along with fences and other minor structure damage. In spite of the destruction, we all have so many reasons to be thankful. Keep in mind how the storm has impacted our neighbors to the south.

As far as the cleanup, residents were out early and had a lot of the debris cleared and at the curb by noon, and the roads were cleared by the end of day one. Understandably, staff is still working on cutting down trees and trying to restore normalcy to the City. I believe many good ideas were learned from this storm such as how to be better prepared if/or when we have another.

When we have a storm event and the President and Gov-

ernor declare a disaster, it allows the City to receive disaster relief dollars to help with the clean-up, instead of the full cost being borne by our citizens.

There are a few things that we can all do to help minimize the expense of debris removal.

There are different types of debris:

1. Yard waste such as trees, limbs, leaves, moss, etc.
2. Construction debris (C&D) which could consist of metal, plastic fences, sheds, wood fences, shingles, drywall from flooding, furniture, etc.
3. White goods, refrigerators and other appliances
4. Electronics, TV's, computers, printers, etc.
5. Hazardous waste, chemicals, batteries, light bulbs, oil, gas, etc.

All of these items need to be

placed in individual piles, so that they can be quickly and cost effectively disposed of in the appropriate areas. It is important not to place debris on the sidewalks because that prevents pedestrians from passing, or it forces them to walk in the streets. Also, do not place the piles on meter boxes, near mailboxes or power poles, and most of all, not directly under the utility wires as this makes the removal very dangerous for the equipment operators. If everything is all mixed together in the same pile, it will most likely not be picked up on the first few passes, and the entire pile then gets treated as hazardous waste, which is charged the most expensive disposal rate and may not be covered through FEMA. Thank you for helping us remove the debris by sorting it into piles. Thank you for your dedication to make this the greatest city around.

Allen Tusing
Public Works Director

From the Police Department

With the holidays fast approaching, many of us enjoy the convenience of online shopping. Unfortunately, internet fraud has become one of the primary ways that people are victimized. Here are some basic safety tips for doing business online:

Never send money, a wire transfer, a prepaid debit card, or a gift card to someone you have never met face-to-face;

Don't click on links or open attachments in unsolicited email. Links can download malware onto your computer and/or steal your identity. Be cautious even with email that looks familiar; it could be fake;

Don't believe everything you see. Scammers are great at mimicking official seals, fonts, and other details. Even

Caller ID can be disguised;

Don't buy online unless the transaction is secure. Make sure the website has "https" in the URL (the extra s is for "secure") and look for a small lock icon on the address bar. Check out the company first;

Be extremely cautious when dealing with anyone you have met online. Scammers use dating websites, Craigslist, social media, and many other sites to reach potential targets. They can quickly feel like a friend or even a romantic partner, but that is part of the con to get you to trust them.

Never share personally identifiable information with someone who has contacted you unsolicited (whether it's over the phone, by email, on social media, or in person).

This includes banking and credit card information, your birthdate, and Social Security/Social Insurance numbers;

Don't be pressured to act immediately. Scammers typically try to make you think something is scarce or a limited time offer, before you have time to discuss it with someone that you trust;

Use secure, traceable transactions when making payments for goods or services;

Whenever possible, work with local businesses that have proper identification, licensing, and insurance (especially contractors who will be coming into your home or anyone dealing with your money or sensitive information)

Chief Scott Tyler
Palmetto Police