



City of Port Richey

Volume II - 2018 Newsletter

Hurricane Edition

Council Members

Dale Massad
Mayor

Terrence Rowe
Vice Mayor

Will Dittmer
Council Member

Jennie Sorrell
Council Member

Richard Bloom
Council Member

Vincent R. Lupo
City Manager

Council Meetings

City Council meetings can be viewed online at www.cityofportrichey.com or on the City's Youtube Channel.

E-Newsletter

Would you like to receive the City newsletter in an electronic format? Please email Fran Vandenkooy at f.vandenkooy@cityofportrichey.com.

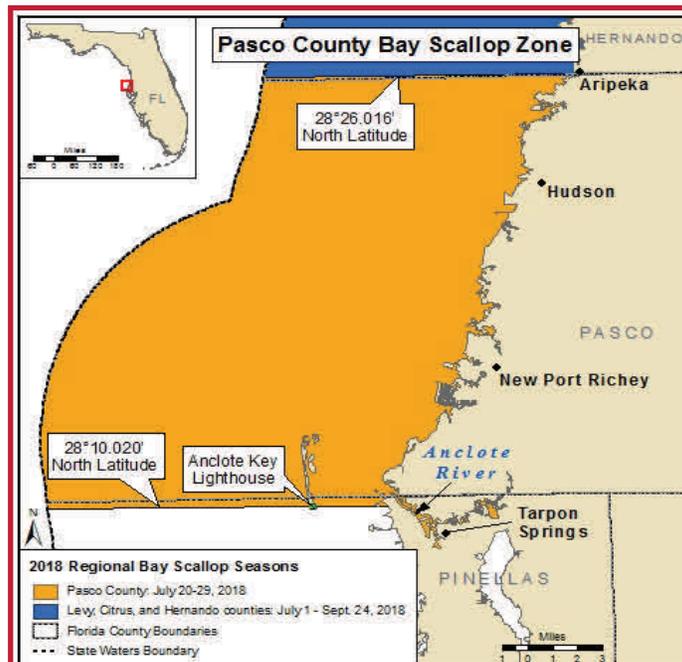
Results of Municipal Election

In a municipal election held at City Hall on April 10, 2018, City of Port Richey residents voted to elect incumbent Terrence Rowe and first-time councilmember Richard Bloom to serve on City Council for a three-year term. The Pasco County Supervisor of Elections office reported that 358 ballots (mail-in and polling place ballots) were cast by City of Port Richey registered voters. That total represents a 20.06% turnout of the registered voters within the City of Port Richey, surpassing the average municipal turnout of 13.9% throughout Pasco County.

Scalloping Season Opens in Pasco County

For the first time in 25 years, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) approved a 10 day scalloping season in Pasco County from July 20-29, 2018. Pasco's trial scalloping season is part of a state plan to establish regional harvesting seasons. For additional information on harvesting regulations and gear restrictions, please visit FWC's website: <http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/bay-scallops/>.

Photos from MyFWC.com



Fireworks to Celebrate Independence Day

The City will be hosting a fireworks display on Saturday, July 7, 2018 at approximately 9:00 pm. The fireworks will be launched from a barge in Miller's Bayou. Waterfront Park (8119 Old Post Road) will open at 5:00 pm on July 7th and is one of the best spots in the City to view the fireworks. The City will be accepting food vendor applications for the event. Vendors can operate during the event and must obtain a permit from the City. For more information, Please contact Veronica Hanson at (727)816-1900 ext. 180 or v.hanson@cityofportrichey.com.



Get Prepared!

The City of Port Richey is located on the Gulf of Mexico and with the elevation above sea level being only a few feet above high tide, **EXTREME FLOODING WILL BE IMMINENT**. The majority of the City of Port Richey is in Evacuation Level A, which is the most dangerous level, requiring all residents along the Pithlachascotee River and those west of U.S. 19 to evacuate when an evacuation order or advisory is issued. In that event, the City will send notifications out via **Nixle**. First responders and Public Works personnel will drive down our streets, and/or go door-to-door if necessary to announce and advise residents of the need to evacuate. The biggest threat of general flooding is during the hurricane season (June through November). National Weather Service, www.weather.gov.

Is your property subject to flooding? Yes, all of City of Port Richey is in a flood zone. You can protect your property from the hazard of flooding. Homeowners, renters & business owners, need to purchase flood insurance. There is a 30 day waiting period, so act now and call your insurance agent. Take advantage of a low cost preferred risk policy. The NOAA Hurricane Center (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) is responsible for providing information on the current status. Public Advisories are issued every 6 hours, unless a WATCH or WARNING has been issued, then notices will be issued 2- 3 hours. Hourly radar position estimates are issued between the 2 hourly public advisories. In the case of a hurricane and/or flooding, stay updated with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, www.noaa.gov.

The Pasco County Office of Emergency Management operates a comprehensive emergency warning system including emergency news releases, voice cable override, government access channels, the Emergency Alert System, and the Community Notification System. This system is used for floods as well as other emergencies. Tune into local radio stations such as these FM channels: 89.7, 93.3, 94.1, 97.1, 97.9, 99.5, 100.7, 104.7, 106.3 and the following AM channels: 620, 970, 1040, 1450, 1550 and 1620 for information. News and weather channels such as ABC, NBC, and Bay News 9 are some that can be listened to and watched for status updates. Updates will also be displayed online at Pasco County Emergency Management, www.pascoemergencymanagement.com.

During an emergency, your personal safety is more important than your most valuable property. Take steps now to help your family prepare for an emergency.

- Make your Family Disaster Plan.
- Know your evacuation zone and route to a nearby shelter.
- Obtain first aid kit/medicine.
- Obtain water & non-perishable food (include baby food and food for a special diet).
- Obtain portable radio, flashlights, extra batteries & non-electric can opener.
- Move valuable household possessions to a safer location or elevate (time permitting).
- Fuel your vehicle (don't wait for the last minute).
- Safeguard important documents (passports, licenses, bank card, credit cards, wills, deeds, insurance policies, etc).
- Turn off all utilities if you plan to evacuate.
- ~~Remove portable generators. Portable generators should not be used inside any building, also any generator must be connected to an approved transfer switch to protect power company workers.~~



Practice safe routes from your home with all family members and establish a safe place out of the floodplain. Designate a place where your family can meet after an evacuation is issued.

Shelter Information

- Schrader Elementary School: 11041 Little Rd., New Port Richey
- Chasco Elementary School: 7906 Ridge Rd., Port Richey
- Fasano Regional Shelter (Pets): 11611 Denton Ave., Hudson

To keep your property protected, keep items such as sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, and lumber handy. These items are especially important to have if you live in an area that floods frequently. Remember, sandbags should not be stacked against the outer walls of a building since the bags may create added pressure on the foundation when wet. Sandbags may be available at City Hall 6333 Ridge Road, in the event of potential flooding. Please contact the Building Department at 727-816-1900 ext. 180 for locations. **Stay tuned to local media for a listing of shelters which will**



Flood Safety Tips to Protect People from Hazards

- Turn Around; Don't Drown. Avoid flooded areas or those with rapid water flow. Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream or drive through water. It only takes six inches of fast-flowing water to sweep you off your feet.
- Do not walk through flowing water. The water may be contaminated by sewage leaks.
- Do not drive through flood waters. Stay away from electrical and power lines.
- Do not allow children to play in or near high water, storm drains or ditches.

Protect natural floodplain functions. The City has a system of drainage channels and ditches for storm water management purposes. They are maintained on a regular basis by our Public Works Department. These ditches are of vital importance since the water flowing through them not only drains our City streets, but also the inland areas. Keep debris and trash out of the streams and ditches. Any dumping in these areas is prohibited. Violations should be reported to either Public Works 727-816-1900 ext. 186 or the Police Department 727-816-1919.

Build Responsibly! **Building permits** are required for any construction. If you're not sure whether you require a permit, please call the Building Department at 727-816-1900 ext 180 or ext 155. For further information regarding Substantial Damage Rules, please visit FEMA's website at www.fema.gov and Municode for local ordinances at: www.municode.com, or www.cityofportrichey.com (Local Charter) Port Richey,

Register with Nixle for Emergency Notifications

Sign up for **Nixle**, the City's mass notification system, to stay informed during major storms or emergencies for updates from the City of Port Richey. Register for this free service by texting your zip code to 888777 or visiting www.cityofportrichey.com to register online.



Community Rating System (CRS)

The CRS uses a class rating system that is similar to fire insurance ratings to determine flood insurance premium reductions for residents. As a community engages in additional mitigation activities, its residents become eligible for increased National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy premium discounts. Each CRS Class improvement produces a 5 percent greater discount on flood insurance premium for properties in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

Under the Community Rating System, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reward community actions that meet the three goals of the CRS:

- Reduce flood damage to insurable property
- Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP



CITY OF PORT RICHEY

**6333 Ridge Road
Port Richey, FL 34668**

**Phone: 727-816-1900
Fax: 727-816-1916**

www.cityofportrichey.com

HOURS OF OPERATION

**Monday—Friday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Utility Billing Drop Box
Available 24 hours**

DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Administration: 816-1901

Building: 835-1098

Code Compliance: 514-0179

Finance/HR: 835-1269

Fire: 816-1910

Police Dispatch : 816-1919

Public Works: 835-1241

Utilities: 835-1243

**Utility Billing: 816-1900
ext. 2**

Recognizing Port Richey's Police Officers

On March 29, 2018, The Police Department held a promotions and awards ceremony in City Hall. Three senior officers were promoted to the rank of Sergeant: Detective Angela Russo, Officer Jeffrey Cox and Officer Patrick Alu. Family members of the newly appointed Sergeants proudly pinned the new badge to the uniform shirt of each new Sergeant. Honorable Service Awards were presented to Sergeant Russo, Officer Zabetka and Officer Zimmerman for their heroic actions during the casino boat fire in January of this year.



Serving on a City Board or Committee

Are you interested in serving on a City Board or Committee? Board and/or committee membership is a great way to serve your City and be an active participant in community decision-making. Residents of the community are appointed to various boards and committees by City Council. Members serve in an advisory capacity, aiding the City Council in decision-making on various aspects of City business. We currently have several open positions on various boards and committees. Please contact City Clerk Jackie Hanville at 727-816-1907 or j.hanville@cityofportrichey.com for more information on how to serve the

Attending the Joint Cities/County Harbors Workshop

On Wednesday, April 25th, Port Richey City Council and staff attended a Joint Cities/County Harbor Workshop at the West Pasco Government Center. Elected officials and staff from Pasco County and New Port Richey were also in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss progress on The Harbors Redevelopment Plan. The Harbors Redevelopment Plan is an inter-agency effort developed to focus on the economic revitalization of the 84 square miles that encompass the west coast of Pasco County. One of the cornerstones of that plan is the development of the City's commercial waterfront. Topics of discussion included the City's dredging project, development in the Waterfront Overlay District, and improvements

