

Ocean Ridge Tidings

A monthly e-newsletter for the residents of Ocean Ridge, Florida



Election News

The March municipal election resulted in the election of two previous commissioners: Kristine de Haseth, an incumbent who was re-elected and Geoff Pugh, a previous commissioner rejoining this year. Both were sworn in at the April 5, 2021 Regular Town Commission meeting. Also during the meeting, Kristine de Haseth was re-appointed Mayor and Susan Hurlburt was appointed Vice-Mayor by the Commission.



Town Clerk Armstrong swears in Commissioners Kristine de Haseth & Geoff Pugh.

Thank you, Commissioner Besler!

During the April 5, 2021 Regular Town Commission meeting, former Commissioner Phil Besler was recognized for his outstanding public service as a Commissioner from 2018-2021. We wish him well on his future endeavors!!



Town Manager Stevens presents plaque to outgoing Commissioner Besler.

THE TOWN HAS NAMED A NEW ROAD "WHITNEY WAY." TO LEARN THE HISTORY OF THE RESIDENT WE'RE HONORING, PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 OR CLICK [HERE](#).

SEAWALL PROJECT UPDATE

The beach crossovers at Edith Street and Anna Street have re-opened effective April 1st. They will temporarily close for a few days once the contractor is ready to perform the landscaping portion of the project. Check the website for updates which will be posted as we receive them.

Town Names New Road after Long-Time Philanthropic Resident

by Commissioner Steve Coz

The Town has decided to name the new street being created as an extension off the west end of Thompson Street by honoring a long-time resident who had a major impact on Ocean Ridge retaining its natural beauty.

The street will be named “Whitney Way,” after Dorothy Whitney.

Dorothy and her husband Howard were residents of Ocean Ridge from 1957 until her death in 2003. They lived at 110 Dolphin Road. She split her time between her beloved Ocean Ridge and Avon, Connecticut.

Dorothy owned tracts of land in the Beachway Drive area and on the west side of North Ocean Boulevard (A1A). She always wanted to preserve the natural beauty of the region. She was involved in the platting of the area to ensure green space. When she sold any property, she insisted that the buyer first present their house building plans to ensure that it did not negatively impact her vision of land conservation. She also donated parcels of land to the National Wildlife Federation in her quest to keep Ocean Ridge the calm seaside oasis that she envisioned.

Of most impact to current residents of Ocean Ridge, in 1973 she donated the 2.5-acre lot on the northwest corner of Woolbright Road and A1A. The Federation in turn donated that land to the Town of Ocean Ridge in 1998, with Dorothy’s stipulation that the town develop the tract as a “nature preserve accessible to the public.”

This land is now the natural retention pond that is critical to drainage at the south end of town. Without that land it is hard to imagine how the town would have successfully accomplished its six-million-dollar drainage project, which began in 1998. The pond has native plants that filter the water so that it is environmentally safe to be released into the intracoastal.

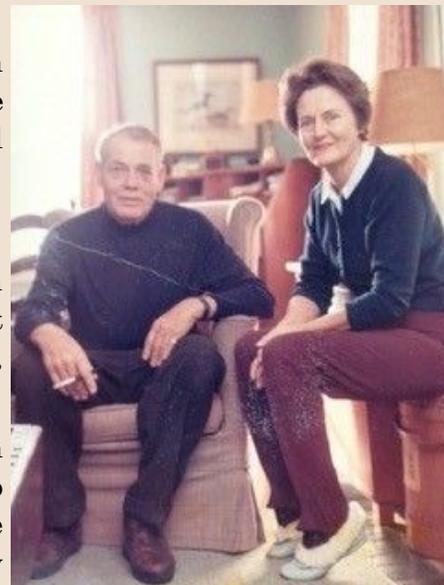
Her granddaughter Dorothy McCagg, who now lives in New Hampshire, spoke with family members, all of whom remember their grandmother fondly. They provided this statement to the Ocean Ridge Tidings.

“We all have memories of our grandmother, or DeeDee as we called her, as a very philanthropic person. She believed in gifts to her local communities. We think of her as the original “Go Local.” We remember her at her cubby hole desk writing check after check to different organizations she supported. She knew that those gifts made a difference. She valued nature as precious and beautiful, and loved her gardens. She was a woman ahead of her time.

“We often visited her in Florida on Spring breaks and enjoyed swimming in the ocean, as well as going to The Little Club and the Ocean Club.

“Our entire family wants to thank the town for this honor. And the name “Whitney Way” is so appropriate. DeeDee loved to think that she had her “way.” She worked hard to get her way on many occasions, especially when it came to preservation. As she used to say, ‘reaching the goal is what matters.’”

Dorothy Whitney was a graduate of Vassar College, class of 1930. She was a member of Saint James Episcopal Church in Farmington, CT. Her gracious generosity will long be remembered.



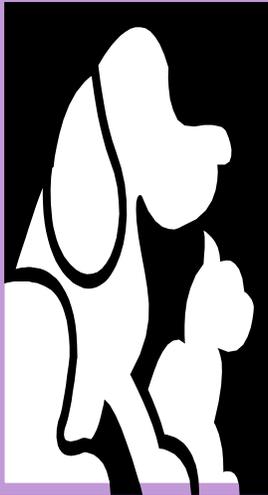
Town News



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Building Official will be holding an in-person resident & contractor forum regarding the **Local Amendments to the Florida Building Code** on Monday, May 3, 2021 from 5PM to 5:45PM

This meeting will be held prior to the Regular Town Commission Meeting in Commission Chambers. There will be limited space due to COVID-19 so please come early. We hope to see you there!



**Lost or Found
A Pet?
Call 561-732-8331
to report a
lost or found pet.**



Did You Know?

Town Hall Staff provides residents with notary services at no charge during office hours. Please bring photo ID.

The Ocean Ridge Garden Club is now accepting pre-orders for their online Spring Shop. The Spring Shop includes sweet honey products, luxurious soaps, scrubs & creams, beautiful plants and more!

To view the event flyer, please click [here](#). Deadline to order is April 15.



FUN THINGS TO DO

The Coastal Star has featured the Ocean Ridge Natural Area in their latest edition.

To read the featured story titled "Secret Garden: Hidden gem in Ocean Ridge harbors mangroves, hardwood forest" by Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley please click [here](#). Or visit Town Hall for a paper copy.



Photo by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star



Photo by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Town News

[Learn more about COVID-19 including health tips, news, and local and state resources, please visit: <http://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/pages/resources.aspx>](http://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/pages/resources.aspx)

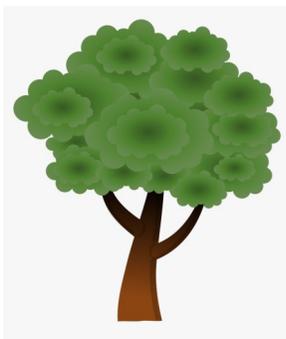
[Saving water is easy and economical. Here are many ways to conserve water both inside and outside your home: <https://www.sfwmd.gov/community-residents/water-conservation-how-to>](https://www.sfwmd.gov/community-residents/water-conservation-how-to)

[To learn more about recycling and how to order bins, please visit: <https://swa.org/149/Recycling>](https://swa.org/149/Recycling)

[Our District has lawn watering restrictions all year. Amid recent dry conditions, property owners should take additional measures to conserve water, please visit South Water Management District to learn more: <https://www.sfwmd.gov/community-residents/water-conservation>](https://www.sfwmd.gov/community-residents/water-conservation)

[The Solid Waste Authority \(SWA\) has extensive hurricane information, please visit: <https://swa.org/hurricane>](https://swa.org/hurricane)

[SWA also has great YouTube videos on many topics: Keep a Tree Trimming Plan to Reduce Storm Damage - <https://youtu.be/aKgPxBC8WkK>](https://youtu.be/aKgPxBC8WkK)



Help us add to the Town's tree inventory!

1. Email us a picture of the tree (info@oceanridgeflorida.com);
2. Email us a close-up picture of one of the leaves;
3. Tell us the size of the trunk (can be approximate); and
4. Give us the approximate height.



**TURTLE SEASON
BEGAN MARCH 1**

To learn more about how to protect our turtle friends, please click [here](#).



For Volunteer Opportunities in the Town of Ocean Ridge, please click [here](#).

In the month of April, the following employees have anniversaries with the Town, and we thank them for their dedication to the Town of Ocean Ridge:



- Debra Boyle, Police Officer—4 years!
- Mike Parkerson, Police Officer—3 years!
- Alex Sasov, Police Officer— 1 year!

2021 BUDGET MEETINGS

Town Commission

Goal Setting & Budget Meeting Schedule

Monday, Apr.19 :Goal Setting Workshop @ 5pm

Monday, Jun. 7: Budget Workshop @ 2pm and Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jul. 6: Budget Workshop @ 2pm and Regular Town Meeting & Set Maximum Millage @ 6pm

Monday, Aug. 2 : Budget Workshop @ 2 pm and Regular Town Meeting @ 6pm

Tuesday, Sept. 7: 1st Budget Public Hearing & Regular Meeting @ 6pm

Monday, Sept. 20: Special Meeting—2nd Budget Public Hearing @ 6pm

****All Meetings to be Held in the Commission Chambers at Town Hall****

From Solid Waste Authority Tips To Prepare Your Yard Now For Hurricane Season can be viewed [here](#).



REMINDER: Trim your coconut trees by July 1st!!

Coconut Tree Trimming



On July 1, 2019, the Commission approved Ordinance 2019-11 which reads: "Sec. 66-152. - Duty to trim coconut trees. In order to protect life and property during periods of high winds and hurricanes and to protect pedestrians and vehicular traffic where coconut trees overhang walkways and streets, all coconut trees in the town shall be required to be trimmed annually by July 1 of each year, so that on July 1 of each year all coconut trees in the town shall be free of coconuts, coconut blooms, and dead or 2 dying fronds. Should any property owner fail to comply with this section, he/she shall be guilty of a violation of this Code.

Please be aware of this ordinance and pass the word onto those who may not read the newsletter or Town website.



Presented by the Employee Recognition Committee the Employee of the Quarter is awarded to Town employees who have excelled in:

- Service to fellow employees and/or residents
- Original & innovative resolution of critical issues
- Savings to the town
- Inspirational service or impact
- One-time outstanding contribution
- Exceptional contribution to the community



Congratulations to Police Officer Lequandra Beckford on being selected as the Employee of the Quarter for January – March 2021!



Town Manager Stevens & Police Ofc. Lequandra Beckford

General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd.,
Ocean Ridge, FL 33435
www.oceanridgeflorida.com

@OceanRidgeFL - Twitter
OceanRidgeFL—Facebook

Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ◊ 561-737-8359 (fax)
561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)
General Email: info@oceanridgeflorida.com
Town Hall Hours: 8:30am-3:00pm

Police

Non-emergency: 561-732-8331
Emergency: 9-1-1
Public Records Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Town Administrative Officials

Town Manager

Tracey Stevens
tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk

Karla Armstrong
karmstrong@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Hal Hutchins
hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com

Building Official

Durrani Guy
dguy@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Commission

Mayor

Kristine de Haseth
kdehaseth@oceanridgeflorida.com

Vice Mayor

Susan Hurlburt
shurlburt@oceanridgeflorida.com

Commissioners

Steve Coz
scoz@oceanridgeflorida.com

Geoff Pugh
gpugh@oceanridgeflorida.com

Martin Wiescholek
mwiescholek@oceanridgeflorida.com

Numbers to Know

EMERGENCY

Police, Fire, Ambulance 911

NON-EMERGENCY

Ocean Ridge Police Dept. 561-732-8331
Boynton Beach Fire Dept. 561-742-6600

TOWN HALL

Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Mgr. 561-732-2635
Fax 561-737-8359

OTHERS

Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873
Animal Control 561-233-1200
Army Corp of Engineers 561-683-1577
Beach Conditions 561-966-6600
Boynton Beach City Hall 561-742-6000
Boynton Beach Water Dept. 561-742-6300
Clarke Environmental Services 800-203-6485
Comcast 800-266-2278
Declare Domicile 561-355-2962
Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 561-245-2118
DEP—Christian Lambert 561-313-9007
Dept. of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 561-681-6333
Elder Affairs 866-882-2991
FEMA 800-621-3362
FL Dept. of Transportation (DOT) 866-374-3368
FL Dept. of Transportation Traffic Line 511
Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm. 888-404-FWCC
Florida Power & Light (FPL) 561-697-8000
Florida Power & Light (report outage) 800-4-OUTAGE
Marriage Licenses & Ceremonies 561-355-2986
Oceanfront Park Beach Conditions 561-742-6775
Oceanfront Park Events/Weddings 561-742-6240
Palm Beach County Building Dept. 561-233-5100
Palm Beach County EOC 561-712-6400
Palm Beach County Health Dept. 561-840-4500
Palm Beach County Inspector General 877-283-7068
Palm Beach County Mosquito Control 561-642-8775
Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation 561-966-6600
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser 561-355-3230
Palm Beach County Tax Collector 561-355-2266
Palm Beach County White Fly 561-276-1260
Waste Pro USA (trash collection) 561-688-8912
So. FL Water Management 561-686-8800
Solid Waste Authority 561-640-4000
Supervisor of Elections 561-656-6200
Tides 561-742-6776

CLIP AND SAVE!

Calendar of Events

April-

- 2: Blood drive with COVID-19 antibodies testing by One Blood begins at 9AM behind Town Hall.
- 3: Blood drive with COVID-19 antibodies testing by One Blood begins at 10AM behind Town Hall.
- 5: Building Official In-Person Resident & Contractor Forum begins at 5PM in Commission Chambers.
- 5: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the Commission Chambers (tentative).
- 17: Annual Shred-It Event begins at 9AM at Town Hall. To learn more, please click [here](#).
- 19: Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting begins at 8AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 19: Town Commission Goal Setting Workshop begins at 5PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 21: Board of Adjustment Meeting begins at 9AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 24: Sea Angels Beach cleanup event from 8AM–9:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park. Registration required at seaangels.org.

May-

- 3: Building Official In-Person Resident & Contractor Forum begins at 5PM in Commission Chambers.
- 3: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 4: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the Commission Chambers (tentative).
- 17: Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting begins at 8AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 29: Sea Angels Beach cleanup event from 8AM–9:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park. Registration required

Agendas, minutes, and updates to the calendar are available on the town's website and will be posted as they become available.

Meeting Information

Regular Town Commission meetings are generally held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00pm. Code Enforcement Special Magistrate holds hearing on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00am and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand on the third Monday of the month at 8:00am. Any special meetings added to the calendar, date and time changes, as well as agendas and minutes will be updated on the Town's website at www.oceanridgeflorida.com as they occur.

Privacy Policy

The following is the Town's privacy policy that is noted in Town email signatures and a variation is on the Town's website.

"Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from the Town of Ocean Ridge officials and employees regarding public business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may be subject to public disclosure. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. The views expressed in this message may not necessarily reflect those of the Town of Ocean Ridge. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to this message, and please delete it from your computer. Thank you."

Town Manager's Report—April Commission Meeting

Mayor, Commissioners & Residents of Ocean Ridge:

In the month of March, we celebrated the following employee anniversaries with the Town: Police Officer Nubia Savino, 8 years. We thank Officer Savino for her service and dedication to the Town of Ocean Ridge!



Town Staff is currently addressing FDOT's comments regarding the Crown Colony crosswalk application in reference to lighting requirements and the removal of trees and hedges in the right-of-way that are causing sight-line issues.

The Anna and Edith Street crossovers were opened to the public on April 1st. We are still awaiting the finalized landscape plan from the contractor. The crossovers will need to be temporarily closed again for a few days while the landscaping work is taking place, however, we asked the contractor to keep one of them open while the other is closed and vice-versa. We are waiting to hear back from the contractor on the proposed dates.

At the last Town Commission meeting, the Town Commission voted to name the new street off Thompson Street "Whitney Lane". After that time, the family of Mrs. Whitney requested that we change the name to "Whitney Way". I have attached the request for your review and would need a consensus to change the name from "Whitney Lane" to "Whitney Way".

The Federal Government recently adopted the American Rescue Plan in which the Town of Ocean Ridge is expecting to receive \$820,000, with the first half to be distributed in 2021, and the second half to be distributed in 2022. This is a rough figure, and the Town has not received official notification regarding the stimulus funds as of the date of this memo. If the Town accepts this stimulus money from the federal government, the funds need to be fully expended no later than December 31, 2024, and staff would be responsible for tracking the "grant" and completing the required periodic reports. The Department of Treasury will issue guidance detailing its interpretation and implementation of eligible uses, but the statutory language specifically authorizes use of the funds. Each of the following is a separate allowable use of the funds for the recipient:

- To respond to the pandemic or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- For premium pay for essential workers (as determined by each recipient government) during the pandemic, providing up to \$13 per hour above regular wages as "premium" or "hazard" pay;
- For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the pandemic (relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency);
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

I am still waiting for clarification as to whether or not stormwater infrastructure would qualify under the "investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure" category, and questions related to the process of amending the current year budget to accept the stimulus money and make expenditures from it, and I'm hoping to receive clarification by the date of the first budget meeting.

Town Manager's Report—April Commission Meeting—Page 2

Our Grants Administrator informed us that the Town was not selected for funding this cycle for the Septic to Sewer Planning Grant. He is still waiting for the official notification with information as to the evaluation and scoring, and will send further information to us once its' received. He stated that the denial was due to the low number of low-to-moderate income residents that would be impacted, and the size of the total impacted area. He stated that almost all of the funded projects were for planning efforts related to entire cities with tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands in population. He indicated that if another similar grant opportunity comes up in the future (possibly in September), he will be able to resubmit our application as part of the original agreement at no additional cost to the Town as long as the scope of the project does not change.

On April 5th – 8th from 2-8 pm, the City of Boynton Beach will be making parking lot modifications to the upper level parking area at Oceanfront Park. As a result, the upper level parking area will be unavailable during these times. The lower level parking area will be available with a “temporary” entrance/exit access after 2:00 pm. To facilitate traffic flow, loading zones will be added behind the restrooms and concession stand. The Town of Ocean Ridge has approved construction hours from 2pm-8pm for the four days specified above. Questions should be directed to the City of Boynton Beach's Project Manager, Carl Frumentti at 561-742-6238 or FrumenttiC@bbfl.us.

Please join us on Saturday, April 17th in the back parking lot of Town Hall between 9 a.m. and Noon for the annual Shredding Event for residents of Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes. Town Staff will be available to assist.

The annual budget season will kick off on Monday, April 19th at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall with the Goal Setting Workshop. Now is the time for residents to speak with Town Commissioners with ideas for fiscal priorities for the coming year.

Please check the Town's website regularly for important informational updates regarding COVID-19 vaccine opportunities. Governor DeSantis opened vaccine opportunities for all those age 18 and over effective April 5, 2021. Town Staff will continue to gather information regarding vaccine opportunities for our residents to ensure everyone who wishes to be vaccinated can do so.

Palm Beach County extended the emergency order until April 18th that mandates facial coverings be worn in all businesses and establishments, in all county and municipal buildings, on Palm Tran, and in any outdoor public places where social distancing cannot be accomplished. We ask that our residents and visitors continue to do your part in wearing a facial covering, maintaining proper social distancing, and washing hands frequently to help slow the spread of this deadly virus. Emergency Orders and other information related to COVID-19 may be reviewed on the Town's website at www.oceanridgeflorida.com. We hope you all continue to remain safe and healthy!

Respectfully,



Tracey L. Stevens, Town Manager & Finance Director

Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the April 5, 2021 Regular Town Commission Meeting. We hope this helps keep our residents informed in a timely fashion regarding Town Commission and Staff activities.

1. Presentations:
 - a. Presented Former Town Commissioner, Phil Besler, with a Plaque.
 - b. Certified the Election Results of the March 9, 2021 Municipal Election and performed a ceremonial swearing in of the Newly Elected Commissioners.
 - c. Town Manager Stevens named Police Officer Lequandra Beckford as the Employee of the Quarter for January through March 2021.
 - d. Town Auditor, Ron Bennett, presented the FY20 Audit report to the Town Commission, and the Town Commission accepted the report.
2. Announcements:
 - a. The Annual Town Commission Goal Setting Workshop will be held on April 19th at 5:00 PM at Town Hall. The next Regular Town Commission Meeting will be held on May 3rd at 6:00 PM at Town Hall. The next Planning & Zoning Commission meeting will be held on April 19th at 8:00 AM at Town Hall. The Board of Adjustment Meeting will be held on April 21st at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall. The next Septic to Sewer Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting is to be determined.
 - b. The Town Commission will consider appointments to the following Board positions at the May 3, 2021 Town Commission meeting: Board of Adjustment, two regular members for a three year term; Planning & Zoning Commission, two regular members for a three year term; and Planning & Zoning Commission, one alternate member for a one year term. Interested residents must be registered to vote in Ocean Ridge and submit a resume and letter of interest to the Town Clerk by the deadline of April 21st at 3:00 p.m. Incumbents are exempted from the resume and letter of interest requirement.
 - c. The beach crossovers at Edith Street and Anna Street have re-opened effective April 1st. They will temporarily close for a few days once the contractor is ready to perform the landscaping portion of the project. Check the website for updates which will be posted as we receive them.
 - d. The City of Boynton Beach will be constructing parking lot enhancements at Oceanfront Park from April 5th through April 8th until 8 p.m. on each of those evenings. The upper level of the parking lot will be closed beginning at 2 p.m. during this timeframe. The lower parking area will be available with a temporary entrance & exit access beginning at 2 p.m., only for the specified dates.
 - e. The Town will be providing free shredding services to residents of Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes on Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 9 a.m. until Noon in the back parking lot at Town Hall. For more information regarding this event, please visit the Town's website.
 - f. Please join us each month prior to the Town Commission meeting at 5:00 p.m. for the Building Official Educational Forum in the Commission Chambers at Town Hall. Details including topics to be discussed each month are on the Town's website.

(Continued on next page)

- g. Residents who wish to sign up to receive important Town notifications and news through Civic Ready should sign up on the Town's website or call Town Hall for assistance.
3. Directed Town Staff to work with individual Commissioners for possible changes to the Rules of Order & Procedures of the Town Commission meetings.
4. Approved the Consent Agenda including:
 - a. Adopted Minutes of Regular Town Commission Meeting of March 1, 2021.
 - b. Approved Budgeted Expenditure of \$619,353.85 to the City of Boynton Beach for the semi-annual installment of the Fire/EMS Services contract.
5. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-04: A Resolution of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Electing Kristine de Haseth as Mayor.
6. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-05: A Resolution of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Electing Susan Hurlburt as Vice Mayor.
7. Denied any expansion to the Edith Street Crossover, and directed the contractor on the project to return the crossover to its original condition as described within the hold harmless agreement.
8. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-06: A Resolution of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Designating Depositories for Town Funds; Authorizing the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer to Sign Town Checks; Authorizing Any One of the Five Town Commissioners to Counter sign Town Checks; and Providing that this Resolution Shall Continue in Full Force and Effect Until Modified by Written Notice to Said Depositories.
9. Adopted on Second Reading Ordinance No. 2021-01: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances By Amending Chapter 67 "Buildings and Building Regulations", Article III "Technical Codes and Other Construction Standards", Division 2 "Administration and Enforcement", Section 67-51 "Permit Required", To Amend the Requirements to Obtain a Demolition Permit and Provide For Penalties; and Amending Section 67-52 "Commencement and Duration of Construction" To Adjust the Timeframes for Construction; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.
10. Adopted on Second Reading Ordinance 2020-02: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Chapter 64 "Zoning," Article I "District Regulations" By Amending Section 64-1 "RSF And RSE Single-Family Residential Districts," Amending Section 64-2 "RMM Medium Density Multiple-Family Residential District," Amending Section 64-4 "RHM High Density Multiple-Family Residential District," and Amending Article II "Planned Residential Development" By Amending Section 64-24 "Development Standards" To Decrease the Height of Two-Story Buildings When FEMA Regulations are Implicated and to Adjust the Height of a Parapet So That It Does Not Extend Too Far Above the Roof; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.
11. Approved a six month extension for the Land Development/ Building Permit for Kerrigan Project on Thompson Street with the conditions that the Town receives an extended letter

(Continued on next page)

of credit by April 15, 2021, and that the letter of credit amount shall equal to 110 percent of the updated total cost of the off-site improvements. If a letter of credit is not received within the deadline with the conditions provided, then the Town is to call upon the existing letter of credit.

12. Denied the lien reduction request for 6010 N. Ocean Blvd.
13. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-07, Approving the release for a Unity of Title for 54 Ocean Avenue with the conditions that a demolition permit be applied for by the applicant, permit issued by the Town, the existing improvements demolished and removed from the site in accordance with Town regulations to the satisfaction of Town Staff, and the demolition permit closed by the Town for the existing single family home.
14. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-08: Approval of Unity of Title for 5 Beachway North.
15. Directed Town Manager Stevens to add an agenda item under Commissioner Comments on the May Town Commission Meeting to discuss the variance requirement for dune crossovers under Ordinance 2020-05. The agenda item is to be led by Commissioner Coz.
16. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-09: A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending the Adopted Schedule of Fees for Various Services and Providing for an Effective Date.
17. Cancelled the April Joint Workshop with the Planning & Zoning Commission with date to be determined within a three month timeframe from April.
18. Designated Town Manager Stevens as the Voting Delegate and all Commissioners as the Alternate Voting Delegates to the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc.
19. Planning & Zoning Commission Vice Chair Carey provided a summary of the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting of March 15, 2021.
20. Town Manager Stevens presented the Town Manager's report. Important information in the Town Manager's Report may be found on the Town's website by [clicking here](#). Town Manager Stevens noted that she will be presenting an item regarding hours of operation for Linear Park at the next meeting.
21. Changed the name of the private drive off Thompson Street west of A1A from "Whitney Lane" to "Whitney Way".
22. Police Chief Hutchins provided the Monthly Activity Report for February 2021 and noted that Dispatchers will be honored from April 11-17, 2021 for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. He reminded residents to stay vigilant.
23. Building Official Guy provided his monthly Building Department report for February 2021.
24. Deferred discussions regarding Employment Contract Term Limits to the next meeting.

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MAY 3, 2021
AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL.**



APRIL CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION FROM LIEUTENANT RICHARD JONES

WIRELESS NETWORK SECURITY

With technology today, Fraud has become the primary way for criminals to take advantage of us all without much effort.

Although we cannot prevent all Frauds from taking place, we are able to safeguard ourselves to help prevent Fraud and Fraud type crimes. One of the most common areas for thieves to target potential victims is through wireless internet connections.

If you currently have wireless internet in your home or office, you should consult with your Internet Provider and/or your IT Vendor about implementing the following security measures.

1. Turn off sharing services.

In your own home, sharing is ok but you must remember to disable these settings before using a public Wi-Fi service.

2. Begin Using a VPN or Virtual Private Network that is encrypted.

Using a VPN is the best and most secure way to browse the internet, check your email or make on-line purchases.

3. Avoid using the auto-connect feature to Wi-Fi hotspots.

When using the auto-connect feature, it seriously endangers the safety of your personal information. Wi-Fi networks can be replicated by hackers causing you to auto connect to their network in place of your own.

4. Use HTTPS rather than HTTP.

Using HTTPS connections create a secure and encrypted connection while HTTP connections are done using plain text.

5. Use two factor authentication when possible.

This is a security method that requires two separate types of verifications to allow a secure log-in or connection. Most often this takes the form of a password you remember as well as a one-time code sent to your personal cell phone.

6. Confirm the network name of the network you are connecting to.

As previously mentioned in bullet #3, many hackers replicate Wi-Fi networks in an effort to steal your personal information. Many times, these networks are misspelled or slightly different than the network you actually intend to connect to. By verifying the name of the network you are connecting to, you are insuring that you are connecting to the correct network.

7. **Protect your passwords and do not share passwords or use generic passwords.**
Never share your password! Do not use generic passwords under any circumstances. Generic passwords are those, which a certain group of people share when connecting to a specific service or network.
8. **Use a Firewall Device.**
Microsoft Windows has built in firewall settings that you should enable for your own protections. In addition to those services, you should consider using a commercial Firewall Device such as Sonicwall, Cisco or Linksys. These devices protect hackers from getting access to your network and ultimately those devices on your network.
9. **Run Anti-Virus and Malware Software.**
Every device you use to connect to the internet should contain some form of Anti-Virus and Malware Software. This includes smartphones, tablets, and any other computer type device you may use. This type of software prevents viruses and malware from infecting your computer and ultimately stealing your personal information.
10. **Avoid using Public Wi-Fi Networks when at all possible**
Instead of using public Wi-Fi Networks, use a private Wi-Fi Device that you can purchase from any major cell phone carrier. These devices are much more secure than any public Wi-Fi Network.

If you would like additional information on any of these services, software or configuration changes, you should consult with an IT Professional or visit the internet and conduct your own research free of charge.



Please join us in celebrating and recognizing our Police Dispatchers. We will celebrate National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week from April 11, 2021 thru April 17, 2021.

These folks are our first line of defense and the ones that answer your calls for everything from directions to a life threatening event. They are truly a valuable part of our team and our community.

Ocean Ridge Police Department News



New Email Scams

Phony emails are popping up like crazy. Many display the IRS logo, the FBI logo, or other government logos and use catch phrases such as 'Tax Refund Payment' or 'Recalculation of your tax refund payment. You are then asked to click a link and submit a form to claim their federal income tax refund.

Scammers, pretending to be from the Internal Revenue Service, as well as many other government agencies are developing new material that targets college students, professors, the elderly and others who use email.

The IRS has heard plenty about this new impersonation scam in recent weeks, and recently put out an alert. Maybe you filed a tax return early in the year and wonder what happened to your refund cash? If you're busy, you might not think twice when you get an email that looks like the IRS needs more information to process that refund.

If you click on that phony link, you're going to be asked to verify or supply some information that you should never hand over to strangers.

Your Social Security number. Your driver's license number. Your prior year's adjusted gross income. Your electronic filing Identity Protection PIN that is used to file a tax return.

STOP: An Identity Protection PIN, known as an IP PIN by tax professionals, is a six-digit number that is designed to stop crooks from filing a tax return using your Social Security number. The actual number for the IP PIN is known only to you and the IRS – **unless, of course, you unwittingly hand it over** when a phishing email shows up.

Don't click on any links if you see this type scam email.

Please remember, there is no free money when you give away your personal information!

OUR MOST RECENT CRIME TRENDS

As you can see from the last month's activity report, crime has not gone away. We are seeing a rise in identity theft as well as other crimes of opportunity and domestic violence.

Please remember, the purpose of our activity summary is to make you aware of the things going on in our community.

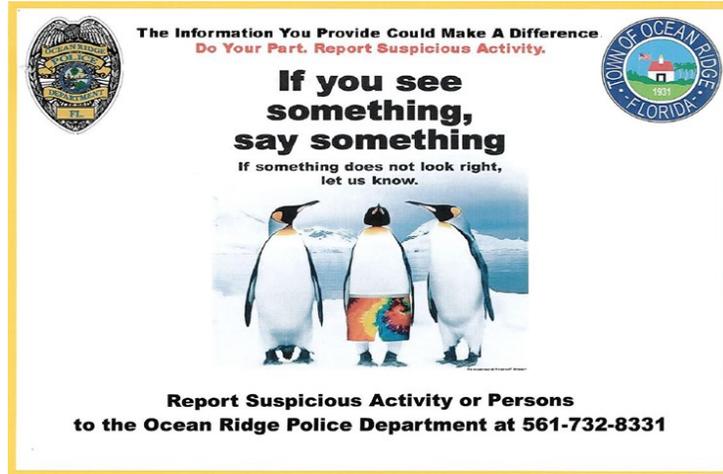
Your continued vigilance and careful monitoring of your financial accounts and personal identifying information are the best protection you have from becoming a victim.

Please remember, you do not have to give out your Social Security information, your banking information or even your date of birth to those on the internet or telephone; especially those who are promising something special or threatening you with a deadline to decide something.

And finally,

Please report any suspicious person or activity as soon as possible.

REMEMBER



To learn more about the Ocean Ridge Support Group, Inc., a non-profit corporation, whose objective is to organize the residents and property owners in the Town of Ocean Ridge and surrounding area into a benevolent, educational and social corporation and to provide training for the purpose of protecting lives and property and promoting good will within the surrounding coastal communities, please click [here](#).



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

Police Activity:

Here is a listing of significant crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in March 2021 for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

<u>Type of Incident</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Domestic Disturbance	3/2/2021	03/2/2021 @7:00 pm	River Drive	Domestic Disturbance Verbal altercation.
Theft of Bicycle	3/5/2021	2/28/2021 @8:00 am	5600 Old Ocean Blvd.	Delayed report of stolen bicycle. Victim observed theft as it happened.
Fraud/ Identity Theft	3/8/2021	Between 3/6/2021 and 3/8/2021	Briny Breezes	Use of personal information to commit fraud and obtain merchandise.
Fraud/ Identity Theft	3/9/2021	Between 3/7/2021 and 3/8/2021	5800 Blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Personal information used to obtain fraudulent \$150,000 disaster assistance loan.
Domestic Disturbance	3/11/2021	Between 2/3/2021 and 3/11/2021	OceanView Drive	Domestic violence by ongoing verbal threats.
Battery	3/18/2021	3/18/2021 @10:15 am	Cedar Drive Briny Breezes	Suspect arrested after investigation reveals battery of corporate worker.
Recovered Stolen License Tag	3/22/2021	3/22/2021 @12:30 pm	5500 N. Ocean Blvd.	Vehicle operated with stolen tag attached. Driver arrested and tag recovered.
Mentally Ill Person	3/24/2021	3/24/2021 @9:00pm	6800 Blk. N. Ocean Blvd.	Mentally ill person assisted to treatment and evaluation.

(Continued on next page)

Obstruct Police	3/28/2021	3/28/2021 @11:00 pm	5100 Blk. Old Ocean Blvd.	Subject arrested for obstruction of police by giving false name during investigation.
Hit and Run Traffic Crash	3/30/2021	3/30/2021 @1:00 pm	Woolbright at North Ocean Blvd.	Vehicle struck pedestrian before leaving scene of crash/ Invest. ongoing.
Lost Property	3/30/2021	3/30/2021 @4:00 pm	Boynton Public Beach	Subject reported Rolex watch lost on 3/29/2021
Theft From Building	3/31/2021	Between 3/30/2021 and 3/31/2021	5801 N. Ocean Blvd.	Laptop and bicycle taken from common areas in building.

In addition to the above listed activity and regular patrols of the beaches and roadways; officers investigated two traffic crashes, conducted traffic enforcement and code enforcement activities throughout the Town.

Please note: The above listed activity is just a snapshot and not a total accounting of the activity officers of your police department engage in on a monthly basis. This snapshot is to help raise awareness and prevent crime through information sharing and proactive involvement with security, such as locking vehicle doors and closing garage doors when away from these areas.