



City of Indian Rocks Beach

www.indian-rocks-beach.com

Jan/Feb 2014

City Commission

R. B. Johnson	Mayor
Cookie Kennedy	Vice Mayor
Terry Hamilton-Wollin	Commissioner
Phil Hanna	Commissioner
Jim Labadie	Commissioner

Administration

City Manager	Brently Gregg Mims
City Attorney	Maura Kiefer
City Clerk	Deanne B. O'Reilly

1507 Bay Palm Boulevard
727/595-2517

IRB LIBRARY

Welcome to the Indian Rocks Beach Library! This library was started back in 1974 by a group of city residents who were dedicated to providing library services to this community. Up until just a few years ago, this library relied solely on the hard work of volunteers. Today the library still operates on the unwavering commitment of volunteers and citizens of Indian Rocks Beach. And I am proud to be a part of this community as the city's Librarian.

Currently our library provides excellent services including reading materials, online resources and a large selection of DVDs; we even have a book sale room that is open year round.

We will be offering interesting library programs starting in 2014. Our staff strives to serve the City of Indian Rocks Beach to the best of our abilities.

We hope you visit often as it is one of the gems of Indian Rocks Beach!

Laurie Talerico

City Librarian

ltalerico@irbcity.com

CITY MANAGER REMARKS

I hope all of you had a great holiday season. Our residents enjoyed a variety of holiday events during the months of November and December. Thanks to all the volunteers and city employees who work behind the scenes to make these events happen.

The current phase of the City Hall Project will wrap up by the end of January 2014. The front of City Hall has a new façade and new landscaping will be coming soon. We appreciate your patience during the process of renovating this historic building.

Ms. Laurie Talerico was hired as our new City Librarian in November. We look forward to the many new ideas and programs that she will implement in the coming months. Please stop by the Library and welcome her to Indian Rocks Beach.

The City will begin the process of installing new city street signs. The installation will occur over a period of time and will be completed with budgeted funds. The new signs will carry the city logo.



As your City Manager, my door is always open to you for questions, comments or suggestions. My phone number is 595-2517 or email gmims@irbcity.com.

Gregg Mims, ICMA-CM
City Manager

2014 CALENDAR

Wed Jan 1

**New Year's Day -
City Hall CLOSED**

Tue Jan 7 7:00a - 9:00a

"Coffee With A Cop"

Tue Jan 14 7:00a - 7:00p

Special Congressional Primary

Thu Jan 16 6:00p

Planning & Zoning Board

Mon Jan 20

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day -
City Hall CLOSED**

Tue Jan 28 7:00p

City Commission Meeting



Mon Feb 3 7:00p

Candidates Forum

Tue Feb 4 7:00p

Board of Adjustments & Appeals

Tue Feb 11 7:00p

City Commission Meeting

Thu Feb 20 6:00p

Planning & Zoning Board

Tue Feb 25 7:00p

City Commission Meeting



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FINANCE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Fiscal year 2014 is underway. Thus far, all funds and departments are financially tracking on budget with revenues and expenditures following Commission-approved budgetary projections.

Property tax season is here and payments from the Pinellas County Tax Collector are arriving at City Hall as residents and property owners take advantage of the discounts provided for early payment. Annual city property taxes, totaling over \$1.5 million, make up half of the revenues in the City's General Fund. The General Fund is the largest fund in the City where all services outside of the sewer and solid waste operations are accounted for.

The City's auditors completed their on-site visit and testing in December with final audit review and comments coming out late February. The final step in the annual audit process is the presentation to the City Commission scheduled for March 2014.

Dan Carpenter

Finance Director

dcarpenter@irbcity.com

PUBLIC SERVICES NEWS

Grease Management for Homeowners:

Grease is one of the MAJOR causes of messy and costly sewer backups into the home AND for the City's Sanitary Sewer System.

Where does grease come from?

Grease comes from certain foods such as **lard, shortening, oils, butter/margarine, sauces, baked goods and meats**. Scrape cooking scraps into a trash can rather than washing them down a drain or garbage disposal. Care-

PUBLIC SERVICES (CONT'D).

fully read and follow the directions when using consumer products to clear a clog. If used improperly, consumer products may result in an even bigger, more costly, problem. Should a clog develop in your home plumbing, contact a licensed plumber.

If it is determined that a clog has developed in the City's sanitary sewer system (generally anything adjacent to the curb or sidewalk), City personnel will clear the clog as quickly and safely as possible.

For assistance, please contact the Public Services Department @ 595-6889, Mon - Fri, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

What does grease do when it goes down the drain?

Grease clings to the inside of your household plumbing and sewer pipes of the sanitary sewer collection system. The buildup on the inside of the pipes progressively decreases the pipes' diameter, allowing less and less water to pass through. At this stage, you may notice a "slow drain" which is often the first sign of a potential clog. Ultimately, the grease will block the entire pipe. This may cause an overflow of raw sewage, either at the origin of the clog (the home), a neighbor's home or onto a local street. Raw sewage may contain disease-causing organisms, and therefore, must be cleaned up and disposed of immediately.

Helpful Hints for proper disposal of household grease/food waste:

Keep a basket or strainer in your drain to catch food scraps and

PUBLIC SERVICES (CONT'D).

other solid waste. Once it cools, pour grease and fat into a container or jar. Place the container in a plastic bag and dispose of it in the regular trash.

Pesticide/Herbicide/Fertilizer Management

In maintaining home landscape, residents often do not realize the implications of their maintenance practices on the environment. Misuse of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers can have a disastrous effect on groundwater resulting in contamination or run-offs into water supplies.

Pest problems in the lawn can be minimized by good cultural practices such as minimal fertilizing of your lawn; watering your lawn only when it shows signs of stress; keeping the blades on your lawn mower sharp and cutting only about one inch of the grass blade at any one cutting.

If spraying pesticides is necessary, it should be done when the least amount of damage will occur to plants and the natural predators of pests – early morning or late in the evening.

Disposal of pesticides/herbicides must be done properly and safely. The City of Indian Rocks Beach asks that you do not place these items in your garbage.

Please contact the Pinellas County Household Chemical Collection Center, at 464-7565, where these products can be safely disposed of.

Dean Scharmen

Public Services Director

dscharmen@irbcity.com