



WINTER SPRINGS

“ I N S I D E R ”

FALL
Volume 20

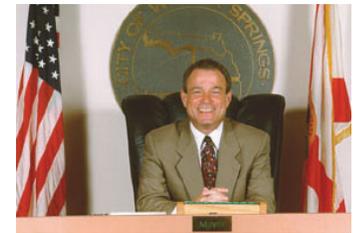
City of Winter Springs

COMMISSION REPORT

During July, August and September 2002 the City Commission approved a Strategic Technology Master Plan for updating the City's Information Services System, approved a contract with Orlando Business Telephone Systems to install fiber optic cabling linking City Hall and Central Winds Park, approved a contract with Trent-Avatar Utility Services for utility meter reading services, approved Ordinance 2002-02 making it unlawful to tamper with the City Utility Facilities, and approved Ordinance 2002-24 establishing the Tree Ordinance Citizen Study Committee for the purpose of reviewing the City's tree protection ordinance.

In other business the City Commission approved Resolution 2002-26 requesting the United States Postal Service to elevate the current Branch Office status of Postal Service in the City to a Full Service Post Office managed by a local Postmaster, awarded Mr. Larry Putchinski who recently retired from the US Postal Service, a Proclamation for his service to this community, held two budget workshops and approved the FY 2002/03 Budget. A workshop was held July 29th on the current status of the City's Town Center. Various presentations were made to the citizens, and Town Center developer Shane Doran answered questions about our new Town Center.

After hearing comments from several residents the Commission rejected a proposal to install sidewalks on Tuscora Drive, and approved the streetscape and landscape designs for Tuskawilla Road and Hickory Grove Boulevard in the Town Center



MAYOR PAUL PARTKA
684 Oswego Drive
Winter Springs, FL 32708



District 1
COMMISSIONER ROBERT S. MILLER
679 Silvercreek Drive
Winter Springs, FL 32708



District 3
COMMISSIONER EDWARD MARTINEZ, JR.
931 Old White Way
Winter Springs, FL 32708

City of Winter Springs Mayor and City Commissioners



District 2
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL S. BLAKE
711 Canadice Lane
Winter Springs, FL 32708



District 4
DEPUTY MAYOR CINDY GENNELL
706 Meadowbrook Drive
Winter Springs, FL 32708



District 5
COMMISSIONER DAVID MCLEOD
645 Dunmar Circle
Winter Springs, FL 32708





WINTER SPRINGS FIRE UNION – LET’S GET DOWN TO THE TRUTH.

On September 30, 2001, the City’s contract with the Fire Union expired. For months, City Management has attempted to negotiate a new contract mutually acceptable to both the City and the Union. Due to the unreasonable and unaffordable demands of the Union, the City and the Union have not been able to come to an agreement. The Fire Union declared an impasse requiring final resolution of the issues by the City Commission.

Winter Springs has an excellent fire department. The Union and non-union employees of the department are highly trained and motivated professionals who provide an outstanding level of service to the residents of our City. Although we have issues with the demands and tactics of the leadership of the Union, you can rest assured that the employees of the department will continue to provide excellent service during times when we are attempting to resolve our differences.

Sadly, the leadership of the Union is engaging in a campaign to tarnish the image of the City in a misguided attempt to force the City to agree to the Union’s unreasonable demands. Most disturbing is the Union’s use of misrepresentations as weapons in the attack on the City. **While the Union claims that “the citizens we protect and serve are entitled to know the truth”, it appears that the Union is not willing to tell the whole truth.**

The City believes the citizens of Winter Springs always deserve to know the truth. The truth of the matter is this. Over the past six years the City Commission and I have been involved in a continuous program of improving the pay, benefits, and working conditions of all City employees. This program has resulted in pay and benefit increases exceeding that experienced by most employees in the private sector and certainly those living on social security and their private investments. This program has resulted in the actual pay of Winter Springs firefighters increasing an average of 6.5% annually.

Importantly, the City Commission raised taxes this year to help fund a City-wide pay study that, on October 1, 2002, would have made the firefighters among the highest paid firefighters in Seminole County. In fact, in some cases, the ranges recommended from the pay study and approved by the City Commission were even greater than the ranges demanded by the Union. However, the Union, through its irrational decision-making, has delayed the City from putting these pay increases in place, while continuing to publicize that they are low paid.

A new pension plan now gives firefighters with thirty years service 90% of the average of their three highest years earnings at age 55 with no tax consequences. This means a firefighter can retire at age 55, begin drawing his/her retirement, get another job if he/she desires to supplement retirement, begin receiving social security at age 62, and begin drawing as much as 120% of his/her firefighter salary from City retirement and Social Security. Furthermore, this retirement benefit requires only a 3% of salary contribution to the City retirement system. This is an exceptional pension plan especially in light of the fact that firefighters in many other pension plans have to contribute two, three, and even four times that amount. In addition, City firefighters are provided a top-notch health plan, the premium of which is fully paid by the City. They are also provided up to 6 shifts or 15 days of paid sick leave each year, 10 paid holidays each year, and up to 12 shifts or 30 days paid vacation each year.

The offers made by the City during negotiations have continued the City’s program of pay enhancements and benefits. You would think that the Fire Union would appreciate the gains they have made. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Their demands have become more and more unreasonable and unaffordable. In an effort to get through the political process and public pressure what they cannot legitimately get through collective bargaining, they have chosen regrettable tactics. **For example,**





City Manager Report

although no City Commission has ever voted down an improvement in pay, benefits, or working conditions that I have presented year after year in the City since I have been here, the Union leadership, under the flawed assumption that they could make the City do more than what is reasonably affordable to do, has chosen to betray the Commissioners who supported them by **organizing to vote them out of office**. Furthermore, they have blanketed the community with inaccurate information in newspapers, handouts, television spots, and picketing signs falsely advising the community of how badly they are being treated by the City. In another example, the Fire Union withdrew from their participation in the city's annual United Way Campaign because they didn't get their way on an organizational issue. **Nothing about this is unlawful, the question is, it in the best interest of the citizens of Winter Springs?**

After being advised time and time again that this game of hardball would lead to a deeper and deeper adversarial relationship with the City, the Fire Union leadership has chosen to continue this flawed strategy. I have been in Cities where public officials and management were indifferent to the needs of their employees. As the record demonstrates, that is not the case in Winter Springs. Accordingly, the Fire Union needs to rethink its strategy to fit the situation in Winter Springs. First, they need to realize that in a small conservative community like Winter Springs union hardball is rarely productive. Secondly, they need to realize an adversarial relationship is going to reward them with less than that possible through a positive non-confrontational relationship with their employer. **Finally, they need to focus their attention on the bargaining table and stop trying to force their will upon elected officials through political intimidation, negative public relations, and other antics external to the collective bargaining process.**

In closing, let me say again that we have a great group of highly trained professional firefighters who do a great job. It is my hope that the leadership of their Union will come to realize that although hardball tactics like picketing, negative information campaigns, attempts to control and intimidate elected officials may all be legal, they are unwise, counter-productive, and not in the best interest of the community and our residents. Related to this, **I would hope that they come to realize that our common goals can be better achieved by conducting collective bargaining in a way that builds respect and trust rather than tearing it down.**

Taking the high road is a matter of choice, a matter of character, and a matter of positive leadership. I believe our citizens deserve the high road from [the leadership of the Union](#).



City of Winter Springs Employee Christopher Carson a DeBary resident has been elected to the DeBary City Council. Christopher, Recreation Supervisor for the City of Winter Springs won an election for Seat 4 in DeBary. Christopher gained 461 votes to Rose Mary Obeland's 433. Carson accomplished a first in DeBary, which is the first "DeBary Native" and "Youngest Resident" to be elected in the City of DeBary. "My roots are in DeBary and I look forward to being part and responsible for the future growth of DeBary", Christopher added. The City is very proud of Christopher's accomplishments, our Congratulations to you Christopher.



COMMISSION ADOPTS FY-03 CITY BUDGET

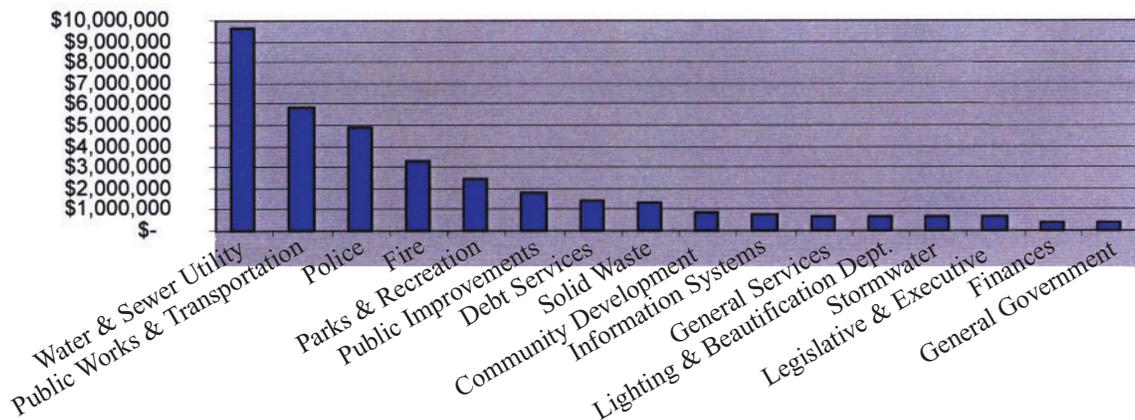


On September 23, 2002 the Commission approved a Budget for Fiscal Year 2003 continuing the City's commitment to improving Public Safety, Information Technology and Parks.

The Commission decided to raise the millage from 3.7708 to 4.1658 mils to help fund pay increases for public safety and other City employees, and to fund personnel and operating expenses associated with adding a third fire and emergency medical unit in the Town Center. Eight firefighters will be hired during the year to staff the unit/office. The unit is being added to the existing two units to serve the central part of the City. The new unit will be temporarily located in City Hall until a new station is built in the Town Center area. The central part of the City is the fastest growing part of the City, yet has the longest response times. In the past two years response times have approached an unacceptable 5 minute time frame. The new unit will drop response times in the central City area to three minutes or less.

Funds from the millage increase will also help fund a five year plan to continue upgrading the City's automated information system services, and add two maintenance employees to the Parks Department to maintain the 27 acre expansion of Central Winds Park.

City of Winter Springs FY 03 Budgeted Expenditures by Service Expenditures



“WINTER SPRINGS HONORS THE HEROES AND VICTIMS OF 911”

WORDS ARE NOT NECESSARY FOR US TO
REMEMBER THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES SO SELFLESSLY
THAT WE MAY LIVE OURS IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM

Approximately 100 residents attended the Winter Springs September 11, 2002 Ceremony.



We shall never forget!

For as long as we cherish our freedom, the rule of law, and our faith, there will be those who will try to take them from us.

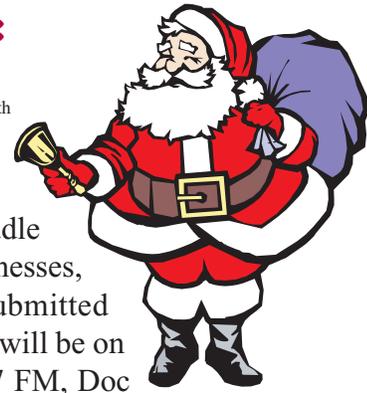
As long as there are those who desire to take from us those things we hold precious, all the more precious they become, and all the more steadfast and united we will become in our resolve to defend and preserve them.

For we will not be denied that which we believe to be precious to our way of life.



'WINTER WONDERLAND' HOLIDAY PARADE:

Come join us for this year's Holiday Parade on Sunday, November 17th beginning at 2:30 PM. The parade route will begin at the Winter Springs Elementary School and end at the Badcock Shopping Plaza. This year's theme is the Winter Wonderland. Parade entries from local High and Middle School Organizations and Bands, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, Area Businesses, City and local dignitaries as well as several others have already submitted applications for this year's event. WESH News personality Bill Schafer will be on hand as well as the parade's honoree judges will be from WXXL 106.7 FM, Doc and Johnny. If you or your organization would like to participate in the parade please contact the Parks and Recreation Department. For further information or interest in being part of the Winter Wonderland Parade, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department, (407) 327-6599.



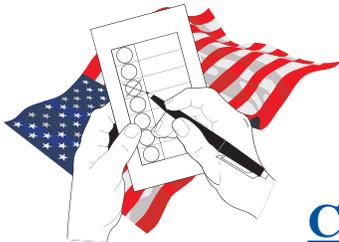
CITY OF WINTER SPRINGS MUNICIPAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 5, 2002

The following are the individuals who have qualified to have their names placed on the ballot for the November 5, 2002 City of Winter Springs Municipal Election:

Mayor - Four Year Term

JOHN F. BUSH
CINDY GENNELL
PAUL P. PARTYKA



Commissioner Seat/District Four

DICK CRENSHAW
SALLY MCGINNIS
HELGA SCHWARZ



Commissioner Seat/District Two

The current Commissioner for Seat/District Two, **MICHAEL S. BLAKE** has been Re-elected - Unopposed.

All terms are for four (4) years.

For any questions regarding locations of precincts, your status as a registered voter, or to become a registered voter, please contact:

*The Office of Ms. Sandra S. Goard
Supervisor of Elections
116 West First Street, Sanford, Florida 32771
Telephone Number: (407) 665-7700*





WELCOME ABOARD!

INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Louie Meletlidis joined the Information Services Department in the position of Computer/Lab Technician. Louie comes to us from Veritas Software Corporation where he was a Software Support Engineer. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Central Florida with a Major in Management with an emphasis on Information Services. He will be an asset to the very demanding and growing Information Services Department.



TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPDATE

As of 12 pm 9/30/02 the Parks and Recreation Department phone number will change from 407-327-4761 to 407-327-6599. The main city greeting at 407-327-1800 will also be slightly different so please listen to the entire message before dialing any numbers of extensions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

The City of Winter Springs Code Enforcement Division is now operating under Captain Glenn Tolleson of the Police Department.

For Complaints and/or Information call the following numbers:

- 407-327-7982
- 407-327-1000
- gtolleson@winterspringsfl.org

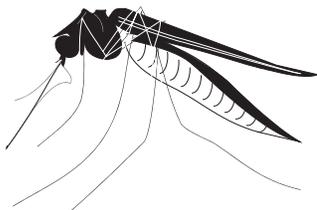


MOSQUITO-BORNE VIRUS UPDATE

Medical Alert Extended to Include Brevard, Flagler, Seminole and St. Johns Counties

TALLAHASSEE—Due to an increase of additional findings of West Nile (WN) virus activity, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) has extended a previous medical alert to include Brevard, Flagler, Seminole and St. Johns counties. Medical alerts are also currently in effect for Escambia, Lake, Marion, Orange, Sumter and Volusia counties.

“Even though the risk of contracting West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne viruses by humans is low, people need to use protective measures to reduce their risk of getting the disease,” said DOH Secretary John O. Agwunobi, M.D., M.B.A. He added, “It is important to take measures to guard against mosquito bites.” Agwunobi recommends the following:

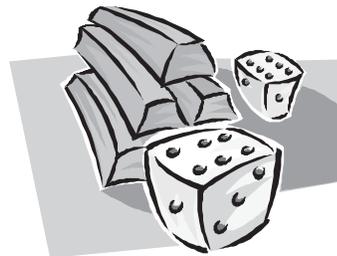


- **Avoid outdoor activities when mosquitoes are active;**
- **If you must be outdoors when mosquitoes are active, cover up by wearing shoes, socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt;**
- **Use mosquito repellent containing DEET (N,N-Diethyl-metoluamide) according to manufacturer’s directions; and**
- **Eliminate stagnant water in birdbaths, ponds and other receptacles in which mosquitoes might breed.**

Due to the alert the Public Works Department is currently spraying the entire City every seven days. For more information please call 407-327-2669.



GAMBLING CRUISE
“STERLING CASINO”
November 16, 2002



Join Lady Luck aboard Sterling Casino as she sails from Port Canaveral for 5 hours of sun and fun - “Vegas style”. Try your luck in the casinos or enjoy the many other shipboard activities such as live music and dancing. Win or lose, you’re sure to have fun!

COST: \$19.00 per person

Bus will depart the Winter Springs Senior Center at 9:00 a.m.

Includes: R/T motorcoach transportation, Cruise, Unlimited Finger Food Deli Buffet, Port Charges/Taxes, Complimentary cocktails to gaming participants



CYPRESS GARDENS
“Garden of Lights”
December 14, 2002



Over five million dazzling holiday lights lead guests through a maze of illuminated gardens, giant twinkling topiaries and over 200 holiday scenes in this special nighttime festival. Discover the “Legends of Santa Claus”, visit the new “Seasons of Giving” poinsettia festival, enjoy musical entertainment plus the many spectacular shows like the “Skate the Skates” ice show and the all new “Rockin’ Around the Dock” ski show.

Guests will enjoy a sumptuous dinner buffet featuring carved roast beef, roasted breast of turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, sage & onion dressing, sweet potato casserole, steamed vegetable medley, mixed salad with assorted dressings, rolls and butter, iced tea & coffee and chef’s selection of apple, pumpkin and pecan pie.

COST: \$52.00 per person

Bus will depart the Winter Springs Sr. Center at 11:00 a.m.

Includes: R/T motorcoach transportation, Admission, Buffet, Taxes, Gratuity on meal

Don’t miss out on this wonderful holiday tradition!
Make your reservations now!!

CONTACT: Susie Coffman

PHONE: 407-327-6697



TORCASO PARK EXPANSION UNDERWAY



Construction is underway on the expansion of Torcaso Park. The \$492,316.50 Project was awarded to Harbco Construction, Inc. of Orlando. \$ 485,000 of the Project is funded by a Community Development Grant through Seminole County. The remaining amount is funded from Storm Water Improvement Funds. The project will provide a football/soccer field with irrigation, 57 paved parking spaces, sidewalk with lighting, and a water splash pad. A splash pad is a 30-foot diameter concrete flat surface splash pad with automated underground water jets.

The project will be completed and ready for a grand opening of cool laughter and fun in December 2002 or January 2003.

Recreation

S.R. 434 BEAUTIFICATION GRANT APPROVAL

Florida Department of Transportation approved a grant to fund a landscape beautification project for the medians located on State Road 434 between Tuscawilla Road and the Greenway (S.R. 417).

This is the third grant received from DOT for funding the City's long range goal of making State Road 434 one of Florida's most beautiful urban corridors.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2003 with completion in the spring of 2004

Scottish Highland Games Festival

Come experience the Scottish Culture as the gathering returns to Central Florida. The Scottish Highland Games Committee presents the 26th Annual Highland Games Festival on Saturday, January 18th 2003 at Central Winds Park. Gates open 9 am; Tickets are \$10.00 per person in advance; and \$15.00 at the Central Winds Gate.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY YOUTH ORGANIZATION BASKETBALL 2002



Many Thanks to All Our Volunteers for the Great Job They do With the Youth of our Community!



Call Police
Capt. Glenn Tolleson
407-327-7982

Capt. Jim Wilkins
407-327-7981

for
Information on
Participating
in the
Community
Youth
Organization!



Meeting New Friends



Teamwork, Respect, Good Sportsmanship, and Lots of Love is What Keeps this Organization Going - And it Shows!!!!



Summer Camp Activities





THE CITY OF WINTER SPRINGS

1126 State Road 434
Winter Springs, Florida 32708



City of Winter Springs



**CITY OF WINTER SPRINGS
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**



CITY HALL

407-327-1800

Billing Department

(water billing, sewer, garbage fees) **407-327-5996**

Community Development

- Arborist 407-327-5982
- Inspections 407-327-7596
- Permits 407-327-5963
- Permits 407-327-5964
- Planning 407-327-5966
- Zoning 407-327-5963

City Clerk

407-327-5955

Deputy City Clerk

407-327-5965

City Manager

407-327-5957

Computer Services

407-327-5975

Fire Department

Non-emergency

407-327-2332

Mayor/Commission

407-327-5965

Mayor/Commission

407-327-5955

Parks/Recreation

407-327-6599

Senior Citizen Center

407-327-6697

Police Department

Non-emergency

407-327-1000

Code Enforcement

407-327-7558

Public Works/Utility

407-327-2669

City Information Line

407-327-7594

Job Hotline

407-327-7595

GARBAGE COMPLAINTS

407-327-7576

PUBLIC SERVICES

Florida Power Corp.

407-629-1010

Florida Recycling Service

(Garbage pick-up)

407-831-1539

Time Warner Cable

407-645-4701

Winter Springs Post Office

800-275-8777

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Keeth Elementary

407-320-5350

Rainbow Elementary

407-320-6350

Winter Springs Elementary

407-320-0650

Highlands Elementary

407-320-8750

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

Indian Trails Middle School

407-320-4350

Winter Springs High School

407-320-8750

