



# The City News

www.atlantisfl.gov

City of Atlantis  
260 Orange Tree Drive  
Atlantis, FL 33462

**September 2021**

## THE MAYOR'S CORNER

Dear Residents,

City Council will be having a workshop on Monday September 13 to further discuss the on-going security conversation. The purpose of this workshop is to establish some options for further input by the City's residents. This workshop will be primarily for discussion by the Council. It is our goal to present some options to the community at a workshop scheduled later in the year when most of our seasonal residents return. Look to the website for upcoming meeting dates and times.

We are closing in on presentation of a final budget and setting of millage rate. I expect the rate to drop again this year. At our August meeting, City Council went through a list of possible capital improvements and provided administration with a consensus on which items are to be included. These range from design of median landscape improvements (Congress Avenue and Military Trail), playground improvements, basketball court lighting, conversion of tennis court to three pickleball courts (Kintz Park), design of pedestrian pathways on Clubhouse Blvd., Villa Drive North, and Atlantis Blvd., security camera upgrades and a new Police Vehicle. Our first Budget Hearing will also be held at 6:00 p.m. on September 13, just before the security workshop. This meeting is your opportunity to comment on the capital improvement list. Our final budget hearing will be at 7:00 on Wednesday September 22. This

hearing will precede the regular monthly City Council meeting.

Please note that we are meeting on the fourth Wednesday this month instead of the usual third Wednesday.

Further to my previous writing about how to use America Recovery Plan monies issued by the Federal Government, I believe it is Council's recommendation to the City Manager to accept the first distribution of money and invest it until a second payment is made next year. Any project will be more effective and efficient when the monies are combined. Stay tuned for future discussion on this topic.

Sadly, since writing my previous Mayor's corner, we were informed that one of our neighbors, Bob Sibulkin, passed away. I highlight Mr. Sibulkin's passing because he and his wife Judy were constant attendees at our monthly meetings. Bob always had some thoughtful input on a variety of topics. All were delivered passionately. The Sibulkins were active in our dealings with Palm Beach County on the Heathwood Reserve development. Bob even threw his hat in the ring when the Council interviewed potential appointees to take the seat of former Councilmember Peter Shapiro. Bob will be missed. Our sympathies are with Judy and the rest of the greater Sibulkin family.

That's all for this month. Take care and take care of each other.

**Mayor Michael LaCoursiere**

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**1st Budget Hearing**  
**September 13**  
**6:00 pm**

**Security Workshop**  
**September 13**  
**After 1st Budget Hearing**

**2nd Budget Hearing & Regular Council Meeting**  
**September 22**  
**7:00 p.m.**



**GET IT FIRST!**  
**Contact the City Clerk to sign up for email delivery of the City News**

## CITY MANAGER'S NOTES

Thank you!

On behalf of the City of Atlantis, I would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation and thanks to all the staff at JFK Medical Center for their enduring professionalism, sacrifice, and care of Covid patients.

We can debate for hours on end the appropriateness of the response to this crisis, mask versus no mask, and vaccinated versus unvaccinated. What cannot be debated is the response of our front-line health care workers. Through the spectrum of doctors, nurses, EMTs, janitorial staff, and administration, these health care workers are responding in ways that far exceed expectations. Since the beginning, they have been the tip of the spear in responding to this pandemic.

The yard signs, parking lot cheers, and catered lunches all seem to have dissipated over time. What has not dissipated is the reality that these heroes continue to stand in the gap between a short hospital stay and tragedy.

While many aspects of life continue to trudge forward toward what we regard as normal, it is easy to forget that right here in Atlantis, an army of JFK staff fight on around the clock.

I would ask that the next time you pass JFK Medical Center, please take a moment to remember those continuing the fight and say a prayer for both the patients and the heroes.

Brian R. Moree, City Manager

## CITY NEWS

The City of Atlantis Council Meeting was called to order on August 18th at 7:00 p.m.

The second and final reading of Ordinance 461 passed 5-0. This amends the municipal election qualifying dates from the first seven business days of December to the first seven business days of November, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. of the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the election is to be held.

The second and final reading of Ordinance 462, amending Chapter 15: Zoning: Hurricane Shutters, was put on delay for one more month, by a 5-0 vote, in order to have it in proper order for final approval.

Passing 5-0, Resolution 21-19 extends our Auditor Agreement with Keefe, McCullough and Co., LLP. This independent auditing service has worked very well for nearly three years. The new contract allows the City to have a protective service agreement for an additional one-year term running from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Resolution 21-20 passed 5-0 giving a service agreement contract to U.S. Water Services Corp. for water treatment plant personnel under an

existing contract with the City of Ormond Beach, Florida. Our Director of Public Utilities, Steve Mazuk, will be retiring this January after nearly 30 years of service, making this contract necessary.

Passing 5-0, Resolution 21-21 gives a contract extension for gate security services for one more one-year term, running from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. We can get out of the contract with a 30-day notice.

Under Miscellaneous Business, The City Manager and Vice Mayor Allan Kaulbach gave an update on the Lantana Airport. They revealed that the FAA is not following its own guidelines for reevaluating. Lake Worth Beach is interested in joining Palm Beach County, Lantana, and Atlantis as part of the appeal process.

By a 5-0 vote, Council approved contributing funds to the City's police pension fund so as to support the long-term health of the pension plan.

Council also voted 5-0 to continue for the 3rd year to contribute to the Municipal Public Safety Communications Radio System, as it is now becoming obsolete in its current form.

William Mitchell

## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chief Robert G. Mangold

### Community Safety through Community Awareness and Involvement:

#### Crime Prevention Tip: Email Threats Exploiting Coronavirus Fears:

The COVID-19 pandemic is a huge opportunity for cyber criminals. And they're taking full advantage of it: spear-phishing attacks using the coronavirus as a hook have been growing since early 2020.

**Malware:** A number of common malware types are being distributed through coronavirus-related phishing. The first malware reported utilizing coronavirus was Emotet, a popular banking Trojan. LokiBot is another modular malware, which often aims to steal login credentials and data and has been distributed in at least two different coronavirus-related phishing campaigns.

**Scamming:** Fifty-four percent of COVID-19-related spear phishing attacks were scams. Most of them appear to be offering coronavirus cures and face masks for sale, requesting donations to fake charities, or asking for investments in fake companies that claim to be developing vaccines.

**Brand Impersonation Attacks:** Impersonating well-known brands and services make up around 34 percent of COVID-19 spearphishing attacks. Notably there are a number of attacks impersonating the World Health Organization. These phishing emails appear to come from WHO with information on COVID-19. They often use domain spoofing tactics to trick users into thinking these messages are legitimate. These email impersonation attacks include a link in the body of the email. Users who click on that link are taken to a newly registered phishing website.

**Blackmail:** Some attackers use raw emotional leverage to get readers to respond out of fear or embarrassment. With heightened anxiety and fear around COVID-19, it's not surprising that some are using that emotion in blackmail or extortion attempts. For example, some attacks have threatened to infect victims and their families with coronavirus unless a ransom was paid—and they make credible claims to knowing who you are, where you live, etc.

Information compliments of Barracuda Networks, Inc.

**The police department recently experienced a phone outage, all phone lines were out of service except 911. If this ever happens again, for any nonemergency call, please dial 561-267-6469 our backup cell phone.**

<u>CRIME STATISTICS</u>	July 2021		<u>TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT</u>	July 2021
<u>Major Crimes</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>		
Battery / Assault	0	0	Total Enforcement	53
Burglary (Structures/Vehicles)	0	0	Traffic Citations	42
Theft (Grand & Petit)	0	1	Written Warnings	11
Vehicle Theft	0	0	Parking Citations	20
Robbery	0	0		

## Atlantis Literary Society

The Atlantis Literary Society will again be meeting at Lost City Golf Club this coming season. We will start meetings in November. Please put the third Wednesday of each month on your calendar – the first meeting will be November 17, 2021.

For those readers who like to get ahead - the books that we will be reading this season are: The Color of Water by James McBride, Killing Crazy Horse by Bill O'Reilly, Fast Girls by Elise Hooper, The Women in the White Kimono by Ana Johns, The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah and Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly. Exactly which book will be discussed at which meeting has not been finalized yet.

We are asking for volunteers to lead the discussion of the book each month. Please reach out and let us know what book you would like to discuss, and you can even choose which month you would like to lead the discussion. Ask a friend to join you in leading the discussion – a fun and easy way to be a part of the group.

Happy reading and see you all in November.

Martha Greenhalgh – [mgreen144@aol.com](mailto:mgreen144@aol.com), 617-947-2713

## HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION OUTREACH



Conducted by:

**PALM BEACH COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER'S OFFICE**

**Division of Education Services**

**THE PROPERTY APPRAISER'S OFFICE WILL TAKE YOUR 2022 HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION APPLICATION AND ANSWER VALUATION QUESTIONS**

**September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1**

**1:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m. Atlantis Council Chambers**

### MATURE DRIVING CLASS RETURNS!

Thursday, December 9 \$15

Contact City Clerk Kristen Puhalainen

[kpuhalainen@atlantisfl.gov](mailto:kpuhalainen@atlantisfl.gov) 965-1744 x115



### LITTLE LIBRARIES ARE COMING!

To get involved, contact  
the City Clerk  
[kpuhalainen@atlantisfl.gov](mailto:kpuhalainen@atlantisfl.gov)  
or 965.1744 x115





## Atlantis Country Club

[www.AtlantisCountryClub.com](http://www.AtlantisCountryClub.com)

190 Atlantis Blvd. • Atlantis, FL 33462 • Golf: 561.968.1300 • Dine: 561.965.5788

### Memberships Started April 1, 2021

**Call 561-968-1300 for information and tee times!**

Non-member tee-times can be booked up to 5 days in advance online at [AtlantisCountryClub.com](http://AtlantisCountryClub.com). The online tee-times are pre-paid.

### Snack Bar Open Daily 7:30 am

The Snack Bar is open for breakfast and lunch and beverages. Both take-out at the window and dining inside and on the outdoor patio (according to current guidelines) are available. Snack bar hours are 7:30 am to mid-afternoon. Enjoy the popular regular menu items as well as beer, wine, and spirits.

Atlantis Country Club is open to the public since 1972.

Call 561-965-7700, extension 32 for snack bar orders.

## HAPPY LABOR DAY!



## CODE COMPLIANCE NEWS

Code Officer William J. Amason

### **SERIOUS IMPORTANT SERIOUS IMPORTANT**

In last month's newsletter information was provided about the "BARK BEETLE" infestation which at that time was identified in approximately five (5) **Slash Pine** trees. One of the properties now has three additional pine trees which are under attack. A second property has another tree that took less than two weeks before it completely died and another one on the property is under attack.

\*\*\*Properties in the vicinity of the 500 block of South Country Club, Forestview, Woodland Circle and now Muirfield Dr, and Atlantis Estates Way are showing signs of potential "**Bark Beetle**" infestation. Please check or have an expert look at your **Slash Pine** trees for treatment or possible removal. It is documented that the Beetles can kill a tree in as little as two to four weeks in the warmer months.\*\*\*

A Brochure explaining this problem can be found at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FR/FR39900.pdf> and/or copies are provided in the Council Chambers information center.

### **SERIOUS IMPORTANT SERIOUS IMPORTANT**

**\*\*\* (Just prior to print, 5 diseased trees have been removed). THANK YOU \*\*\***

#### **Chapter 3 Animals and Fowl** **Sections 3-20(a) Leash Law** **Section 3-29, Removal of Defecation.**

Once again, many complaints are being received and the Code Officer has observed that residents are not picking up after their dogs do their business. In a previous Newsletter Citizens reported, as they walk or bike throughout the City, bags and uncovered piles of defecation being observed left behind by the dog owners throughout the City. Not only is this a violation of City Code, but it is unsanitary, a public safety and health concern, classified as a **Public Nuisance**, downright unneighborly and truly sad commentary for an upscale community such as Atlantis.

The Code Officer has access to a covert camera system which may be employed to identify violators. Presently many of the complaints are coming from the 500 block of S. Country Club, Pine Tree Ct., and Forestview Dr.

**Please don't let it come to this.**

Due to the nature of these Offenses, Courtesy Notices may be skipped with Citations being the appropriate enforcement taken as prescribed by City Code Enforcement procedures as follows.

A. Citation Fine amounts are from \$50 up to \$250 dollars.

B. An off-leash animal is declared a Public Nuisance by the City Council. The animal can be impounded, and a Public Nuisance misdemeanor charge can be brought against the owner for violation of Florida State Statute **823.01 Nuisances; penalty**.--All nuisances that tend to annoy the community, injure the health of the citizens in general, or corrupt the public morals are misdemeanors of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083

***We are kindly asking for your help in this matter by adhering to the Codes described above. Together we can help keep the City of Atlantis beautiful today, tomorrow, and for generations to come. If you have any questions, please contact your Code Compliance Officer.***

If you have any questions, complaints, or wish to offer suggestions please contact.

City of Atlantis Code Department

C/O Bill Amason

[Wamason@atlantisfl.gov](mailto:Wamason@atlantisfl.gov)

561-965-1744/561-822-6005 Cell



# Community Activities



**ADULT TENNIS** Exercise, fun & fellowship, new players welcome, all levels. Sunset Park (Military entrance), Mondays & Fridays 9 to 11 a.m.

**ALL AMERICAN TEAM TENNIS:** Youth Team Tennis. Contact Coach Ken at 578-9914. Meets in Atlantis.

**ART CLASSES:** Water Media Wednesdays 1-4 p.m. Contact Maureen Cleary at 351-7748 or mcleary99@aol.com

**DEMOCRATS OF ATLANTIS** meets every 3 months in Atlantis. Contact Thais Villanueva 561-789-1209

**GREAT BOOKS CLUB** Returns in the Fall. Contact Cathy Toppin 561-964-2508

**GUITAR LESSONS:** All styles, all ages welcome. Contact Diane Levine at 561-267-7921.

**JEWELRY CLASS:** Tuesdays & Fridays 7-9 pm. Contact Marie Claude Green at 736-5609, 271-8967 or clvert@aol.com

**LANTANA ROAD BRANCH LIBRARY :** Closed for renovations.

**LITERARY SOCIETY:** The Atlantis Literary Society supports the Library in Lantana by collecting donated books. Contact Martha at 617-947-2713.

**OIL & ACRYLIC PAINTING** Contact Nancy Tilles 561.889.1010 or email ntilles@comcast.net

**PICKLEBALL CLUB** Meets Tuesdays, 6:30 pm at Kintz Park. Contact Scott Hanlon at 561-732-1115

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF LAKE WORTH :** Meets Wednesdays at noon for lunch for fellowship and guest speakers. Contact Peggy Vrane 868-5807 Richard Beiter 965-4282 or Ron Leeds 969-9600.

**TENNIS CLASSES:** Contact Coach Sherwin Anderson USPTA PRO at 561-588-4557.

**TUTORING:** AP History interactive sessions. Best AP U.S. History passing rate in PBC. Contact Corey Musser, 561-908-4810 or cmusser06@gmail.com

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Yailen Busto Yera  
Angela Chagnon  
Jarret & Monica Daniels  
Matthew & Christine Hintz  
Andrew Porath & Taryn Mays  
Linda Meyerson  
Dave & Janet Schlesinger

## OUR CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATHS OF:

Sandra Atkinson  
Carolyn Bettin  
Robert Sibulkin



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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cityofatlantisfl>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cityofAtlantis2>

The City of Atlantis  
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561-965-1744

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by Sandy Thompson (313-1060)

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**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**

- EMERGENCY (Fire, Police, Ambulance) [911](tel:911)**
- Police / Fire (Non Emergency) 561-965-1700
- J F K Medical Center 561-965-7300
- Atlantis City Hall 561-965-1744
- Building Department 561-965-1744 x112
- Police (Administration) 561-965-1711
- Utilities Department 561-965-1744 x117
- Garbage Collection 561-965-1744 x112
- Atlantis Country Club 561-965-7700
- Lost City Golf Club 561-966-7600

**KINTZ PARK SPLASH PAD HOURS:**

- Monday through Thursday 10 am to 6 pm
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10 am to 8 pm
- During periods of heavy rain, the splash pad hours may be suspended.
- \* Kintz Park will be closed periodically for maintenance.

**GARBAGE INFORMATION:**

**BACKDOOR PICKUP**

- MONDAY – HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE
- THURSDAY – HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE & RECYCLE

**CURBSIDE PICKUP**

- MONDAY ONLY – YARD WASTE AND BULK ITEMS

Please place all household garbage and recycling for collection **BEFORE 7:00 am on the day of service.** Bulk items may be placed at the curb after 5:00 pm on Sunday for Monday pickup. Vegetation may be placed at the curb after noon on Sunday for Monday pickup.

**Please use your underground containers.** Liners may be obtained at Ace Hardware. Recycle Containers may be obtained at City Hall. Other containers must be screened.

**Landscape debris** generated by a paid landscape maintenance company must be removed on the day of generation by the maintenance company. (City of Atlantis Code of Ordinances 8.3-9) Questions, Call City Hall at 965-1744.