

# Ocean Ridge Tidings

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



## Budget Meeting

At the July 13th Special Town Commission meeting, the Commission certified the Roll Back Rate for FY16/17 Millage at 4.9891 and set the maximum millage rate for the FY16/17 budget year at 5.3500 mills. A date for the budget workshop meeting will be determined at the August 1st Regular Town Commission meeting. The proposed budget has been posted on the town's [website](#).

## Expiring Building Permits

Every month an expired permit report is generated and letters are sent to the homeowners informing them that an open building permit for their property will expire shortly as per Section 67-52 of the Town of Ocean Ridge Code of Ordinances. This is an informative and beneficial letter letting the homeowner know that every permit requires a final inspection and no passing inspection has been scheduled for a period of six months. The expired building permit will be considered "not completed and open due to the lack of a final inspection" for any reporting purposes and may present delays when attempting to sell or refinance your home.

If the permit is ready for a final inspection, please call the contractor listed on the building permit to have them schedule the final inspection with the town. Also, please make sure that the permit with yellow permit card and back-up material is posted. If the permit is not ready for an inspection, the contractor may renew the permit one time within 6 months of expiration, if there are no changes to the original permit, and a \$45.00 renewal fee (cash or check only) must be submitted to the town. If there are changes, a new application with two copies of the back-up material may be submitted and the fee will be based on the new estimated cost of the project with no eligible refunds.

## The Day An Airplane Hit Town Hall

On July 22, 2008 at 12:58pm a twin engine Cessna N3990C struck the Ocean Ridge Town Hall and Police Complex which was still under construction at the time. After the impact with the building, the plane fell to the ground and struck the cement light pole knocking out FPL power, AT & T phone lines, and Comcast cable utilities. Damage to the building was limited to a small portion of the roof and front gable structure. The pilot was injured but has since recovered. Miraculously, no one else was hurt in the accident.





## General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435

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



@OceanRidgeFL

### Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ♦ 561-737-8359 (fax)

561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)

General Email: [info@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto: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 Officials

### Town Manager

James Titcomb

[jtitcomb@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:jtitcomb@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Town Clerk

Tracey Stevens

[tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Police Chief

Hal Hutchins

[hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Mayor

Geoffrey Pugh

### Vice Mayor

Richard Lucibella

### Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

James Bonfiglio

Steve Coz

### Mayor & Commissioners email

[info@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:info@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

Republic Services (trash collection) 561-478-9590

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

### July:

- 4: Independence Day—Town Hall closed, no contractor work, no inspections
- 11: Regular Town Commission meeting begins 6PM in the chambers
- 13: Special Town Commission/Budget meeting begins at 6PM in the chambers
- 30: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park

### August:

- 1: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6PM in the chambers
- 2: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the chambers
- 27: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park

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

**Regular Town Commission meetings in September 2016, and January 2017 have changed from the first Monday of the month to the following due to federal holidays:**

**September 12, 2016**

**January 9, 2017**

**Please make note of the new dates.**

## Meeting Information

Regular Town Commission meetings are generally held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00PM. Code Enforcement Hearings meet on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00AM. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30AM and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand. 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](http://www.oceanridgeflorida.com) and on Twitter @OceanRidgeFL 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...



Below are some updates going on around the Town:

### **Ocean Avenue Tree Removal**

We are ready to move forward on a contract to remove damaged Calophyllum trees identified along the Ocean Avenue corridor. Commencement of work is pending notifications with affected property owners and the final scheduling date from the tree company. We presume to commence work late in July. The duration of the removal and stump grinding where required is likely 1 to 2 days completion.

### **Building Permit Review "Delays"**

During Budget meetings we will discuss the exponential growth of the building and permit side of the Town's business day. We will propose ways to offset the competing functions workload in order to continue to provide high level of service expectations met for residents and contractors. Currently Building permit reviews and related functions are running one to two weeks depending on complexity. By contrast, it used to be anticipated turnaround time of a few days for most functions. All administration employees currently play a role in the intake, processing and reviewing of building, permitting and inspection services.

### **Stormwater Detention Update**

Town staff is meeting with individual vendors and service providers to update ongoing maintenance and improvement plans for optimizing the Woolbright Stormwater Detention area project. Later in July we plan a group meeting of all the agencies and service providers to assist us in assessing the project's condition and function. ERM has indicated they consider our design a model project shown to others! Other stormwater infrastructure has been placed on an updated maintenance vacuum truck schedule to optimize its efficacy.

### **Dogs on the Beach**

Town staff fields many inquiries about dogs on the beaches, which are not allowed under Town Code at all. However dog owners have exploited some exceptions to be able to arrive on our beaches in roundabout ways. It will be up to the Town Commission if they would like to eventually review and revisit the Town's ordinances and position on this matter.

## Reporting Power Outages

Did you know that it is easy to report a power outage or a street light that is out in your neighborhood? To report an outage or to get updates on an outage, call 1-800-4OUTAGE (800-468-8243). You may also dial this number to report any hazardous conditions. To report street light issue, simply click on this [link](#) and fill out the information or go to [fpl.com](http://fpl.com). You will receive a confirmation email and updates from FPL.

## Follow Us On Social Media

In addition to the newsletter and email blasts, the Town of Ocean Ridge utilizes the following social media platforms to provide information to our residents:

[Twitter](#) @OceanRidgeFL

[YouTube](#) (audio of meetings only)

[NextDoor](#) (click link to join)

## July's Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the July 11, 2016 Regular Town Commission meeting:

1. Held a moment of silence in honor of the fallen police officers from the Dallas shooting last week. Commissioner Lucibella mention that the public may make donations at [dallasfoundation.org](http://dallasfoundation.org).
2. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2016.
3. Announced that the Town Commission will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 for the FY16/17 Budget Presentation and Adoption of Maximum Millage.
4. Confirmed the Appointment of Michael Scott McClure as Police Officer for the Town of Ocean Ridge beginning July 12, 2016.
5. Authorized the Town Manager to present the Police Services agreement to the Town of Briny Breezes, and thank them for their business.
6. Authorized the Town Manager to expend a sum not to exceed \$19,000 to refurbish the 6V-825, 6" Vacuum Assisted Trash Pump, enter into a program maintenance participation agreement, procure a written warranty from the purveyor, and waive the bidding requirements due to a sole source vendor.
7. A presentation was made by the Town Engineer regarding Traffic Calming Initiatives.

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL.**

## July's Special Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the July 13, 2016 Special Town Commission meeting:

1. The Town Manager presented the proposed FY16/17 Town Budget.
2. Certified the Roll Back Rate for FY16/17 Millage at 4.9891.
3. Set the maximum millage rate for the FY16/17 budget year at 5.3500 mills.
4. Asked the Town Clerk to poll the Town Commissioners on available dates for the budget workshop in August. The Commission will set the budget workshop date at its August 1, 2016 meeting.
5. Set the first public hearing date to consider the budget for FY2016/17 on September 12, 2016 at 5:01 p.m.
6. Set the second/final public hearing date to consider the budget for FY2016/17 on September 21, 2016 at 5:01 p.m.

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL.**

## The Benefits of Natural Night Skies

### For Us

**Health benefits** — Experiencing a natural cycle of light and dark allows us to sleep well and be alert when we need to be.

**Safety and Security** — Glare from poorly directed artificial lighting is dangerous because it interferes with our vision and hides hazards.



**Energy Savings** — By using more efficient, lower wattage bulbs in fully shielded fixtures, we save money by using less energy.

**Stargazing and Wonder** — A clear view of the night sky offers us unequalled beauty. Many of our greatest artists, scientists, and engineers set upon their life's path as youngsters pondering the stars, planets, and heavenly depths.



### For Our Friends

Nocturnal animals depend on accurate information from natural night skies to guide their behavior. Many of these behaviors are critical to their survival.

Migrating birds depend on celestial light for proper navigation. Hundreds of thousands of birds are killed each year after colliding into lighted buildings and transmission towers.

Other animals naturally active at night have their behavior disrupted by artificial lighting, leaving them more at risk from predators and unable to effectively forage, find mates, communicate, and migrate.

Sea turtle hatchlings emerge from nests at night. They recognize the sea by its naturally bright, open horizon. Artificial lighting visible from nesting beaches leads hatchlings landward where they do not survive.

Night-flying insects, many of which pollinate important nocturnal flowers, are killed by the millions at poorly directed light fixtures and bright white light sources.

Trees and flowering plants have cycles of leaf drop and blooming interrupted by artificial light.

# Seeing Stars

## The Value of Preserving Florida's Night Skies

The appearance of our heavens has important consequences for us and for many plants and animals that live with us. Starry skies have been bleached pale by errant artificial light. This light pollution accompanies our use of light at night, but it doesn't have to.



### Florida at Night From Space

The artificial light you see is wasted. It shines from poorly directed light fixtures that send much of their energy into the sky, away from where it is needed.

## Controlling Light Pollution



Light pollution is the introduction of artificial light into the environment. Excessive light pollution threatens many animals (including humans), harms sensitive habitats, wastes electricity, and destroys the beauty of the night sky.

Sea turtle nesting beaches are special places where careful management of artificial lighting is needed. Many thousands of hatchling sea turtles die each year from misdirection by lights. Because distant skyglow contributes to this light pollution, homes and businesses miles away from the beach can play a role in protecting sea turtles by reducing outdoor lighting and directing lights downward. These steps will also protect nocturnal inland species.



### The Bortle Dark Sky Scale

Astronomers measure light pollution on a scale of celestial observability. At levels 1-3, the complexity of the Milky Way is visible. At level 9 only the moon and the brightest planets can be seen. Levels below 3 are becoming rare in Florida.

### Got the Rhythm?



Light is the time keeper of life. Natural cycles of light and dark set the hormonal clock that guides how we feel and what we're prepared to do. This circadian (daily cycle) rhythm is interrupted by artificial lighting. Unnatural periods of light and dark have been linked to sleep disorders and even cancer. Although we need light to see and work, we also need periodic darkness.

### Bad Light, Good Light

We want light sources to provide useful light. But many sources also give us glare. Glare is distracting light that shines directly toward our eyes instead of on what we'd like to see. Glare is harmful to us and the environment, and turns good lights into bad lights. Glare can be reduced by shields, hoods, baffles, and by use of fixtures that direct light well.



Glare reduces useful light for pedestrians and drivers, creates harsh shadows that conceal bad guys and hazards, and is especially irritating and dangerous for older people.

### You Can Help

- Check your home lights — Is glare hiding potential intruders? Do your lights shine down, or out and up where energy is wasted?
- Turn off unnecessary lights — And use motion sensor switches for effective deterrence.



- Shield and lower lights, and use dark-sky friendly fixtures — for more information, visit [www.darksky.org/](http://www.darksky.org/)
- Spread the word — Tell businesses when you see that their lights are bad. Bad lights aren't just unpleasant, they're harmful, especially in coastal areas where sea turtles nest.



**INWATER RESEARCH GROUP**  
A 501 c(3) not-for-profit organization  
[www.inwater.org](http://www.inwater.org)  
Poster Series No. 6



**Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management**  
[www.pbcgov.com/erm](http://www.pbcgov.com/erm)



Funded in part by the Sea Turtle Grants Program, which receives proceeds from sales of the Florida Sea Turtle License Plate. Learn more at [www.helpingseaturtles.org](http://www.helpingseaturtles.org)



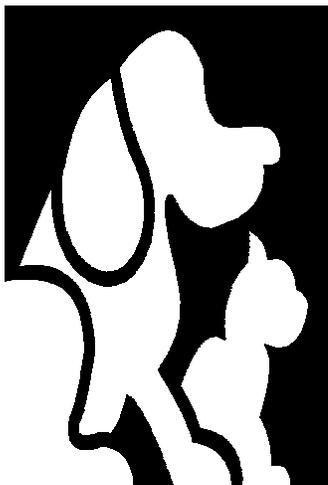
# Ocean Ridge Police Department News

Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

## Criminal Activity

Below is a listing of the crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in **June 2016** 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>
Drunk Driver	6/4/2016	6/4/2016 @ 3:00 pm	6100 North Ocean Blvd.	Intoxicated driver arrest.
Theft From Vehicle	6/9/2016	Between 6/7/2016 and 6/9/2016	Mallard Dr. Briny Breezes	License plate removed from vehicle.
Theft	6/14/2016	6/14/2016 @ 11:00 am	5101 North Ocean Blvd.	Paddle boat stolen from beach/ recovered and suspect arrested.
Arrest	6/16/2016	6/16/2016 @ 9:30 pm	5000 North Ocean Blvd.	Traffic stop results in drug arrest.
Theft from Vehicle	6/27/2016	6/27/2016 @ 6:30 pm	6415 North Ocean Blvd.	Theft of property from vehicle at park by breaking window.
Theft from Beach	6/29/2016	6/27/2016	6415 North Ocean Blvd.	Delayed report of theft of wallet from beach towel.



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

## Marking Mailboxes

Please make sure that your mailbox is marked with your house number. Doing so helps emergency personnel identify your address. For guidelines, please visit the USPS website at the following URL:

<https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm>



## July's Crime Prevention Information From Lieutenant Richard Jones

### How Safe Is Your Purse, Wallet, and Credit Card Data?

Pickpocket related crimes are on the rise across the country and Palm Beach County is no different. These crimes can involve the actual removal of property from a person's pocket, purse or even the theft of digital data. As society continues to modernize, the majority of citizens rely on the use of credit and or debit cards to make their lives easier and more convenient. This provides criminals with opportunity.

Criminals are among us and are always looking for an easy target to take advantage of. Ocean Ridge residents can easily become the target of these types of crimes. I want you to think for a moment about the last time you were in Wal-Mart, Publix, or at the Mall. How many unattended purses did you observe? How many shoppers were so focused on what they were shopping for that they did not notice what was going on in their surroundings?

Most shoppers and citizens alike have the belief that this kind of crime will not happen to them, but the reality is that everyone of us can easily become a victim unless we choose to make changes in our normal behaviors.

Suspects have been known to follow potential victims for extended periods of time just waiting for that perfect moment when the potential victim turns away from his/her shopping cart. Criminals have and will follow potential victims into restrooms, food courts, restaurants, parking lots and various other locations.

Several recent victims have simply placed their purse on a coat hook to use the bathroom or placed their phone, wallet or other valuable items on the counter to wash their hands. These are all perfect opportunities for criminals.

Several victims have simply been bumped into while shopping and then minutes or hours later find that their belongings were stolen from their purse or pockets. This can happen to you.

Lets talk about digital data theft now. Digital data theft takes place when a person in close proximity to a potential victim is able to scan the data from the victim's debit or credit card using an RFID Scanner. This scan is done without any knowledge to the victim.

So lets talk about what you can do to prevent yourself from becoming a victim. First and foremost, pay attention to your surroundings. Always maintain physical control of your purse, wallet, check book, phone or other valuable items. The safest placement for a purse while being worn is across the chest and not to one side or the other. If your purse has a zipper or button for securing, keep them fastened at all times. Do not ever place or leave your valuables or purse in your shopping cart. Store your wallet in your front pockets rather than your rear pockets as they are much deeper and a lot harder for a criminal to access.

As far as data theft prevention, you can purchase a variety of new "Anti Theft Wallets" or "Anti RFID Wallets" that are designed to be anti-theft devices. These wallets are typically constructed of aluminum or metal and come in a variety of designs and colors. These types of wallets prohibit the scanning of your credit/debit card data due to their construction and are very effective.

Crime prevention is everyone's business.



# Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police



## A Note To Residents

Thank You!

In light of recent world and national events, I would like to thank you for your continuous and ongoing show of support to the members of the Police Department.

In recent weeks we have all seen many tragedies explode on the news. These events, though often many miles away, are of great concern to the officers and members of your police department.

Please rest assured that the members of your police department are continuing to vigilantly patrol the Town and have a heightened sense of awareness due to the events that continue to unfold in front of us. We continuously review these events and formulate and train to new plans in order to be prepared for what is thrust upon us.

Now more than ever is the time for all of us to work together in keeping the Town safe. Please remember; if you see something out of place or suspicious, please report it as soon as possible so we may investigate. If it turns out to be nothing, at least we can be assured we have done all we can to keep the town safe. If on the other hand it turns out to be someone up to no good, we can take the opportunity to remove that element from the Town.

Please remember; the Officers and staff of the police department are here to address your concerns 24 hours every day all year long. Do not hesitate to call upon us.

## Area Crime Trends

Though the monthly reports for the past couple of months indicate that the recent rash of car break-ins and thefts in Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes has subsided; now is not the time to let your guard down.

Surrounding communities have seen a strong and steady increase in the number of crimes such as these, and once again most are a result of vehicles being left unlocked and keys and valuables being left in these vehicles.

Please don't become a victim simply by leaving your car unlocked or the keys inside.

The Information You Provide Could Make A Difference.  
**Do Your Part. Report Suspicious Activity.**

**If you see something, say something**

If something does not look right, let us know.

**Report Suspicious Activity or Persons to the Ocean Ridge Police Department at 561-732-8331**

# Volunteer Opportunities

## Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

**What:** Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

**When:** First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **None July or August**

**Where:** Oceanfront Park, 6451 N. Ocean Blvd. On A1A, just north of the Ocean Ave. bridge in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

**Time:** 8-10:30AM

**Who:** Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages.

**What's provided:** Free parking, bags, gloves, and refreshments available to participants only. School and community service volunteer credit forms available.

**What to bring:** Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

**Contact:** Jeff at [JeffLev02@gmail.com](mailto:JeffLev02@gmail.com) / **Social Media:** [facebook.com/SWATJIL](https://www.facebook.com/SWATJIL)

## Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

**What:** Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

**When:** Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **July 30**

**Where:** Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N. Ocean Blvd. Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar.

**Time:** 8-10:30AM

**Who:** Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages. Volunteer hours awarded for students.

**What to bring:** Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

**Contact:** [info@seaangels.org](mailto:info@seaangels.org) / **Website:** [seaangels.org](http://seaangels.org)

## Anthrax Committee

**What:** Should Ocean Ridge be exposed to an aerosolized airborne anthrax event, Ocean Ridge and FL Dept. of Health will provide needed antibiotics at no cost as part of a program under the auspices of the CDC. Residents are encouraged to become dispensing volunteers.

**When:** Attend two hours of meetings per year.

**Where/Time:** TBD.

**Who:** Ocean Ridge Residents—no experience necessary

**Contact:** Terri Vinas at [vinasfam@aol.com](mailto:vinasfam@aol.com) / [Volunteer Form](#)

## Town Hall Library

**What:** Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.

**When:** Ongoing

**Where:** 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.

**Time:** Any time between 8:30AM—3PM, Monday—Friday.

**Who:** Residents of all ages welcome. Those with library experience are encouraged to volunteer.

**What's provided:** School and community service volunteer credit available.

**Contact:** Town Hall 561-732-2635