

# The Sun Newsletter

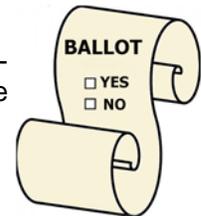
City of West Melbourne's Community Publication

September/October 2020

## November General Election

A City election is scheduled as part of the General Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Registered voters will be asked to select three City Council members and a Mayor. To be eligible to vote in the General Election, you must register to vote by October 5, 2020.

Citizens will also be asked to vote on five charter amendments. Any amendments approved by a majority of the qualified electors will become effective upon certification of the election results.



The following is a summary of the five ballot questions.

**1. Chief of Police.** Currently, the West Melbourne City Charter provides that the chief of police shall be appointed by the city council, and provides no qualifications for the position. Shall Article XI, Sections 1 and 2 of the City Charter be amended to provide general qualifications for the chief of police position, and for the chief of police to be appointed and removed by the city manager with four concurring votes of city council?

**2. Candidate Qualifying Petitions.** Currently, the West Melbourne City Charter provides that candidates for city council must obtain the signatures of 75 qualified West Melbourne voters, as certified for the last general election. Shall Article IV, Section 1 of the City Charter be amended to provide that any qualified West Melbourne voter may sign a candidate qualifying form?

**3. City Council Vacancies.** The West Melbourne City Charter provides that when a vacancy occurs on the city council, the remaining city council members fill the vacancy by appointment. Shall Article III, Section 10 of the Charter be amended so that when a vacancy occurs 90 days or more before the next general election, or a council member resigns to run for another office, the vacant office shall be filled by the voters at the general election?

**4. City Council Salaries.** Shall Article III, Section 7 of the West Melbourne City Charter be amended to provide for a monthly salary of \$800 for city council members and \$900 for the mayor, and to prohibit the mayor and city council members from granting themselves salary increases or new benefits without voter approval?

**5. Board of Adjustment Powers, Duties, and Composition.** Shall Article XIV, Section 2 of the West Melbourne City Charter be amended to clarify that the duties of the board of adjustment include hearing and deciding applications for conditional uses, and that a board member's previous service as a member of a planning organization may be applied toward the requirement that at least four members of the board of adjustment have experience relevant to the board's duties?

For more information or to see exact charter language changes, contact the City Clerk at 321-837-7774 or email [info@westmelbourne.org](mailto:info@westmelbourne.org). For more information on the upcoming election or registering to vote, visit the Brevard County Supervisor of Election website at [www.votebrevard.com](http://www.votebrevard.com), or call 321-633-2124.



## Join Our Virtual Public Meeting! Minton Road Feasibility Study

Join us on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. for virtual public meeting on a study focused on exploring alternatives that improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities along the corridor and providing intersection improvements to help with the function of the roadway. Initial findings, including proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities and intersection improvements, will be presented during this virtual presentation.

Citizens will have the opportunity to explore the project, get more information, and provide feedback via a website. Go to [tinyurl.com/MintonRoadMeeting](https://tinyurl.com/MintonRoadMeeting) to register.

### DO YOU WORK, LIVE, OR PLAY NEAR MINTON ROAD?

Join Us to Learn More About:

- Exploring alternatives that improve roadway function.
- Proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities and intersection improvements.

Following the meeting, citizens will have the opportunity to explore the project, get more information, and provide feedback by visiting: [www.mintonroadstudy.com](http://www.mintonroadstudy.com)



## City Council Hearings Scheduled to Consider Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

The West Melbourne City Council will hold two public hearings to consider adoption of the City's annual budget for the upcoming 2020-2021 fiscal year that starts October 1, 2020. The public hearing dates are Wednesday, September 9, 2020, and Thursday, September 24, 2020. The hearings will start at 6:30 p.m. or as soon as the order of the Council agenda provides for the consideration of the budget.

With a forecast of declining general fund revenues as a result of the current recession, the proposed general fund expenditure budget is reduced 8.83% compared to the current year budget. Nonetheless, the City Manager's proposed budget continues the City Council's longstanding commitment to quality public safety services and to keep current with maintenance of important infrastructure. West Melbourne's proposed millage rate for 2020-2021 is 2.5087, which represents a reduction in the City's already low current year tax rate of 2.6017 mills. This reduced tax rate would mean a year-over-year tax reduction for most West Melbourne homeowners.

For more information on the City's proposed 2020-2021 budget, please visit the City's web site at [www.westmelbourne.org](http://www.westmelbourne.org).



## Annual Drinking Quality Report

The City's goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Residents can find information on the quality of the water and services delivered over the past year in the 2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, available on the City's website at [www.westmelbourne.org](http://www.westmelbourne.org).



A banner for the Minton Road Feasibility Study Virtual Public Meeting. It features a circular logo with icons for a bicycle, a car, and a person walking. The text reads: 'MINTON ROAD FEASIBILITY STUDY', 'VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING', 'Wednesday, August 26, 2020 | 5:30 PM', and 'REGISTER ONLINE'. Below this is the URL 'tinyurl.com/MintonRoadMeeting'. At the bottom right, it lists the SCTPO Project Manager: Sarah Kraum, with contact information: 'sarah.kraum@brevardfl.gov', '321-690-6890', and 'www.sctpo.com/MintonRoad'. The background shows a stylized road curving through a landscape.

## City Council Actions

Your City Council meets twice a month to discuss important issues. Many local issues are studied and decisions are made by your elected officials to make this a better community. Here are a few decisions that your Council has made on behalf of the citizens and businesses of West Melbourne in the last few months:

- Approved Ordinance No. 2020-03 to allow temporary housing after a Governor-declared disaster.
- Approved Ordinance No. 2020-04 changing language regulating the lot split and subdivision process.
- Approved the Recreation Impact Fee Credit Agreement with Integra Station LLC providing for payment of recreation fees in lieu of dedication of park or recreation areas.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2020-11 accepting the dedication of roadway, water distribution, and sanitary sewer system improvements associated with Carlton Apartments.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2020-12 accepting the dedication of roadway, drainage, water distribution, and sanitary sewer system improvements associated with the Oasis Apartments.
- Awarded a piggyback bid to All Webbs Enterprises for \$553,050 for a test production well as part of the process to build a water plant for the City.
- Approved a five-year contract extension with Operations Management International, Inc., for wastewater operations, maintenance and management of the City's sewer plant.
- Approved a policy that masks must be worn in all City facilities.
- Approved Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-05 to require all businesses to post their face covering policy, to mandate certain essential businesses to require face coverings for employees, and to require all individuals to wear face coverings while inside certain businesses.
- Established the advertised 2020-2021 rolled back millage rate of 2.5087 per thousand dollars of taxable value for the September 9, 2020, public hearing to consider adopting a tentative budget.
- Approved the payoff of Series 2010D Revenue Bonds on October 1, 2020.

For more information on Council meetings, visit the City's website at [www.westmelbourne.org](http://www.westmelbourne.org). View agendas, minutes, summaries of action, or watch a Council meeting live.

### Disinfectant Spraying at Parks



Parks & Recreation maintenance worker John Ragozino at Tallwood Park using the Stihl backpack blower on the exercise equipment. The blower applies a mist of neutral disinfectant, which is applied two to three times a week.

### Masking Ordinance Affecting West Melbourne Businesses

With the number of COVID-19 cases continuing to rise in Brevard County, the West Melbourne City Council convened for a special meeting on July 16, 2020, and approved an emergency ordinance requiring face coverings be worn by employees and visitors of some of the largest and most frequented businesses in West Melbourne. All West Melbourne businesses must post their face covering policy at the entrance to their business and have the option of requesting that the West Melbourne Police Department enforce their policy.

For more information on the emergency ordinance, visit the City's web site at [www.westmelbourne.org](http://www.westmelbourne.org).



## A Look at the Past: Melbourne Airport

In 1983, the Department of Treasury, Customs Service, published a notice in the Federal Register to propose to revoke the landing rights designation for the Melbourne Airport, which means the airport could not accommodate out-of-country flights. This revocation was based on the need to have an area and staff designated at the airport for Customs Officials.

Customs regulations dictate that the first domestic landing of every civil aircraft arriving in the United States must land at an international airport so that Customs Officers can enforce laws and regulations.

Melbourne Regional Airport had been a landing rights airport since July 1971 with Customs Officials traveling from Port Canaveral, which is 30 miles away. The Department of Treasury stated that the costs of processing arriving aircraft was significant based on the time Customs Officials spent traveling. In addition, the Customs Service had intensified their enforcement program to combat the influx of narcotics into the United States by air and wanted to limit the number of smaller landing rights airports.

The City Council of West Melbourne and other cities rallied together and sent resolutions to the Department of Treasury opposing the revocation. In addition, the airport was able to provide areas designated for use by Customs Officials.

Today the airport is designated as an international airport with customs and border control facilities enabling passengers to travel between countries.



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(Back L-R) Council Member Daniel Batcheldor, Council Member Pat Bentley, Deputy Mayor John Dittmore, and Council Member Adam Gaffney  
(Front L-R) Council Member Andrea Young, Mayor Hal J. Rose, and Council Member Barbara A. Smith.

## West Melbourne City Council

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## City Calendar

### September 2020

7	Labor Day—Offices Closed	
8	Planning & Zoning Board	6:30 p.m.
9	City Council	6:30 p.m.
17	Code Enforcement Board	5:30 p.m.
22	Board of Adjustment	7:00 p.m.
24	City Council	6:30 p.m.

### October 2020

6	City Council	6:30 p.m.
13	Planning & Zoning Board	6:30 p.m.
15	Code Enforcement Board	5:30 p.m.
20	City Council	6:30 p.m.
22	Board of Adjustment	7:00 p.m.
26	Business Advisory Board	7:00 p.m.
28	Police Officers Retirement Board	9:00 a.m.