

Weekly Highlights Report November 1, 2024

City Manager

- The major focus of the city continues to be hurricane recovery. The debris hauler is removing debris seven days a week. A dashboard for monitoring debris pick-up is available at <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/7ab53d77bf5c4830b0ff6f1bb8674163>.

As of Wednesday haulers had picked up 6,599 cubic yards of construction and demolition debris. The one time pick of commercial debris in the downtown area will occur over the dates of November 2 and November 3. A flyer was delivered to the 97 businesses last weekend.

Our Building Division continued the evaluation of structures impacted by the hurricanes. To date, we have 1,571 buildings that have been reported as damaged. Four were destroyed, 81 with major damage, 707 with minor damage, and 779 with affected buildings.

A special Helene/Milton storm damage permit application is available on the city's website. Hover over Government, click on Building, and then click on Building Forms. The top form is the Helene/Milton application. The items must be filled out, and the questions in the middle of the page for adding, extending, or deleting electric, plumbing, or mechanical are answered as no. If the answer is yes to any of those, it is no longer a repair but an alteration/remodel, and the regular building application and process will need to be followed. If the application is completely filled and the answer is no, as stated above, we hope to turn these permits around in 24 to 48 hours. At the application's top is an email address to send the form, but paper copies are also accepted.

Temporary housing (Recreational Vehicles) for living quarters while storm repairs are being made are permitted case-by-case through a Temporary Conditional Use permit application process. Only occupants of the damaged home may reside in the temporary RV's. In addition, separate permits may be required through the Building Division if the temporary housing unit is connected to water, sewer, and electricity. For information visit <https://www.ci.puntagorda.fl.us/home/showpublisheddocument/15926/6386449879898000>.

City staff is working to open portions of Gilchrist Park and the accompanying Harborwalk as soon as it is safe to do so. As an alternative walking path consider utilizing Linear Park. The shared use path, built on a historic railroad bed abandoned in the late 1890's runs along a tidal canal which gently sweeps through the historic neighborhoods of Punta Gorda. Running from the southern end of the city center to Fishermen's Village, this path will link you to the Harborwalk and passing the History Park and the Punta Gorda Library.



We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for our incredible staff, vendors and generous donors that made our Inaugural Neighborhood Fall Festival a resounding success! Your contributions, time, and energy helped bring our community together for an afternoon of fun, food, and connection, especially during these challenging times. Thank you to all the families that joined us at the Cooper Street Recreational Center for this fun event. *Readers may reach City Manager Greg Murray at citymgr@cityofpuntagordafl.com or by calling the main office line at (941) 575-3302.*

- **Hurricane Milton Updates** — For the latest updates on hurricane recovery efforts, safety information, and important resources, please visit [Hurricane Milton Information | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](https://www.punta-gorda.fl.us/hurricane-milton)
- **Daylight Savings** — The end to daylight saving time is just around the corner, meaning clocks in most parts of the U.S. will "fall back" one hour on November 3.
- **City Council Meeting** — City Council will meet at 9 a.m. on November 6, at Military Heritage Museum, 900 W Marion Avenue. Items of interest include:
 - Ordinance of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, amending Chapter 20a, Punta Gorda Code
 - Hurricane Update - Sanitation Trucks
 - Christmas Tree



Human Resources

- **Open Positions** — The City of Punta Gorda offers a very generous benefit package to include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and a defined contribution retirement plan with matching contributions [Employment Opportunities | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](https://www.punta-gorda.fl.us/employment-opportunities) Currently hiring for the following professional position:
 - **Utility Engineer — Utilities.** A professional position responsible for Utilities Engineering and providing technical engineering services for City utilities construction and improvement projects.
 - **Senior Accountant, Finance** — A professional position responsible for applying the principles of accounting to analyze financial information and prepare financial reports by compiling information, preparing profit and loss statements, and utilizing appropriate accounting control procedures.
 - **Utilities Maintenance Worker II — Wastewater Collection, Utilities.** A skilled laborer position responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of wastewater collection facilities and systems.
 - **Crew Chief — Water Distribution.** An entry level supervisory position responsible for the construction, maintenance, and repair of water distribution facilities and systems.
 - **Urban Design Manager — Urban Design.** A professional managerial position responsible for all City planning and zoning activities, including community development and land use.
 - **Code Compliance Supervisor — Code Compliance.** A skilled technical and supervisory position responsible for supervision of the day to day Code Compliance operations, enforcing all of the City's Land development Regulations, as well as Chapter 9A, Nuisance Code, as they relate to property zoning, design, and maintenance standards or other City Code standards.
 - **Planner — Urban Design.** A highly-complex professional that participates in advanced, highly-complex professional planning activities.



- **Planner I — Assistant Planner — Urban Design.** An entry level planning position assists in current and long-range urban planning efforts, including land development review and analysis and planning studies in support of new and updated programs and regulations.
- **Planner II — Associate Planner — Urban Design** An advanced professional planning position responsible for researching and analyzing technical data in the field of city planning. Performs professional and technical work developing, researching, data collection, mapping and maintaining public planning studies and programs on land use, zoning, conservation, housing, transportation, population, coastal management, historic preservation and other areas of comprehensive planning activities.
- **Senior Project Manager — Public Works —** A professional technical position responsible for overseeing projects from inception to completion and ensuring that contractors perform work that meets City specifications and expectations.
- **AMI Technician I — Water Distribution, Utilities —** A skilled technical position responsible for monitoring, maintenance, and repair of automatic meter infrastructure systems.
- **Assistant Buyer, Procurement, Finance —** A clerical position responsible for limited purchasing duties, screening and referring telephone calls, greeting the public and vendors, typing, filing, and operation of various office machines.

Safety Tips

- Here are some safety tips for the time change in November 2024
- Check your alarms — Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to ensure they work properly. Replace the batteries if needed, and make sure the alarms are installed in every bedroom and on every level of your home.
- Update your evacuation plan — Review your evacuation plan and first aid kit, as these may need to be updated for the winter.
- Check your vehicle — Make sure your headlights, taillights, and signal lights are working, and clean your windshield. You can also replace worn wiper blades and refill fluid reservoirs.

Urban Design

Upcoming Events

- Charlotte Harbor Event Center, 75 Taylor St. For additional information, visit charlotteharborecc.com/events
- Fishermen's Village events can be accessed at [EVENTS | Fishermen's Village | Punta Gorda \(fishermensvillage.com\)](http://fishermensvillage.com)
- Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce events can be accessed at Community Events – Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce
- Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce events can be accessed at Event Calendar | Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
- Military Heritage Museum events can be accessed at Upcoming Events - Military Heritage Museum
- Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve Street; for all community events and class information, visit [Home - Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, Inc. \(pgica.org\)](http://Home - Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, Inc. (pgica.org))



- The Visual Arts Center events can be accessed at [Welcome to the Visual Arts Center of Punta Gorda, FL \(visualartcenter.org\)](http://www.visualartcenter.org)
- February 28 - March 1, "It's Sew Wonderful", [Peace River Quilt Festival 2025 Quilt Show \(charlotteharborecc.com\)](http://www.peaceriverquiltfestival.com)

Lot Mowing Program

- The City will begin a new mowing cycle on November 11.

Planning Corner

- **Code Compliance Reminder** — Code Compliance staff would like to remind our residents and pool contractors that draining pools directly into canals or storm drains is prohibited. Please make sure that if you need to drain your pool, the water filters through the grass before entering the canal or stormwater system.
- **Building Division — Beware of Solicitors and Unlicensed Contractors** — Beware of solicitors – Due to the recent storms in our area, there have been numerous reports of renovation/remodeling companies and contractors going door to door offering free estimates. These companies may not be licensed in the city and soliciting is prohibited. If you receive a visit from a solicitor please contact Code Compliance at (941)575-3352. If this occurs after normal business hours or on a weekend, please contact the Police non-emergency number, (941)639-4111.
 - Under Florida Statute 489.127, anyone providing unlicensed contracting services during a state of emergency commits a felony of the third degree.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Allowing an unlicensed person to perform work on your property puts you, as the owner, at risk?
 - Unlicensed contractors are unable to obtain workers compensation coverage or general liability insurance
 - Unlicensed contractors are unable to obtain permits for the work they are doing. Should injuries occur at the site, the owner may be liable for the injuries.
 - Any work performed without a permit, may not be covered by your insurance company in the event of future claims.
- Any person who does work without the correct licensure during a state of emergency may be charged with a felony?
 - Per Florida Statute 489.127(2)(c): “Any unlicensed person who commits a violation of subsection (1) during the existence of a State of Emergency declared by executive order of the Governor commits a felony of the third degree.”
- This applies to all types of construction?
 - Not just that which is associated with repairs due to a tropical storm or hurricane, and is in addition to the regular penalties incurred by unlicensed individuals acting in the capacity of a contractor.
- It is easy to find out how to work in the City?
 - Anyone coming into the area wanting to work as a contractor should first contact the City of Punta Gorda Building Department for more information at (941) 575- 3324
 - Note: This applies to all licensed contractors — all contractors working in the county must register with the City prior to contracting for work
- For more information about whether a person is licensed and registered as a contractor in the City of Punta Gorda, or to notify us of possible unlicensed activity, please contact the City Building Department at or visit [Licensing Portal - License Search](#) or [Business Tax Receipt/Contractor Competency Registration](#)

Public Works

Canal Maintenance

- **Canal Maintenance Production** — Canal Maintenance manufactured 90 sea wall panels.
- **Dockside Dredging** – Property owners that are listed on the Hurricane Ian Seawall Damage list will not be allowed to have dockside dredging performed adjacent to the seawall until the seawall has been repaired. Any dredging along the damaged seawall may cause damage.
- **Stabilizing Erosion** — Just a friendly reminder for property owners to regularly check the condition of their tarps or plastic that is protecting the eroded areas. Tarps and plastic tend to become brittle in the sun and may start falling apart. Utilizing plastic during a rain event will help keep the soil in place preventing further erosion.
- **Canal Maintenance Seawall Failure Update** — Construction schedules have been updated and are posted on the Canal Maintenance website for the next six months look ahead. Hurricane Ian Related Seawall Failures | [Hurricane Ian Related Seawall Failures | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](#)
- **Establishing sod after seawall replacement** — Placing the sod is the final phase of seawall replacement construction. As per the City ordinance, property owners are responsible for establishing the sod after it has been placed and the City will not reimburse the owners for their water usage.
- **Vessel Speeds** — Canal Maintenance is asking people to be mindful of the current situation in the canals with seawalls being damaged. City code states that the operation of vessels in the canals shall be Slow Speed Minimum Wake in the waterways within the City limits. The speed and operation in the Ponce Inlet, Pompano Inlet, Bass, and Snook Inlet are Idle Speed and No Wake. Wakes from watercraft can cause additional erosion and damage to seawalls already compromised.
- **Dock Match Program** — The Punta Gorda and Charlotte Harbor Boaters Alliance has created a program that connects boat owners who need a temporary relocation of their boats with owners that have available dock space. This information can be found at Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance (boat2puntagorda.org) click on the Dock Match button for information.

Engineering

- **Bayfront Center Demolition** — The contractor has begun the demolition of the Bayfront Center. Contractors have removed all construction debris and steel trusses from the site. They will be removing the block walls this week and hauling off that debris. Please be advised to take extra caution in the area during the demolition and follow all detours for bicycle/walking paths.
- **Hurricane Cleanup** — The haulers are on day 14 of cleaning up the construction debris from Hurricane Milton, as of today the contractor has hauled 110 loads to the landfill resulting in 5,753 cubic yards of material. The contractor will be heading to the downtown district with the large haulers to pick up the commercial construction debris, November 2 and November 3. Please refrain from parking near the piles, so the contractor can clean up all the debris.

- **Laishley Splash Pad** — Construction continues at the Interactive Fountain area in Laishley Park. This work includes rehabilitation and upgrades to the splash pad/play area. The pump, treatment, and filtration equipment installation is nearing completion. Please use extra caution while driving or walking through the park due to construction personnel and equipment. To the highest extent possible the restroom facilities will remain open to the public. The access to the restrooms will be from the marina side of the building. There will be periodic temporary sidewalk closures immediately adjacent to the construction area as required for public safety. The construction area will be closed to the public at all times during this period. The enhanced fountain area is scheduled to reopen in late 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



- **Fiber Optic Internet Network** - The fiber optic provider HyperFiber has been issued permits for a portion of the construction project to install a citywide fiber optic internet network within the city right of ways. This project will be under construction during the next several months as they install the network citywide. They are currently permitted to work in the areas highlighted in red below. The green areas are where the work is completed and their permit has been inspected for final by the engineering department. Additional areas are scheduled to be final in the next several weeks. The blue areas are where the installation will be taking place as the project progresses. Construction is beginning in Burnt Store Isles and Burnt Store Meadows.



Initially you will see utility markings within the city right of way, followed by the directional drilling of the fiber optic conduit. Fiber optic boxes will be installed in the right of way or easement at the edge of your property. Once the installation of the underground and service points has been completed for the entire sector, crews will then return to individual locations for the restoration of sod. This will take place at the end of construction in each sector. Please be patient and allow time for the restoration. The city engineering department will be performing spot inspections during construction as well as a final inspection on when restoration is complete to ensure the contractor's restoration meets the city's requirements.

HyperFiber has provided a telephone number to call if citizens have questions or concerns about the project and installation. Please contact HyperFiber's Lori Haight at (501) 844-6340. Please use extra caution while driving through the project area due to construction personnel and equipment. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Right of Way

- Crews continue cleanup efforts in several locations throughout the city.
- Crews continue to work on Ponce de Leon Park clean-up efforts.
- Continue to repair/restore street signs throughout the city.

Sanitation

- **Dumpster Guidelines** – As a reminder, construction debris is strictly prohibited from being placed inside the dumpster. The dumpster will not be emptied if construction debris is placed inside the dumpster and the property owner or business will be responsible for removing the debris before the dumpster can be serviced. Storm debris guidelines can be found on our website [Hurricane Milton Information | City of Punta Gorda, FL](#). Please follow the guidelines listed below to ensure proper service.
 - Do not block the dumpster or dumpster enclosure with vehicles or trash. If the dumpster is blocked, it will not be serviced.
 - Maintain a five-foot clearance around the dumpster free of trash and debris at all times.
 - All trash must be placed properly inside trash bags and the trash bags placed inside the dumpster.
 - Do not place loose trash or trash bags on the dumpster enclosure floor. The property owner is responsible for keeping the area clean. City staff is responsible for emptying the dumpster only.
 - Construction debris and hazardous waste are strictly prohibited from being placed inside the dumpster. Hazardous waste should never be placed inside of the dumpster, it could cause a fire, injure staff, and destroy the equipment. The property owner will be responsible for all damage caused by hazardous waste placed inside the dumpster.
- **Regular Yard Waste Services Suspended by City Staff** - Regular residential yard waste services are canceled until further notice. Staff have been working alongside the haulers seven days a week cleaning up yard waste piles. Sanitation is using two clamshell trucks, two regular garbage trucks, and three dump trucks, to collect loose vegetative piles only at this time. Additional vehicles will be added as they become available. Residents are

encouraged to combine the yard waste and place the debris in larger piles along the right-of-way. Do not place vegetative debris piles in cul-de-sacs, near wires, poles, etc. Residents do not need to call for a special pick-up.

- **Regular Household Trash** – Regular household trash is being collected at this time. Please place the regular household trash inside the city-issued trash cart. If residents lost their city-issued carts in the storm and need a replacement, please call the Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Police

- **Beware of Illegal Contractors** — With the high demand for home repairs after Hurricane Milton, illegal contracting has once again become a problem. Please beware and ensure that any contractor you hire is appropriately licensed. You can verify a license through the Department of Business and Professional Regulation by visiting [Welcome to DBPR Online Services \(login.login\)](#) or calling 1-850-487-1395.
- **National Drug Take Back Day** — This past weekend, the Punta Gorda Police Department and Drug-Free Punta Gorda participated in the Drug Enforcement Agency's National Drug Take Back Day in the lobby of the Public Safety Complex. Eighty-two (82) pounds of pills were turned in for safe disposal during those four hours.

National
Drug Take
Back Day



OPEN POSITIONS

- **Police Officer Testing** — The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. A virtual testing process will take place in January 2025. Applications must be received by January 3. The written exam will be completed online between January 10 and January 17, and virtual oral board exams will be conducted via Zoom on January 30. The department is accepting applications from certified and non-certified candidates.
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** — The police department continually conducts new hire testing to prepare for future openings. Currently, the department is accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. The exam will be held virtually between January 17 and 24. Applications must be received by January 10.
- **Internship Program** — The police department is currently accepting internship applications for the Spring Semester of 2025. Our program is open to college students and high school seniors interested in gaining educational experience in law enforcement, criminal justice, and small government administration. Spots fill up quickly, and the selection process can be competitive, so we encourage potential interns to apply today! **To apply for employment or more information, please visit www.pgpdjobs.com or contact our Employee Development Coordinator at (941) 575-5571 or by email at employeedevelopment@pgorda.us.**

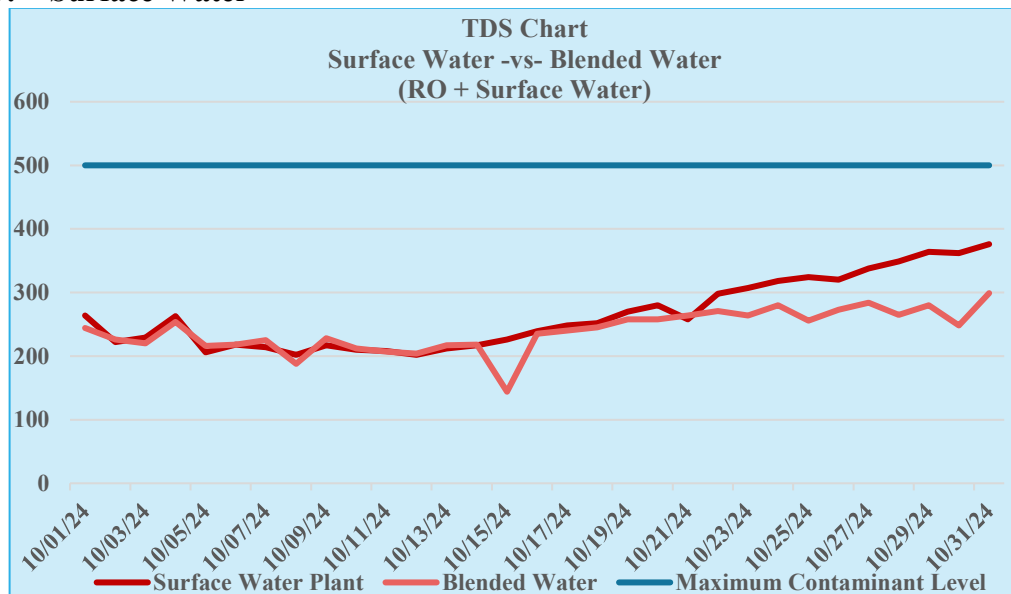
Fire

- **Check your batteries** - It is recommend that the batteries in smoke detectors be replaced every six months. A good way to remember when to replace the batteries is replacing them when daylight saving time occurs. With that being said, the “fall back” daylight savings is November 3 and it’s the perfect time to check/replace your batteries. Having properly working smoke detectors is crucial for early detection and preventing total loss. Smoke detectors use sensors to detect smoke particles in the air. When the sensor detects smoke above a certain level, it triggers an alarm to sound. Smoke detectors usually take 9 volt batteries. Another option is to purchase a 10 year lithium battery. The Punta Gorda Fire Department is more than happy to assist changing the batteries in smoke detectors, as long as the batteries are provided by the homeowners. If assistance is needed changing the batteries in your smoke detector don’t hesitate to call (941) 575-5529



Utilities

- **R.O. + Surface Water**



Administration

- **Leaks** — If you notice a water or sewer leak outside of normal business hours please call the after-hours number (941) 575-5070 or the Water Treatment Plant at (941) 639-2057.
- **Water Treatment Plant Operations** — 60.1 MG delivered to the distribution system during the last seven days with 8.6 MG daily average.
- **Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect** — Receiving 1350 gallons per minute from the new Interconnect (Phase 1 Pipeline). Sending 1730 gallons per minute from the tank on 17 (Phase 1A Pipeline).
- Rainfall October 2023 — 2.09" October 2024 — 10.38"
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Currently "hard" — Grains of Hardness 7 — Total hardness 124 ppm
- T.D.S. — Current 299 ppm. Low — 225 ppm, High 475 ppm, 14-year average 356ppm.
- Reservoir October 31 — Current 5.28, Record Low 5.00, Record High, 5.74' 58 Year Average 5.23'.

- **Billing and Collections** — If you have had your pool drained and refilled after flooding from Hurricanes Helene or Milton, you may be eligible for a special refill adjustment that will **not** count towards the standard once per year adjustment limit.
After the pool has been refilled, please complete the Owner Adjustment Request form found on the City’s website under government – billing & collections – forms
- You must include the following on your form:
 - Specifically note that this pool refill is due to Hurricane Helene or Milton.
 - Provide the dates when the pool was drained and the dates when the pool was refilled.
 - The date of the completed repairs and a copy of any invoices and receipts attributed to the repair (whether contracted or completed by the property owner.)
 - How many gallons the pool holds
 Please note: If the billed consumption is being estimated, the adjustment will be held until an actual read of the meter is obtained.
Please send your completed form and copies of applicable receipts/invoices no later than January 31, either by email to [Billing and Collections | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](#), by mail to Billing & Collections 126 Harvey Street Punta Gorda, FL 33950, or you may drop it off at the front desk on the second floor of the City Hall Annex.

City Clerk

- **Elections** — The seats for Districts 1, 2, and 4 are scheduled for election this year. A general election will take place on November 5, as two candidates qualified for each district. Qualified candidates are listed on the [City’s website](#).
 - Subscribe to the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections’ monthly newsletter to stay up to date on elections news.
 - Did you know your signature can change over the years? Ensure the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections has an up-to-date record of your signature on file for the upcoming election. Stop by their office at 226 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33982, to update yours during regular business hours.
 - In order to vote by mail, you must have a valid request on file with the Supervisor of Elections Office. Requests for vote-by-mail ballots can be made in person, by calling (941)833-5400, or by visiting the [Supervisor of Elections website](#).
- **Business Tax Receipt Renewals** — The renewal period for the City’s business tax receipts for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 has been extended to October 21 due to Hurricane Helene.
 - Business tax receipts not renewed prior to the end of the extended deadline will be assessed a late fee.
 - Business tax receipts which have not yet been renewed are subject to a 10% late fee, with a 5% late fee added each month beyond October.
 - Failure to renew a business tax receipt may result in code enforcement action including a citation or an appearance before the Code Enforcement Board, which could result in additional fines.
- **Current Board and Committee Vacancies** — If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, please visit our online portal to complete an online application at <https://puntagorda.granicus.com/boards/forms/650/apply/>. Unless otherwise noted, all boards meet in in Council Chambers, which is currently located in the Military Heritage Museum at 900 West Marion Avenue.
 - **Building Board** (one consumer advocate and one alternate) — Meets the fourth Tuesday at 9 a.m. Board of seven members with two alternates; four members must be involved with building industry and three members must never have been involved in the building industry. City residency not required. Term period is three years with a limit of three terms. Financial disclosure required.
Reviews enforcement of all codes related to construction standards and acts as

condemnation board in matters of violation of minimum standards. Hears alleged complaints against contractors.

- **Donation Review Committee** (one historic non-profit representative) — Meets the fourth Thursday of January, April, July and October, or as needed, at 10 a.m. or immediately following the Historic Preservation Advisory Board (HPAB). Board of five members; chair of the HPAB, two HPAB members, one local historic non-profit representative, and one local arts organization representative. Term period for Council appointees is three years with a limit of three terms.

Charged with review of all non-monetary gift donation proposals/letters of intent received by the City, in accordance with the review process and established criteria identified in the Non-Monetary Donation Policy. Makes recommendations to the City Council for the acceptance or rejection of non-monetary gift donations.

- **Historic Preservation Advisory Board** (four regular and one alternate) — Meets the fourth Thursday at 9 a.m. Board of seven members with two alternates; members must be residents, property owners, or business owners of the City, except one member may be a resident, property owner, or business owner of Charlotte County. Term period is three years with a limit of three terms.

Identifies for the Council historically significant structures and sites that should be considered for designation as a “Local Historic Landmark” or be nominated for listing on the Florida Master Site File and the National Register of Historic Places. Makes recommendations of the policies for the protection of historically significant structures and sites. Makes recommendations to staff with regard to certificates of appropriateness for any demolition, variance, sign, or relocation of structures. Promotes public awareness of historic archaeological preservation and its community benefits.

- **Police Officers’ Pension Board** (one resident representative) — Meets quarterly and as called. Board of five members; two City residents at-large, two pension plan members, and one board-appointed member. Term period is four years with no term limit. Financial disclosure required.

- **Utility Advisory Board** — (two regular) Meets the fourth Monday at 9 a.m. Board of seven members. Term period is three years with a limit of three terms.

Makes recommendations to City Council regarding revisions to the utility construction standards, alleged billing discrepancies, and review of utility drawings and specifications.

- **New Businesses** — All persons, firms or corporations engaging in business or occupation within the City of Punta Gorda are required to obtain a local business tax receipt in accordance with Chapter 12 of the Punta Gorda City Code. As part of our effort to promote economic development and vitality in our area, we offer the following list of new or transferred business within our community this week:

- Clear View Financial Services, 223 Taylor Street
- Diana’s Cutting Edge Salon and Boutique, 1133 Bal Harbor Boulevard
- Dupont Seamless Gutters, 306 East Grace Street, Unit 112
- Prime Tax Service, 109 East Olympia Avenue
- Time Well Spent, 2511 Vasco Street
- Unfurrgettable Home and Pet Care, 702 Via Formia
- Viking Builders of SW Florida, 7517 Coral Tree

- Neighborhood Fall Festival** - The City of Punta Gorda and Punta Gorda YMCA hosted a Neighborhood Fall Festival at the Cooper Street Rec Center on October 26. This amazing family-friendly event featured free food generously provided by Gettel Lincoln and Brotha Man BBQ, and trick or treat tables sponsored by local nonprofits including Big Brothers, Big Sisters, LULAC, ShorePoint Health, Charlotte County Imagination Library, Drug Free Punta Gorda, TEAM Punta Gorda, Charlotte County EMS, Blanchard House Museum, C.A.R.E., Florida Dept of Health, Punta Gorda Visual Arts Center, Punta Gorda History Center, and the Punta Gorda Masonic Lodge #115. Dozens of other organizations and local businesses donated candy, supplies, decorations, and prizes for the costume contest, including the Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, C.U.S.I., PGHA, CHEC, Military Heritage Museum, Beef O'Brady's, Brooklyn Joe's, PGICA, St. Mary Baptist Church, Iguanaland, The Firm Advertising Agency, Village Brewhouse, Insane Conez, Working Cow, CCAA, and more! A special shout out to the City Clerk's Office, Water Treatment Plant, Facilities, Right-of-Way, Punta Gorda Fire Department, Punta Gorda Police Department, and City and Cooper Street Rec YMCA staff who volunteered their time and efforts!! Thank you to the community for making this event such a success and we can't wait for next year's Fall Festival at the Punta Gorda Library."



