

City Contacts

Building Department 850-248-0634
 Community Services
 • Parks & Grounds 850-248-0551
 • Sports & Recreation 850-248-0171
 • Animal Ctrl./Shelter 850-265-4699
 Customer Service Center 850-265-2121
 • Utility Billing Ext. 2109
 Development & Planning 850-248-0708
 Economic Development 850-248-0701
 Facility Maintenance 850-248-0636
 Fire Department 850-265-7335
 Human Resources 850-248-0507
 • Risk Management 850-248-0507

Police (non-emergency) 850-265-4111
 • Code Enforcement 850-265-4111
 Public Works 850-265-5989
 • Garbage Pickup 850-265-2121
 Ext. 2507
 • Cemeteries 850-265-5989
 Utilities Department 850-265-0087

Upcoming Bid Openings

*Please visit CityofLynnHaven.com/Bids.aspx for more information.



March 2025 VOL. 3, ISSUE 3

Historic Snowfall: A look back at Winter Storm Enzo

Winter Storm Enzo left an historic impact on our small community, and painted picture-perfect scenes that many of us will never forget. Whether it was your first time experiencing snow or one of many, we witnessed a winter wonderland emerge throughout our small community and it was nothing short of extraordinary.

Through the icy conditions, there was a powerful sense of connection and togetherness. City departments came together to assist Public Works in clearing paths for emergency responders, ensuring they could reach residents in need. Our City Manager, Fire Chief, and Police Chief worked tirelessly, to coordinate efforts with sister municipalities, FDOT, county officials, our city leaders, and the Florida EOC. Their dedication helped keep the community informed and prepared.

Beyond the challenges, we also saw moments of pure joy—families playing in the snow, neighbors helping neighbors, and some people experienced snowfall for the very first time. We would like to extend our appreciation to our city personnel and to our community, for staying home, staying safe, and looking out for one another during this historic weather event.

OUR CITY COMMISSIONERS



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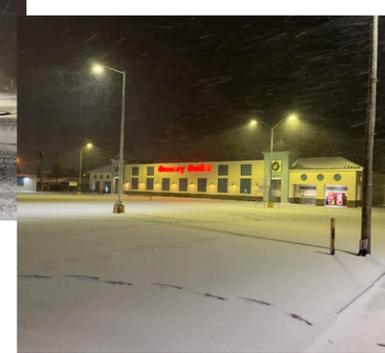
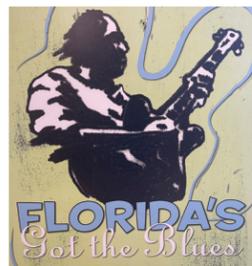
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Florida's Got the Blues Traveling Exhibit



As part of our Black History Month celebration, we featured the “Florida’s Got the Blues” traveling exhibit, on loan from the Museum of Florida History. This exhibit highlighted topics such as the Early Blues, Blues Clubs and Jook Joints, Depression Blues, Women and the Blues, and notable blues musicians

who had ties to Florida including Ray Charles, Bo Diddley, and more! We were honored to have The Reverend Shawn Amos as our special guest, along with guitarist Noah Bellamy. Amos, whose family founded and operated the Famous Amos Cookie Company, performed excerpts of blues songs accompanied by storytelling for our closing reception!



Meeting Schedule & Upcoming Events

Planning Commission Meeting: March 4th @ 5:30 PM

City Commission Meeting: March 11th @ 9:00 AM

International Food Truck Festival: March 8th @ 2:00 PM

City Commission Meeting: March 25th @ 5:30 PM

Art in the Park: March 21st @ 6:00PM

Spring Concert Series – Chandler Flint: March 28th @ 6:00PM

All meetings are open and available to the public to attend at the Lynn Haven City Hall Walter T. Kelley Chambers located at 825 Ohio Avenue, Lynn Haven, FL 32444. Visit the city website for the most current information, meeting locations, and agendas

Go Paperless!

Sign up for paperless billing statements today! Email CSR@cityoflynnhaven.com to request paperless billing statements. Please include your name, address, phone number, account number, and customer number in your email. Switching to paperless billing will not impact your automatic bill payments.



“We are greater, together.”

Since March is Women’s History Month, this Mayor’s Message will focus on eight women that have impacted our society locally and nationally. All of these women are difference makers and have called Florida home.

- 1. Harriet Beecher Stowe**, the author of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, was an abolitionist whose home in Brunswick, Maine, was a station for the Underground Railroad. After the Civil War, she bought property near Jacksonville and said she never had any issues with her fellow Floridians.
- 2. Sharon Sheffield** was the first Black woman to serve as a city commissioner and Lynn Haven Mayor. A city park is named in her honor.
- 3. Paula Hawkins** was the first woman elected to a statewide office in Florida by serving on the Public Service Commission. In 1980, she became the first woman elected

to the US Senate.

- 4. Mary McLeod Bethune** was the founder of Bethune-Cookman University, Mary McLeod Hospital and Training School for Nurses, and the National Council of Negro Women. She was a close friend of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and advisors to Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.
- 5. Janet Reno** was an attorney from Miami. She was the first woman to be the United States Attorney General and served from 1993 to 2001.
- 6. Kim Godwin**, a native of Panama City, was named president of ABC in 2021. She was the first Black woman to be executive of a major American news network.
- 7. Montel Johnson** was the first woman elected Mayor of Lynn Haven. She led our city for twelve years.
- 8. Vickie Gainer** was the first woman and Black American to be employed as Lynn

Mayor Nelson’s Message

Haven’s City Manager. She led the effort in rebuilding our city after Hurricane Michael and preparing us for the future.

We can learn four lessons from the life of these women. First, don’t allow people’s opinions to limit you. Second, people will notice and reward your excellence. Third, your service and sacrifice doesn’t go unnoticed. Finally, the seeds you plant today will bear fruit to feed future generations.

I hope that we can continue to follow the example these women have set because they exemplify what it means to be “greater together!

Honoring Women of the Past, Present, and Future,

Mayor Jesse L. Nelson
jnelson@cityoflynnhaven.com
(850) 774-4883

International Food Truck Festival

The International Food Truck Festival returns to Sharon Sheffield Park on March 8th! This event will be held from 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM with food trucks lined up along Pennsylvania Avenue and 10th Street. International Food Truck Day is geared toward exploring diverse flavors from an array of food trucks across Bay County that offer a variety of cuisines. There will be entertainment that day and a vibrant atmosphere celebrating culinary diversity.



The 2024 Employee of the Year is...

Cortney Turner, Animal Control Officer Supervisor! Cortney has shown remarkable dedication and determination in ensuring the Lynn Haven Animal Shelter operates efficiently. Despite daily challenges, she plays a crucial role in providing valuable input on necessary updates to the COLH Animal Ordinances.

Her commitment extends beyond regular hours, as she frequently responds to after-hours and weekend calls to address animal control issues throughout our city. Thank you, Cortney, for everything you do! We are grateful for your excellence and commitment to our wonderful city!



Keeping You in the Know Avoid Unlicensed Contractors

If someone without a construction license asks you to pull a permit, you could be at risk of financial harm. When a property owner acts as their own contractor, they must provide direct, on-site supervision of the work being performed. If you obtain an owner/builder permit for an unlicensed contractor to work on your property, you are responsible for deducting FICA and withholding taxes and providing workers’ compensation insurance. Aiding unlicensed contractors may result in fines of up to \$5,000! For more information, visit MyFloridaLicense.com or report unlicensed activity by calling 866-532-1440.



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Under a Boil Water Notice? When this happens, residents should be aware of how to proceed when under precautionary boil water notice. Here are some common frequently asked questions that may be useful to you in the future.

1. What is a Boil Water Notice?

A Boil Water Notice warns of potential or confirmed water contamination, making it unsafe to drink without treatment, often due to issues like line breaks, low pressure, or repairs.

2. How do I know if I’m under a Boil Water Notice?

Affected residents will be notified with a paper notice on their door or through a Public Service Announcement (PSA).

3. How should I use water under a Boil Water Notice?

Water for drinking or cooking should be boiled at least 1 minute. Water is safe to use for handwashing, showering, or cleaning.

4. How long does a Boil Water Notice last?

It requires two consecutive days of clean samples, which can take at least 24 hours to evaluate. Affected residents will be notified

5. How can I disinfect my water if there is no power/means to boil it?

Add 8 drops of unscented bleach per gallon of water shake and wait 30 minutes before using.

Lynn Haven Recreation

The city would like to congratulate the Adult Basketball League Champions, The Ones, on their 2024 season victory! Thank you to the teams, players, coaches, and sponsors for making this another fun and exciting basketball season. Congratulations to all the winners!



The next Art in the Park event is scheduled for Friday, March 21 from 4-6 p.m. at Sharon Sheffield Park.

It’s time to get creative! The next Art in the Park event is scheduled for Friday, March 21st from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Sharon Sheffield Park. This event is free and open to the public and all materials will be provided, while supplies last. We hope you can join us!

Spring Ball Opening Day kicked off our 2025 youth baseball and softball season with a fun-filled event at the Lynn Haven Sports Complex. The day featured entertainment, inflatables, food trucks, and ball games throughout the day. We’re looking forward to warmer weather on the ball fields!

Registration is now open for the Adult Volleyball League! Sign your teams up now through March 18 and get ready for another exciting season of volleyball. All games begin on March 25 and will be held Tuesday and Thursday nights at the Charlie James Smith Gymnasium. Register your team today at www.LynnHavenSports.com.

Be sure to follow The City of Lynn Haven on Facebook and check the website frequently for updates and announcements about upcoming spring and summer sports leagues. If you’re interested in competing, now’s the time to gather your team! You can find schedules and standings for all leagues at www.LeagueLobster.com. If you have questions about current or upcoming sports leagues, contact the Sports and Recreation Department at Sports@cityoflynnhaven.com or call 850-788-2357.

Walter T. Kelley Chambers



The City of Lynn Haven held a Dedication and Naming Ceremony to honor former Mayor Walter Kelley. In January, we unveiled the new name, which is now proudly displayed on the chamber’s doors. Mayor Kelley served as Lynn Haven’s Mayor from 1998 to 2015, leaving a lasting legacy of leadership and dedication that has profoundly shaped our community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us in celebrating this significant milestone in the city’s history. Together, we hope to carry forward Mayor Kelley’s inspiring legacy, continuing to enhance and care for our beautiful city.

Share Your Feedback

Have feedback on this issue of Lynn Haven Living? We would love to hear from you: Emailcommunications@cityoflynnhaven.com.