



TYBEE ISLAND

GEORGIA

January 20, 2025

Greetings Mayor and Council!

Hope everyone had a joyful Martin Luther King Jr. Day Weekend.

As you know we are closely monitoring the approach of a winter storm that could bring rain, sleet, ice, snow, or all/none of the above to Tybee Island on Tuesday night/Wednesday morning. Our City Leadership Team will meet this afternoon to make some decisions about operations tomorrow. I'll provide an update this evening.

The past few weeks have been increasingly occupied with internal and external discussions about the proposed Orange Crush Festival. This is the first year that Orange Crush organizers have submitted a complete Special Event Permit application, which is an encouraging sign. I plan to act on the application by next week at the latest.

Regardless of that outcome, we will have much of the same public safety, traffic control, and parking restrictions in place as last year. After some significant negotiation, the Promoters have agreed to the following:

- A one-day event on Saturday, April 19, as opposed to a three-day event
- A single stage located on the beach on the north side of the pier, as opposed to a gated stage area in the south parking lot plus beach stages on both sides of the pier

We have yet to reach an agreement on the number of Police officers the promoters would hire, the hiring by the promoters of an additional ambulance and EMTs, or the location of proposed vendor tents. We have met with DNR on the event, and do not object to the beach stage, but will not permit vendors on the beach. They are in general concurrence with our approach to date.

The promoters are having discussions with Hotel Tybee management about having some aspects of the event on hotel property.

We have scheduled a meeting with property management companies for Jan. 24, with regional law enforcement on Jan. 28, and with business owners on Feb. 13. We have had conversations with the Chatham County Manager and Savannah City Manager, who have pledged support like last year.

You will be receiving regular updates moving forward.

The Week with Police

Accidents:	Calls For Service:
This Week: 0 accidents, 0 injuries	This week: 151
YTD: 3 accidents, 0 injuries	YTD: 421
2024 YTD: 1 accident, 1 injury	2024 YTD: 542
2024 TOTAL: 104 accidents, 18 injuries	2024 TOTAL: 14,588

Arrests:	Citations:
This Week: 6 total -- 0 DUIs / 4 Felonies	This week: 6
YTD: 18 arrests	YTD: 37
2024 YTD: 21 arrests	2024 YTD: 39
2024 TOTAL: 504 arrests	2024 TOTAL: 1,792

Part 1 Crimes

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Arson	Motor Vehicle Theft	Total Part 1
2025	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
2024	0	3	0	10	3	51	0	0	67
2023	0	0	3	8	2	37	0	0	50
2022	0	0	0	2	1	17	2	1	23

Daily Information:

01/16: The new radios are live in the Communications Center. The new system has experienced no problems.

Upcoming Events:

01/20: Lt. White and Sgt. Sims will go through Taser instructor recertification.

01/27: Spring break meeting at the Tybee Island Public Safety Building with business owners, STR companies, hotel/motels.

01/28: Spring break meeting with state and local law enforcement agencies.

01/31: Tybee YMCA Critz Run. This event is scheduled for 01/31-02/01. The Police Department is currently filling spots for off-duty police officers to be paid by the Tybee Island YMCA.

02/10: Operation Starlight Volunteer meeting at 5:30 pm in the courtroom. This meeting is for suggestions, ideas, and prospective volunteers.

02/13-14: Crowd Control Training for all patrol officers in Savannah with the Savannah Police Department mobile field force.

Team TIPD will go through CPR recertification or certification soon. Instruction will be provided by Team TIFD in the next few weeks. We always like to have this up-to-date before our busy season.

This Week at the Fire Department

Calls for service: 18

- Fire calls, 0
- Medical calls, 9
- Manpower/lift assist, 6
- False alarms, 2
- Investigations, 1

Of Note:

1. An initial meeting was held this week to discuss future mitigation efforts to increase beach safety at some of our more dangerous areas. Lots of great ideas were generated and the Chief will be making some recommendations to Council soon. There is a second meeting that will be planned to include civilian stakeholders to get their input.
2. The City Manager and Chief McMillian met with State Fire Marshal Craig Landolt. Many ideas were discussed about future programs on Tybee and how the Fire Marshal's office (State and Chatham) can assist us with code enforcement.
3. Numerous offers were extended this week to part time and full time firefighters. We have already started to attract trained, seasoned firefighters for most of these positions.
4. Advertisements are currently live for lifeguard recruitment for the 2025 season.
5. Tybee Fire is close to moving to a 48/96 for firefighters, which was a recommendation of the Fire Assessment. Chief McMillian is working with the HR Director, Finance Director and City Manager to make the move budget neutral.

Infrastructure Update

Weekly Action at DPW

- Continued to work on drainage project on Jones Avenue
- Performed crossover maintenance
 - Shoveled excess sand off crossovers
 - Fixed deck boards
- Cleaned outfalls at Inlet Avenue and Alley 3
- Cleared inlets and catch basins
- Beach and street litter pickup
- Continued to work on building of additional office at DPW shop
- Fixed signs and street markers
- Cleaned city-owned facilities
- Cut back brush on crossovers
- Cut two lots on Laurel Avenue
- Cut and removed overgrowth on storm water detention area behind Public safety Building
- Blew parks, parking lots and South End Business District
- Cut and removed overgrowth on guard rails
- Picked up and emptied recycling trailers from Memorial Park and Polk Street

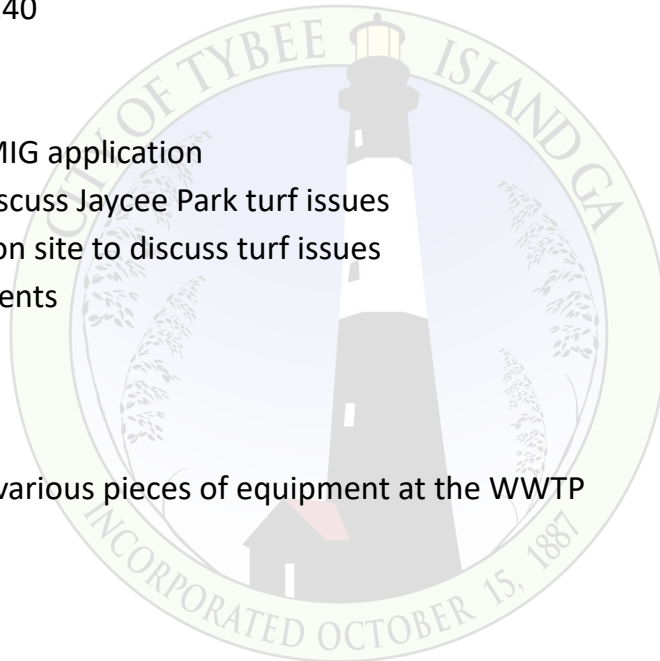
- Baled cardboard
- Picked up litter on Bay Street
- Picked up recycling from South Annex Building
- Called in trash containers and yard waste containers in DPW Yard
- Assisted residents in unloading trash, yard debris, and recycling brought to DPW yard
- Picked up roll-offs for pilot recycling program (Collected 260 pounds of aluminum)

Fleet

- Updated vehicle and equipment list for GIRMA
- Installed new hydraulic line on DPW Trash Truck 204
- Investigated brake problems on DPW 268, determined it needs a new master cylinder, parts are ordered
- Investigated non-working blower motor on PD 168, parts are ordered
- Installed new battery in PD vehicle
- Installed hatch lifts in DPW 240

Management

- Completed corrections to LMIG application
- Met with City Manager to discuss Jaycee Park turf issues
- Met with Chatham Nursery on site to discuss turf issues
- Performed five tree assessments
- Approved six tree permits
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- Sewer/Water
- Performed maintenance on various pieces of equipment at the WWTP
- Clarifier #1
- Sludge press
- Odor Control
- Repaired broken water service leading to DPW shop
- Performed rounds to develop new water leak list
- Checked on water pressure issues at two separate residences
- Replaced meter box on Bay Street
- Met to discuss proposal to replace water meters
- Researched installation of new chlorinators at all three wells
- Performed utility locates
- Flushed and tested water quality in Battery Row Subdivision
- Purchased new testing equipment for drinking water
- Investigated the outage of the strobe light on top of the Butler Avenue water tower and determined it was severely damaged in the wind storms. The wiring has been cut and it needs a new light pole and lighting system. We have lined up an electrician to perform the work
- Performed maintenance on all the wells and lift stations
- Performed required sampling and testing on both the water and sewer



Sanitary Sewer Project on Van Horne Avenue

- Contractor finished sanitary sewer lateral installations
- Contractor will be cleaning up the site and meeting with his subcontractor on paving Van Horn Avenue

Around the Campground

- 28 Arrivals, 289 Site Nights, 40% Occupancy rate
- Installed Dual Zone Mini Split System in Cabin 106 to replace window unit that was not heating.
- Identified leak in pool, temporarily stopped flow of water, waiting on quote for repair.
- Notified guests of potential winter weather forecast.



Bret Bell, City Manager

