

#4 City Govt

CITY OF **GULFPORT** FLORIDA
annual progress report 1963-64

CITY COUNCIL



Wm. N. MacNeill
Mayor



Jay P. Clymer
Ward 1



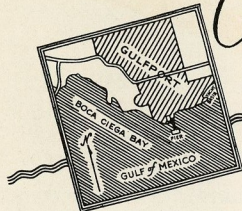
Lewis D. Williams
Ward 2



E. S. (Bud) Markham
Ward 3



T. R. Fussell
Ward 4



City of GULFPORT, FLORIDA

NICHOLAS M. MEISZER
CITY MANAGER

GATEWAY TO THE GULF

To The Honorable Mayor, Members of City Council
and Citizens of Gulfport

Once again it is my privilege to present to you an Annual Report covering the accomplishments and activities of the fiscal year ending July 31, 1964. The year just completed has been an active and progressive one for our City. In the preparation of this booklet an attempt has been made to point out the most significant accomplishments of the year.

Among the most notable improvements are the uniquely designed and colorful sun shelters at the Beach, the paving of the parking apron along Shore Boulevard and the construction of the sidewalk in this area. The air conditioning of the Casino, a long awaited event, was accomplished during the year. There were a number of street paving and sidewalk construction projects. Many pieces of new equipment were acquired including three new trucks for the Public Works Department, a motorized bucket machine for the Sewer Division and two Police Cruisers. The Packer Trucks were equipped to provide containerized waste collection service.

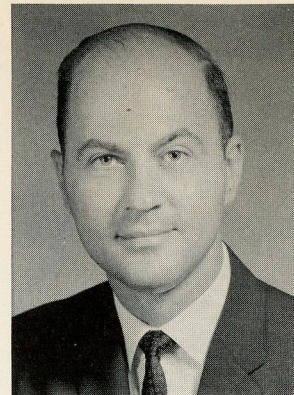
The 15th Avenue Storm Drainage Project was completed during the 1963-64 fiscal year at a cost of approximately \$350,000. The 49th Street Project was begun, and at the time of this writing is nearly 75 per cent complete. These projects will alleviate some of the most serious flooding problems in the City.

The progress we have made has resulted from the joint efforts of civic-minded Citizens and the administrative departments of the City under the leadership and direction of the City Council. The developments of this year can provide the groundwork for future projects. We will continue to meet the needs of an ever growing community and to anticipate future needs before they become emergencies. The City will continue to meet its responsibilities in the future as it has in the past under the guidance of a responsive City Council.

Respectfully,

Nicholas M. Meiszer
Nicholas M. Meiszer
City Manager

NMM/mpe



Nicholas M. Meiszer
City Manager



CITY CLERK

COURT CLERK

The City Clerk is appointed by the Council and is assisted by a Deputy City Clerk. The Clerk has a wide area of responsibility and provides many services for the City Council and residents of the City. Among the more important functions are: the keeping of a journal of Council proceedings, recording all ordinances, resolutions, and proclamations, and receiving petitions. The Clerk is the custodian of the City Seal and causes it to be affixed on official documents and contracts. The Clerk must sign all contracts to which the City is a party and is responsible for conducting municipal elections.

In addition to these services, the Clerk's Office also registers voters and takes applications for Homestead Exemptions. The Clerk administers the Oath of Office to City officials and employees.

During the year just completed, twelve ordinances and nineteen resolutions were passed and seven proclamations were issued.

The Clerk of the Municipal Court prepares the Docket, accepts payment of fines, and prepares various legal documents such as: affidavits, warrants, and subpoenas. The Clerk's Office reports convictions for traffic violations to the State Bureau of Motor Vehicles and when requested to do so provides transcripts of trials.



Mrs. Ellen O. Bauer
City Clerk
Court Clerk

MUNICIPAL COURT



Judge Jack Clark

The Judge of the Municipal Court is appointed by the City Council for an indefinite term of office. Court sessions are held every Monday at 7:00 P.M. in City Hall.

The Court has jurisdiction in cases which involve the violation of City Ordinances and violations of traffic laws which occur within the City Limits. In cases of a more serious nature, preliminary hearings may be held before they are bound over to courts with broader jurisdiction. During the year just completed, this Court heard 921 cases.

LEGAL

The Legal Department consists of the City Attorney and Associate City Attorney, both of whom are appointed by the City Council. They serve as legal advisors to the City and its officers on matters of an official nature. The City Attorney attends Council Meetings, represents the City in all suits and controversies, prepares ordinances and resolutions, approves all contracts to which the City may be a party, and gives opinions on legal questions.

The City Attorney or Associate may be called upon to serve as prosecutor in the Municipal Court when the circumstances warrant their appearance.



Noble C. Doss
City Attorney



Wm. H. Carey
Assoc. City Att.



L. T. McCarthy
Director

PUBLIC WORKS

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

The services of this Division cover a wide variety of activities including building maintenance and repair, tree removal and weed control, and the maintenance of storm drainage facilities. The 49th Street drainage project was started in March and will cost \$70,000 when completed.

STREET MAINTENANCE

This Division is responsible for cleaning and maintaining more than 50 miles of streets and over 25 miles of alleys and rights-of-way in the City. New construction and major repair projects are performed by private contractors. During the year, 11th Avenue was paved, 15th Avenue was resurfaced, and sidewalks were constructed on 52nd Street, 58th Street, and Shore Boulevard.

WATER AND SEWER

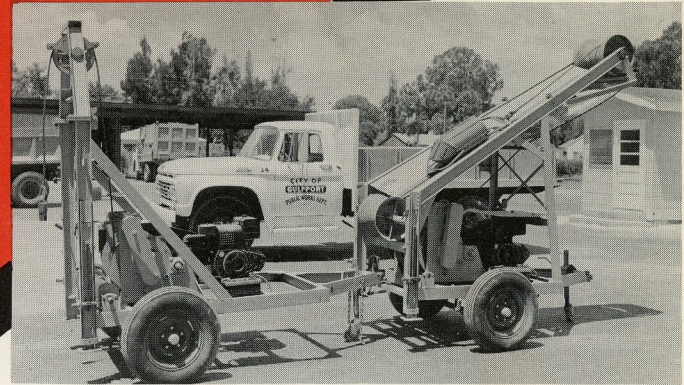
The City has approximately 4,360 metered water customers who are served by this Division. There are approximately 104 miles of sanitary sewer lines including both trunks and laterals and two lift stations in the system. Major items of new equipment purchased during the year include a bucket machine for cleaning the lines and a new truck.

SANITATION

Twice weekly garbage collection service is provided by this Division. Garden trimmings and trash are collected separately at regular intervals. The most significant development during the year just completed was the installation of containerized waste collection service. Containerized service is now available to all apartment buildings, schools, stores, and other commercial establishments. Collection by this method is more efficient, more economical, and more sanitary.



Double Storm Line; part of 15th Avenue Project



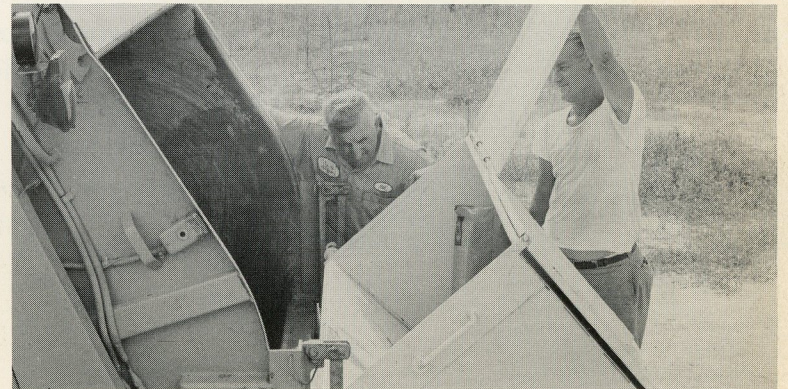
New Bucket Machine and Truck for Sewer Maintenance Division



Box Culvert construction on 49th Street South



49th Street Storm Drainage Project

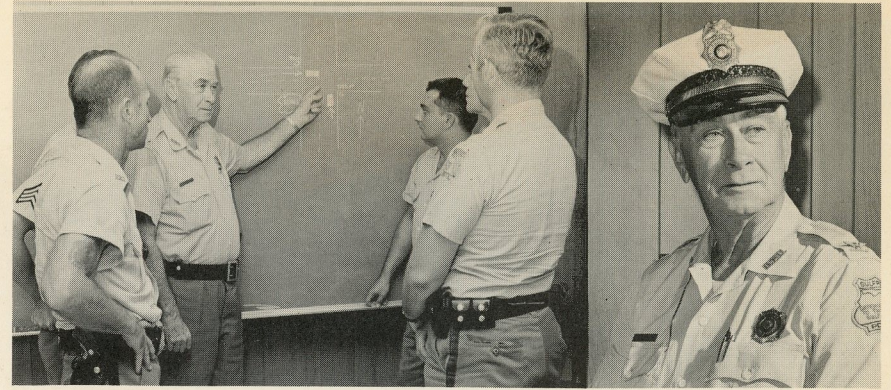


Containerized Waste Collection Service was instituted during the year

POLICE

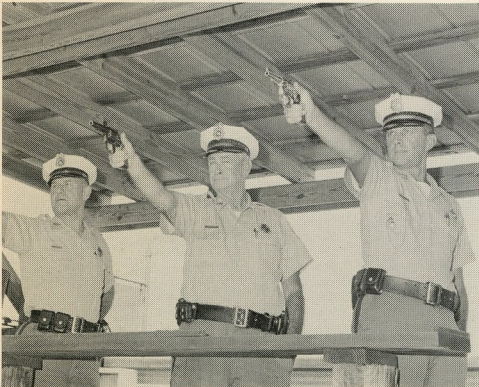


Visitors often need assistance



Continuous In-Service-Training
is a must

Wm. Jopson
Chief



Small arms marksmanship is
important part of Training

The Police cruisers traveled more than 115,000 miles during the year on routine patrol. The Department received 2,217 complaints of all types, investigated 85 automobile accidents, and made 187 arrests for offenses other than traffic.

Continuing emphasis was placed on in-service-training. Members of the Department attended training seminars given by the F.B.I. in Tampa, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department in Clearwater, and the St. Petersburg Police Academy. The Department also conducted training courses in the use of the Breathalyzer which was attended by officers from other departments in this area. Continuing efforts were made in the traffic safety program in an effort to eliminate pedestrian traffic fatalities. The Department also carried out an intensive program of activities directed at teen-agers to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Two new cruisers were purchased during the year. These automobiles are Police Specials especially designed for patrol work.

FIRE



Mack O. Brooks
Chief

The Fire Department's efforts are concentrated in two areas of activity, fire prevention and fire fighting. During the 1963-64 fiscal year, the Fire Inspector made 487 inspections and conducted 32 fire drills. He investigates the cause of each fire and submits reports of his findings. The Inspector also issues fire permits, and during the year covered by this report 362 were issued. The Fire Inspector attends the annual arson seminar conducted by the State Fire College and various other official meetings. He also attends weekly drill sessions with the Volunteers.

Fire fighting is the responsibility of the Volunteer Department consisting of nineteen men. They responded to 22 alarms during the year which resulted in damage due to fire loss of approximately \$15,700. On the average, approximately nine men responded to each alarm during the year. All members attend weekly drill periods on Monday evening and participate in supervised training courses given by the State Fire College.



Fire fighters with newest pumper

The responsibility for co-ordinating the City's Civil Defense effort was assigned to the Fire Inspector during the year. Under his supervision a Civil Defense plan was drafted and approved by the State Civil Defense Headquarters. He represents the City at meetings with Civil Defense officials of the County and neighboring municipalities.



J. L. Pounds
Inspector
C. D. Director

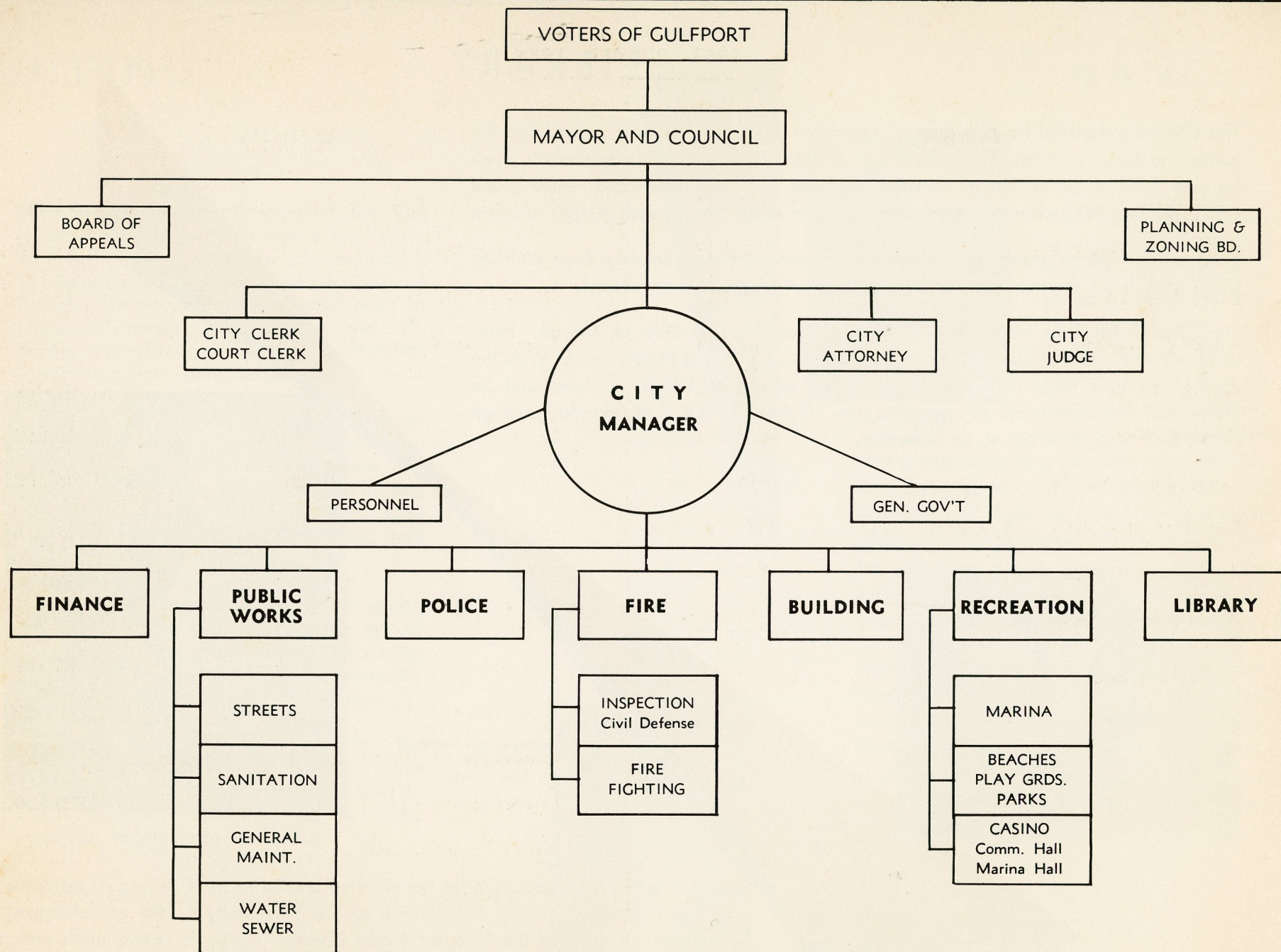
1963 BUDGET 1964

REVENUE

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Ad Valorem Taxes | \$ 115,000 |
| Permits, Licenses & Fees | 38,285 |
| Court Fines & Costs | 10,700 |
| Money & Property | 69,400 |
| Service Charges | 130,450 |
| Other Sources | 57,000 |
| Appropriated Surplus | 116,660 |
| Total Operating Revenue & Surplus | 537,495 |
| Capital Improvement Fund | 163,116 |
| Water & Sewer System | <u>314,050</u> |
| Grand Total | \$1,014,661 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| City Council & City Clerk | \$ 22,436 |
| Municipal Court & Legal | 11,110 |
| Office of City Manager | 15,019 |
| General Administration | 6,850 |
| Finance | 22,472 |
| Building | 16,068 |
| Library | 15,046 |
| Fire | 12,912 |
| Police | 76,428 |
| Public Works | 170,637 |
| Recreation | 85,967 |
| Non-Departmental | 63,600 |
| Reserve for Contingencies | 18,950 |
| Capital Improvement Fund | 163,116 |
| Water & Sewer System | <u>314,050</u> |
| Grand Total | \$1,014,661 |



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART — CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA

LIBRARY

The Library completed its 29th year of operation by setting a new record for the number of books circulated. The total reached 119,336, surpassing last year's mark by over 7,000 volumes. Other statistics indicated that: 671 new cards were issued and 1,182 new books were added to the collection which now exceeds 30,000 volumes.

The summer reading program for elementary school children (Smokey Bear Reading Club) completed another successful season with 170 children registered.

The Library's facilities are open to all residents of the City free of charge. Non-residents who use the Library pay an annual fee of \$2 for a library card. With the start of the new fiscal year, the hours during which the Library is open will be expanded. The new hours of operation are: 10 A.M. to 8:30 P.M. Monday through Friday and 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. on Saturday.



Outstanding Citizen Award
Presented To
Mrs. Marie E. Bryan



In grateful appreciation for her devoted service to the City and its residents and her outstanding contribution to the community in the establishment and direction of the Gulfport Public Library now in its twenty-ninth year. By order of the City Council March 3, 1964.

BUILDING

New building construction within the City during this fiscal year attained a total value of more than \$326,000. In this connection, the Building Department issued 620 Building Permits. The total of all other permits such as: electrical, plumbing, and gas, reached 519. In the supervision of this new construction 2,507 inspections were made.

Under the supervision of the Building Director various new construction projects were completed such as the six new concrete sun shelters at the Beach. Other activities include the removal of old boat slips and piers at the Marina, the construction of new slips, and dredging of the channel.

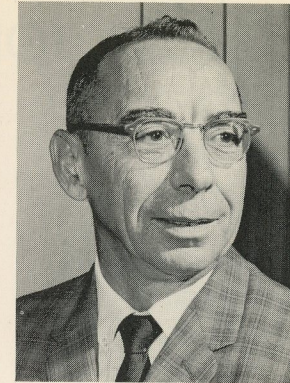
A Contractor's Qualifying Board was established during the year for the purpose of examining building contractors and issuing Certificates of Competency. The Building Director serves as Secretary to this Board.

In addition to his other responsibilities, the Building Director makes monthly inspections of all City buildings and other facilities to eliminate any unsafe conditions and to initiate necessary maintenance work.



G. M. Netling
Director

FINANCE

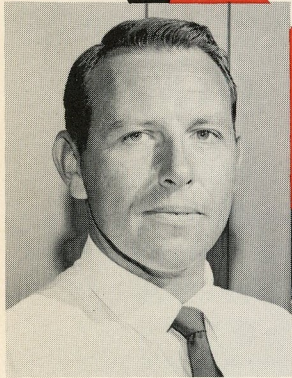


A. J. Higgins
Director

The Finance Department is headed by the Director of Finance who also serves as the City's Purchasing Agent and Budget Officer. The Department prepares monthly financial reports, approves all requisitions and purchase orders, receives payments due the City, prepares the biweekly payroll, and prepares and mails out utility bills and other statements. The Department is also responsible for collecting various revenues due the City such as: occupational licenses, dog licenses, and other permits and fees.

Another important aspect of the Department's functions is the supervision of the debt service requirements as contained in the Water and Sewer Revenue Bond Resolution. This Department also administers the employee retirement plan, hospitalization, and major medical insurance plan.

PARKS AND RECREATION



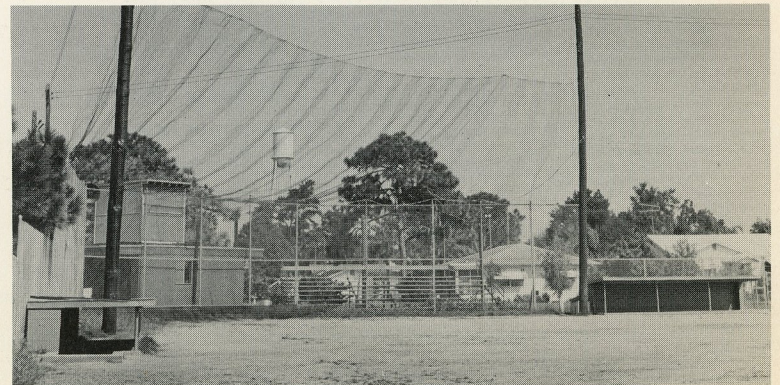
T. G. Lovern, Jr.
Director

One of the finest baseball diamonds in the area is located at Hoyt Field. This diamond was developed with a great deal of assistance from Andy Anderson Post 125 of the American Legion. During this past year, a new section of bleachers was added, a sprinkler system was installed in the outfield, and an automatic pitching machine was purchased for use during batting practice. The Field is used by various leagues, age groups, and school teams during the spring and summer months.

The 1963-64 fiscal year was the first complete year for the Recreation Department which was established in 1963. This Department provides a complete program of activities for all age groups throughout the year. The facilities operated by the Recreation Department include the Casino, Community Hall, Marina Hall, Chase Park, Hoyt Field, the Marina, and the Bathing Beach and Playground on Boca Ciega Bay.

There is a Recreation Board which serves in an advisory capacity and consists of five members. During the year just completed, the City Council established a Park Board which also serves in an advisory capacity in matters concerning the development and beautification of the City's Parks.

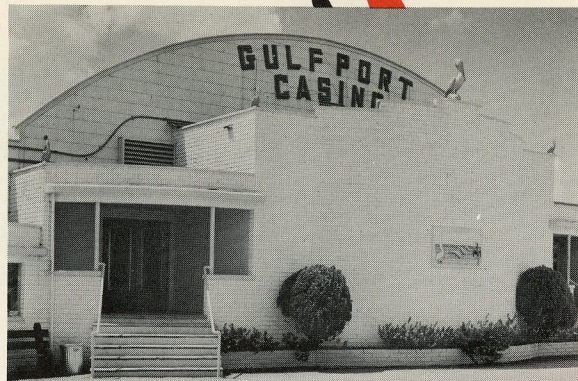
The Gulfport Marina with complete and modern facilities can now accommodate 170 boats in both open and covered slips. A free launching ramp is maintained for boat owners who use trailers. A full time Harbormaster is on duty to assist boat owners, make safety inspections, and provide charts and weather information.



Hoyt Field Baseball Diamond



New Sun Shelters at Beach



Newly air conditioned Casino

The largest single project of the year was the air conditioning of the Gulfport Casino. The Casino accommodates approximately 800 persons and is the scene of adult dances, Saturday night teen-age dances, and a meeting place for many groups, societies, and clubs.

Several of the organized athletic activities also took place at the Casino, among these were Judo Classes, Tumbling, and Trampoline Classes. By far the most popular activity during the year was the teen-age dances held on Saturday nights. During the 1963-64 fiscal year, more than 100,000 persons enjoyed the activities at the Casino.

Summer activities under the sponsorship of the Recreation Department included Swimming Classes, Sailing, Golf Instruction, Tumbling, Accordion and Guitar Lessons, and Baseball and Softball. More than 400 youngsters were registered in these activities. Youngsters who successfully passed the swimming tests were awarded Red Cross certificates and identification cards. Trophies were awarded to the first, second, third, and fourth place winners in the sailing competition.

Adult activities consisted of Sewing Classes, Upholstery Classes, Bridge Lessons, and Adult Dances on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings.



Swimming Class

PERSONNEL

The City Manager also serves as the City's Personnel Director. This Department is operated under the City's Personnel Rules, Pay Plan, and Position Classification System. The City has 105 employees including both full time and part time.

There is a Personnel Board consisting of three members who

are appointed in accordance with the Personnel Rules. This Board meets at the invitation of the City Manager to hear grievances and complaints from employees. This is an advisory board and its actions merely constitute recommendations to the City Manager. The City is a member of the Public Personnel Association.



PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

The Planning and Zoning Board consists of five members appointed by the City Council. The Board has the power to make a master plan for the physical development of the City, to control subdividing and platting of land, to draft an official map of the City and to recommend changes in zoning. The City Manager serves as Advisor to the Board which meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in City Hall. During the fiscal year just completed the Board passed 17 recommendations to the City Council and considered six applications for rezoning.

APPEALS BOARD

The Board of Appeals consists of five members appointed by the City Council. This Board has the power to grant exceptions to the zoning regulations and to grant variances when requested. The Board hears appeals from persons who have been refused or denied Building Permits by the Building Department. Meetings are held at City Hall on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 P.M. The Director of the Building Department serves as advisor to this Board. During the fiscal year just completed, sixteen cases were considered by the Board.

1963

YEAR IN REVIEW

1964

- 1 **STREET PAVING AND SIDEWALKS**—11th Avenue was paved from Freemont Street to 61st Street; 15th Avenue was partially resurfaced; the parking apron along Shore Boulevard was paved; the City Council authorized the resurfacing of Tangerine Avenue and a portion of Ninth Avenue South; and sidewalks were constructed on 58th Street from Seventh to Eleventh Avenues, and on Shore Boulevard to 58th Street.
- 2 **STORM DRAINAGE**—The 15th Avenue storm drainage line was completed during the year. The 49th Street project was begun and was approximately 60% complete by the end of the year. The combined cost of this work will exceed \$400,000 when completed.
- 3 **ATHLETIC COURT**—The Council authorized construction of a multi-purpose athletic court to provide for many outdoor activities: Tennis, Basketball, Badminton, Volleyball, etc. Construction will depend upon selection of an acceptable site. The approximate cost is \$6,000.
- 4 **CASINO**—The Casino was air conditioned with the installation of two 30 ton units and duct system for proper distribution of the air. The cost of this project will approach \$18,000.
- 5 **BEACH IMPROVEMENT**—Six uniquely designed concrete sun shelters in several pastel colors were constructed at the Beach. The existing playground equipment was refinished, some new playground equipment was installed, and more than 30 palm trees were planted to beautify the area.
- 6 **OTHER PROJECTS**—The Council established an Outstanding Citizen Award and made the first presentation to Mrs. Marie E. Bryan; authorized the removal of all parking meters from the City's streets, and authorized free boat launching at the Marina.

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

LICENSES

Dog Licenses — must be obtained annually by January 1.

Occupational Licenses — must be obtained annually by October 31.

Garbage Collection Fee — \$2.25 per month, twice weekly service.

Water Charges — minimum of \$2.00 for 2,000 gallons.

Sewer Service Charge — minimum of \$2.50, plus percentage based on water consumption.

Fire Permit — issued by Fire Inspector, no fee.

Building Permit — issued by Building Inspector.

CHURCHES & SCHOOLS

Church of Christ
Community Baptist Church
First Methodist Church
First Presbyterian Church
Gulfport Community Church
Holy Name Catholic Church
Jewish Community Center

Boca Ciega High School
Disston Junior High School
Gulfport Elementary School
Holy Name Parochial School

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

City Hall 342-8011
Police 342-2221
Fire 341-5111
Library 343-9151
Casino 345-5405
Marina 343-5611

AMBULANCE SERVICE

J. Douglas Baird 347-2121
Gulfport Memorial 347-1211
David W. Thompson 342-8281

AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

Community Hall
Marina Hall
Casino

(Call Recreation Director)
342-8011

MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

City Council—
1st & 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
Municipal Court—
Every Monday at 7:00 P.M.
Planning & Zoning Board—
3rd Wednesday at 7:30 P.M.
Appeals Board—
2nd Wednesday at 7:30 P.M.

HOURS

City Hall 8:30 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.
Monday through Friday

Library 10:00 A.M. — 8:30 P.M.
Monday through Friday
10:00 A.M. — 6:00 P.M.
Saturday



Sailing on Boca Ciega Bay



Cleaning up the Beach



Aerial photo showing waterfront area and Beach

POV.1960.6

GATEWAY TO THE FLORIDA GULF



Boca Ciega Bay