

March 17, 2023

Florida Government Finance Professionals Week is March 20 - 24

City awarded Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

At the March 13 Regular City Commission Meeting, the St. Augustine City Commission proclaimed March 20 – 24 as Florida Government Finance Professionals Week. This proclamation acknowledges the Finance Department's services to the community, especially the Accounting Division's efforts to safeguard the City's assets, maximize the use of City revenue, and efficiently provide accurate and timely information to the City Commission, City Manager, and residents. It also recognizes the Customer Service Division's efforts to provide exceptional service to utility customers, as well as assist the public with business tax receipts, parking, vendor permits, and certified tour guide tests.

"We are proud to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and leadership of the City's Financial Services Department," said John Regan, City Manager. "The exceptional, award-winning service provided by both the Accounting and Customer Service Divisions is recognized by the City Commission, as well as professional organizations."

The City's Financial Services Department has been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment, which the City has earned for more than 25 consecutive years, represents a significant accomplishment. In conjunction with the Certificate of Achievement, the Financial Services Department was also awarded an Award of Financial Reporting for its role in earning this notable achievement.

According to GFOA, the report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The City's 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report will tentatively be presented at the Monday, April 24 Regular City Commission Meeting.

For more information about the City's Finance Department, [check out this video](#).

For additional information about the GFOA award and annual financial report, contact the Financial Services Department at 904.825.1030.

Media inquiries may be directed to Melissa Wissel, Communications Director, at 904.293.3307 or via email at mwissel@citystaug.com.

Photo (L to R): Commissioner Barbara Blonder; Judy Westerfield-Morris, Accountant II; Aline Lauria, Administrative Coordinator; Brianna Willis, Customer Service Assistant Supervisor; Laura More, Accounting Technician; Mayor Nancy Sikes-Kline; Commissioner Jim Springfield; John Augustus, Customer Service Supervisor; Commissioner Cynthia Garris; Greg Johnson, Finance Deputy Director; Mark Simpson, Finance Director