

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Town Commission
FROM: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
REPORT DATE: November 4, 2020
MEETING DATE: November 9, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Recommended Action

None, informational only

Background

At the November 2, 2020 Regular Meeting, which was the Commission's first hybrid meeting, Resolution 2020-28 was adopted and provides for Commissioners to meet with a in-person quorum, and provides for other Commissioners to attend, and vote by our Zoom meeting platform. Future meetings will continue to be in a hybrid format still providing for a virtual component.

Town staff re-opened Town offices and facilities (with some restrictions) and transitioned to providing in-person services in the safest manner possible on November 2. Although all Town offices are open, the public is encouraged to conduct business on-line, by e-mail or phone when possible. Employees who have been working remotely returned to Town offices, except some e-work considered on a case-by-case basis. Patrons are allowed entry to Town offices but are required to follow protocols including, but not limited to, answering a series of questions before entering, social distancing, wearing masks, along with the ability to provide for contact tracing. The health of our staff, and the public, is foremost in our plan to safely re-open facilities to the public.

The Commission adopted an Emergency Mandatory Mask Ordinance on July 2, 2020 and adopted Ordinance 2020-13 at the August 31, 2020 Emergency Special Meeting which continues mandatory mask wearing for an additional 90 days (through November 30, 2020). The Town Commission will hold an Emergency Meeting to consider extending the Emergency Ordinance requiring face coverings on November 9, 2020.

Test data continues to indicate a trend of higher, new positive test results, but very few positive cases on Longboat Key. I believe that is at least partly related to the Town's actions, and the precautions taken by our residents. As of Wednesday, November 4, there are no reported active positive case in the Sarasota portion of Longboat Key (less than 5 cumulative cases), and 8 positive cases reported on the Manatee County side (48 cumulative cases). We continue to monitor the potential for a spike in positives due to Phase 3 re-openings.

Staff Recommendation

None, information only.

End of Agenda Item