



Unprecedented Hurricane Season FINALLY over! **Town Initiatives – Snapshot**

Congratulations to Commissioner Candidates. The three Town Commissioner seats up for election in March 2021 were uncontested. Therefore each of the Commissioner candidates will be sworn in for terms beginning March 22, 2021 at 9:00am at the Town Commission Statutory Meeting. Congratulations to Commissioners-elect Penny Gold, and Debra Williams, and to Vice-Mayor Haycock!

Village Parking RPP. The Town Commission will hold second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 2020-09 on December 7 at 1:00pm. If adopted, the Ordinance will establish a Resident-Only Parking Permit Program for Longbeach Village and the companion Resolution 2020-27, will be considered to establish fees to cover parking permits, and associated costs. The RPP would take effect on January 1, 2021.

Town Center News. On Saturday, November 27 the Town and Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce hosted a tree-lighting event creating a festive kick-off for the season! Other exciting news for the Town Center- a lease agreement with the Longboat Key Historical Society was approved by the Town Commission on November 2, and paves the way for the Historic Whitney Beach Cottage to be re-located to the Town Center site. This cottage, built around 1937, would serve as a place to house historical photos, artifacts, and information. The Historical Society would open the building periodically for visitors.

Toys for Tots. Town Hall and the Police Department have *Toys for Tots* collection boxes for new, unopened, and unwrapped toys/gifts. No toys that resemble weapons, or food items are accepted. The boxes will be collected on Friday, December 11 so make sure to bring your donations prior to that date.

Utilities Undergrounding Project. In Phase 1 (Country Club Shores area) the “switch order” is underway! This means that FPL & our contractor, Wilco, began the transition from overhead to underground utilities. As they work through energizing the new underground equipment, the actual switch over to individual homes will occur between now and the end of 2020 and should be complete by January 2021. After the switch order process, the final work in Phase 1 will include the replacement of the existing public street lights.

Coyotes Are Back! For two years we’ve had no sightings, or coyote reports, then within a few days during late October we had 3 coyote sightings on the North end of the island followed by 4 sightings in November, mostly in the South end of the island. In each case, they were minding their own business. In 2018 the Town hosted public information sessions with biologists and specialists to educate the public about coyotes, how to protect yourself, your pets, and to keep your property unattractive to them. For information, or to report sightings, contact the Police Department non-emergency number at 941-316-1201, or by e-mail through the Town’s website.

COVID-19. Yes, we all have pandemic fatigue, especially as are approaching the 9th month mark. Even though positive test results are trending up in our area, (which we continue to monitor), relatively speaking, cases on Longboat Key continue to remain low. So, don’t let your guard down! Our Mandatory Face Coverings Ordinance remains in place until March 31, 2021. Please wear a mask and continue to follow the CDC recommended precautions, especially as our snowbirds begin to arrive.

Wastewater Leak. The Town received a proposed Consent Order from FDEP starting the process for the Town to respond and negotiate a final Consent Order. The FDEP extended the Town’s response time to December 15, and we are currently in negotiations on the conditions of the final Consent Order.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- December 7, 2020 1:00pm Town Commission Regular Meeting (In-person / Hybrid format)
- December 14, 2020 10:00am Special Magistrate (In-Person)
- December 14, 2020 1:00pm Regular Workshop Meeting (In-person / Hybrid format)
- December 15, 2020 9:15am Regular Meeting Planning & Zoning Board (In-person / Hybrid)
- December 17, 2020 10:00am Turtle Ordinance Public Workshop with Town Staff (Virtual)

Fast Facts

Bids for the Town’s Beach Bonds came in at 0.7% based on a S&P Rating of AA+!