



April 5th Vaccines available to adults 18 years & up!

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

The 2021-2022 Town Commission has been seated! Welcome to our two new Commissioners and Thank You to all who serve the Town as elected officials. Commissioners Penny Gold, and Debra Williams joined the Commission, and Vice-Mayor Haycock was re-elected – all unopposed. Commissioners Jack Daly, George Spoll and Ed Zunz have now retired from their Commissioner seats and deserve our deepest gratitude for their many years of service to the Town’s residents. Commissioner Zunz’s seat will be filled by appointment at a Special Commission Meeting on April 19th until the next General Election in March of 2022.

COVID-19 & Vaccine. We are now in month 13 (374 days) of the State of Emergency responding to the COVID-19 pandemic but there is now light at the end of the tunnel. Effective April 5, vaccine availability opened up to all individuals over the age of 18. Register through Sarasota County and Manatee County Health Departments, the FDOH website, or directly through participating retail pharmacies. The Town updated the Mandatory Face Coverings Ordinance at an Emergency Meeting on March 22, 2021. Please wear a mask and continue following CDC recommended precautions.

No 2021 Citizen’s Academy... No Worries – We just completed “Intro LBK 2021”. With the pandemic still challenging us for in-person events, we didn’t want to miss the opportunity to engage citizens interested in learning more about their Town government. We held a virtual series hosted by the Town Manager and key staff on March 23, 24, and 25 from 9:00 – 10:30am. The series of Zoom sessions had a class of 17 residents, with 15 of them attending all 3 days of the series. Staff provided a high-level overview of Town Government, services, operations, and opportunities for citizens to engage. Watch for registration info coming out for another series in late Spring 2021!

Utilities Undergrounding Project. A big milestone for our island-wide utilities undergrounding project! The first several houses have been switched over to underground service in Phase 1. We are looking forward to seeing the poles and power lines disappear. The first neighborhood and GMD light poles have been installed in Phase 1, and WOW! they look great, especially compared to the existing tall, cement, and wooden FPL utility poles. This is part of the final work in Phase 1. Phase 2 work progresses on the North end of the island in the Village areas installing the conduits for FPL, Comcast, and Town fiber and street lights.

New Pass Bridge Maintenance Project Continues. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is performing a maintenance project on the New Pass Bridge. Lanes of traffic and existing speed limit will be maintained during the project with marginal inconvenience anticipated for drivers, boaters, pedestrians, bikers, or island mobility. The project schedule anticipates completion by Summer 2021.

Beach Projects. The nourishment of high erosion areas and the North end groin structures projects are full steam ahead. Construction is underway. Please be careful in the areas that are being re-nourished. Most of the work is scheduled to occur between March and August of this year. Some activity will occur later related to work on the very South end of the island associated with the dredging of New Pass.

Village Parking Permits. The Longbeach Village Residents-Only Parking Permit program has been in effect since January 1. We have sold permits to 67 distinct Village residents, with 102 decals and 86 guest passes sold to date. Requests for permits should be directed to the Police Department’s non-emergency number 941-316-1201 or by e-mail through the Town’s website. Public parking remains at the Town Dock and adjacent to the two restaurants at the end of Broadway.

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- April 5, 2021 1:00pm Town Commission Regular Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)
- April 12, 2021 10:00am Special Magistrate (In-Person)
- April 15, 2021 9:30am Zoning Board of Adjustment (In-person/Hybrid)
- April 19, 2021 10:00am Town Commission Goal & Objectives Special Workshop Meeting
- April 19, 2021 11:30am Town Commission appointment for District 5 seat vacancy
- April 19, 2021 1:00 pm Regular Workshop Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)
- April 30, 2021 1:00 pm Investment Advisory/Finance Committee Meeting

Fast Fact

We have 64 neighborhood street lights up (9 to go) and 5 GMD street lights up (1 to go)!