



It is Hurricane Season – Make Your Plans Now!

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

Severe Weather Events. It is that time of year. The 2021 Hurricane Season is expected to be above average. Make sure your disaster plan is up to date, check your disaster supply kit to ensure you have supplies organized *before its needed!* Identify an evacuation location – remember hide from the wind; run from the water! This means to evacuate far enough inland to be out of range of storm surge, coastal flooding, and make sure the structure you inhabit can withstand hurricane force winds. If you haven't signed up for Alert Longboat Key's emergency notification system- please, do it now.

IntroLBK 2021 – June Series. Our Annual Citizens' Academy of Government was not held this year due to in-person events not being an option. Instead, we provided a virtual program as an alternative opportunity to engage citizens interested in learning more about their Town government and services. The success of that program, prompts us to host another series in June. Don't miss your chance to register for this virtual series hosted by the Town Manager and key staff. On June 22, 23 & 24 from 10:00 – 11:30am we'll host a series of Zoom sessions providing a high-level overview of Town Government, services, operations, and opportunities for citizens to engage. Registration information is on our website, or e-mail sphillips@longboatkey.org to register!!

COVID-19. Yes, it is really month 15 (435 days) of the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic. Good news is the number of new positive test results are down and vaccines up. Currently the Town has 0 active cases! Thank you for being careful during the past 15 months, and also taking advantage of the various ways to receive the vaccine. According to the Florida Department of Health, over 98% of our residents have received at least their first shot. New CDC guidelines have come out regarding vaccinated individuals- continue to follow safe practices.

Sand, sand, and more sand. The Town's contractors have completed much of the work on the main part of the island and are now focusing on the North end groins and the New Pass dredging and groin tightening. The northern-most groin is nearing completion, two more in that area to go, and two more planned just South of the existing permeable adjustable groins. Once completed they will back fill all with sand. The New Pass dredging project has been advanced for completion in late July. Please visit <http://olsen-associates.com/lbk2021/> for the latest updates.

Town of Longboat Key Utility Rate Study. The Town's rate consultant, GovRates, is has completed their review of the water & wastewater utility rates. This is a periodic review to ensure our monthly user rates are sufficient to operate and fund the utility system. The Town has some of the lowest rates in the region and has not increased its utility rates since 2010. The only increases have been Manatee County bulk water rates adjustments that are passed-through directly to the users. A modest increase is anticipated for users to the Town's system. The Town Commission will consider the Utility Rate Study recommended increases as part of the FY22 Budget process.

Utilities Undergrounding Project. Still full steam ahead. Work is wrapping up in Phase 1 (Country Club Shores area) and once the individual homes are converted FPL will be responsible for removing the existing poles. Phase 2 work on the North end is well underway and work on Phase 3 in the GMD area has begun. Fiber conduit is also being installed in the Bay Isles area. Project remains on track and under budget.

Fire Stations. Wrapping up construction on both stations. Minor delays associated with the new garage doors for the South Station and some minor interior work being completed. Look for a South Station Grand Opening ceremony in July. Thanks to our firefighters and public for their patience during the construction.

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- June 7, 2021 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)
- June 14, 2021 10:00 am Special Magistrate (In-Person)
- June 15, 2021 9:15 am Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting (In-person/Hybrid)
- June 16, 2021 10:00 am Special Magistrate (In-person)
- June 17, 2021 9:30 am Zoning Board of Adjustment (In-person)
- June 21, 2021 9:00 am Town Commission Special Workshop Meeting (Budget)
- June 21, 2021 1:00 pm Regular Workshop Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)

Fast Fact

There were 30 named storms in the 2020 Hurricane Season!