



Ok, Summer Is Definitely Here- Monitor the Weather...

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

Commission Recess Town Commission takes recess from regularly scheduled meetings during July and August each year. Their last meeting before recess is July 1st at 9am. They resume regular meetings on September 12, 2021 at 1pm. It remains a busy time for all as we continue to advance projects, wrap up our Budget process, and prepare for the next fiscal year.

Speaking of Budget... The Town Commission will set the maximum millage rate on July 1st for FY23. They will be considering a 1.990 millage rate, down from 2.1144. It will result in a reduction in Town taxes for homesteaded properties and a nominal increase for non-homesteaded properties. New construction and newly purchased properties have their value reset by the County so they will pay based on the new rate and the taxable value of their property. Budget hearings are scheduled in September and the FY23 year begins on October 1st.

Sea Turtle Nesting Season Turtle nesting season runs through October 31, so be extra careful and considerate when on the beach. Please do not leave large holes in the sand, beach furniture out where it can obstruct the turtles laying eggs, or leave lights on that can disorient turtles and/or hatchlings. Call Code Enforcement Officer Chris Kopp at 941-316-1966 with any questions about requirements of our Turtle Protection Ordinance.

Town Center Site Work and Stage The Town received bids for the Phase 2 site work that will regrade the outdoor green, and install walkways, lighting, and landscaping. The construction of a donor-funded Stage was part of that bid package. Due to the current economic and inflationary issues, we expected that the bids would come in over our earlier budget estimates. The Commission discussed the project at their June 20 Budget Workshop Meeting and decided to move forward with the site work and seek additional private funding for the Stage to cover the full cost of design and construction. The Longboat Key Foundation and private donors have been very responsive in raising the additional private funding necessary to construct the Stage as part of the Phase 2 project. The Commission will consider a Budget Amendment on July 1st to allow the work to proceed as bid.

Community Center The Town has been working with Sarasota County, the Sarasota County School Board and others to advance the concept of a Community Center/Library on a Town parcel of land adjacent to the Town Center Green. Sarasota County has now included \$1M in their Budget for next year (October 1st) to pay for planning and design services for a new library. We look forward to working with them to collaboratively advance this project.

Greer Island At the end of June the Town's contractor started work on an emergency dredge to help maintain access and navigation to Canal 1A. The project is at the southeastern tip of the Greer Island spit and that work has temporarily closed Greer Island East of the bridge for approximately 3 weeks. After that work is completed, the new wading/prohibited motorized vessel area will be marked and enforced for a portion of the beach area East of the bridge. That will provide some additional safety for visitors to that portion of Greer Island and also facilitate a landing area for kayaks and paddleboards.

Verizon Wireless Coverage In late June Verizon began installation of 9 small cell poles as part of their plan to enhance cell coverage on the island. Seven of the poles are along Gulf of Mexico Drive and two are in neighborhoods (1 in the Village / 1 in Emerald Harbor). The poles along GMD are 35' tall and the poles in the neighborhood are 25' tall, consistent with heights of the new Town street lights as part of the underground project.

Gulfstream & U.S. 41 Roundabout Project Check routes and potential delays in advance of your travel. FDOT Project Website: <http://www.swflroads.com/gulfstreamroundabout/>

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

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| • July 01, 2022 | 9:00 am | Town Commission Regular Meeting |
| • July 19, 2022 | 9:00 am | Planning & Zoning Board Meeting |
| • July 20, 2022 | 10:00 am | Special Magistrate Hearing |
| • July 21, 2022 | 9:30 am | Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting |
| • July 29, 2022 | 1:00 pm | Investment Advisory/Finance Committee Meeting |

Fast Fact(s)

The 2022 Sea Turtle Nesting Season is here... 875 nests to date. Our 1st nest hatched on June 30!