TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

Town Manager Brief – July 2024

Summer is definitely here – monitor the Weather for Storms and/or Extreme Heat!

Pre-Storm Sandbag Operation for LBK – July 1, August 1 and September 3 @ Broadway Beach Access to help residents prepare in advance of any storms that may impact Longboat this hurricane season. The Town will staff a sand & bag station at Broadway Beach Access on Monday, July 1 from 9am until 12pm. There will be 2 sandbag filler stations to make it easier and more efficient for residents to fill their bags. These self-filling sandbag stations are to serve Longboat Key residents, property owners, and our commercial interests only, to help address potential flooding issues. Please bring proof of residency; driver's license, utility bill, etc. in order to obtain bags. Please note, there is a limit of 10 bags per household. Residents may bring their own bags if more are needed.

Don't miss the July 3rd release of the Tip Talk video about the Utilities Undergrounding Project with Town Manager Howard Tipton and Public Works Director Isaac Brownman. The Town, FPL, and Wilco are working together to expedite wrap-up of this major infrastructure project by December 2024. Switchovers are being completed, and homes are being energized by the underground utilities at a brisk rate! Pole removal is the last step in the process and it's a welcome sight to finally see them coming down!. Follow the Town's YouTube Channel at Longboat Key - YouTube.

Commission Recess The Longboat Key Town Commission takes recess from regularly scheduled meetings during July and August each year. They resume regular meetings on September 9, 2024 at 1pm. It remains a busy time for all as we continue to advance projects, wrap up our Budget process, and prepare for the start of the next fiscal year.

The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY25) Budget Process continued on June 28, 2024 at 10 am. The first Budget Workshop was held on May 20, 2024. The second on June 17th continued the discussion to identify and fund the Commission's priority projects for the upcoming fiscal year. On June 28th the Commission set our maximum millage rate for FY25. They meet again September 9 and 23 (both at 5:01pm) to hold public hearings to approve the millage rate for the Town, and formally adopt the FY25 Budget.

Effective July 1, 2024 rates will increase on garbage & recycling in accordance with the new Waste Management contract. On **June 1, 2024 utility rate increases for water and wastewater** went into effect as a pass-through of the increased Manatee County rate charged to the Town.

And… It's HOT outside! There has been a bit of a heat wave throughout our region with heat indexes over 100 degrees on most days. Try to schedule outdoor work, exercise, and sports during morning and later afternoon hours. Important to hydrate – drink water even if you don't feel thirsty! Never leave kids, older people, or pets in cars as temperatures inside parked cars can double within minutes.

Sea Turtle Nesting & Shorebird Nesting Season continues Remember that *dogs are not allowed on Longboat Key beaches*! – only trained service animals with leashes, not therapy or emotional support animals. No matter how well-behaved your dog is, to wildlife on our beaches, dogs are seen as predators and their presence on the beach causes stress, and often results in disrupted nesting for both shorebirds and turtles. Please remove furniture from the beach, and cover holes. More at www.longboatkey.org

Summer Storytime at Bayfront Park Recreation Center - Wednesdays at 10:30 am on July 24 and August 7. Join Sarasota County Library staff for Summer Storytime - brand new fun for Longboat Key kids. Come out for Storytime and then stick around to enjoy all the wonderful amenities at Bayfront Park!

Summer Hours for the Sarasota County Pop Up Library on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 am to 11:30 am (July 3rd & 17th) in the back parking lot of Town Hall. You can get a library card and borrow or place holds on books, music, audiobooks, movies, use mobile hotspots, Launchpads and more at the Pop-Up Library or ask for tech assistance, database instruction or make other inquiries.

Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

- July 10, 2024 — 10 am — Special Magistrate
- July 18, 2024 — 9:30 am — Zoning Board of Adjustment

Fast Fact!

John Hancock was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence! Happy 4th!!