



## Town Manager Brief – August 2024

### TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

**The largest private investment in recent history, St. Regis Longboat Key Resort opening in August!**

**Pre-Storm Sandbag Operation for LBK – August 1 and September 3 @ Broadway Beach Access** to help residents prepare in advance for storms that could impact Longboat this hurricane season. The Town will staff a sandbag station at Broadway Beach Access on Thursday, August 1 from 9 am until 12 pm. There will be 2 sandbag filler stations to make it easier and more efficient for residents to fill their bags. These sandbag stations are to serve Longboat Key residents, property owners, and our commercial interests only, to help address potential flooding events. Please bring proof of residency (a 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.

**Did you watch the Tip Talk YouTube video about the Utilities Undergrounding Project** with Town Manager Howard Tipton and Public Works Director Isaac Brownman? It's still available on the Town's YouTube channel! It's great to see the old concrete poles finally coming down! Town staff, FPL, and Wilco are working together to expedite wrap-up of this major infrastructure project by December 2024.

Switchovers are being completed with homes being energized by underground utilities at a brisk rate! Visit the Town's YouTube Channel at [Longboat Key - YouTube](#) for this video and other Longboat topics!

**Annual Commission Recess** – The Town Charter provides recess for Longboat Key Commissioners from regular workshop meetings during July and August, and the August regular meeting. Their meetings resume on September 9, 2024 at 1pm. Staff remains busy as we continue to advance projects, wrap up our Budget process, and prepare for the start of the next fiscal year.

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

**And... It's still 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 early morning and later afternoon hours. It's 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](http://www.longboatkey.org)

**Summer Storytime at Bayfront Park Recreation Center – Wednesday, August 7 at 10:30am.**

Longboat Key kids enjoy these popular events hosted by Sarasota County Library staff. Come out for Storytime and then stick around to enjoy the children's playground and other wonderful amenities at Bayfront Park!

**Summer Hours for the Sarasota County Pop Up Library** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 10 to 11:30 am (August 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>) 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. You can ask for technical assistance, database instruction, or make other inquiries.

#### Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

- August 14, 2024 10 am Special Magistrate
- August 20, 2024 7 am – 7 pm Primary Election
- August 23, 2024 9 am Consolidated Retirement System Board Meeting

**Fast Fact!** Heat indexes averaged over 100 degrees every day in July!!