



## April 2019 Spring has sprung Town Initiatives – Snapshot

### **Statutory Meeting March 19, 2019**

The Commission certified the March 12, 2019 - General Election results with two referendum questions approved by voters and 3 Town Commission seats decided. In the future Town Commission terms will be 3 years still retaining the 6-year term limits. Commissioners were sworn in and Mayor Spoll and Vice Mayor Zunz were re-seated to serve another term.

### **New Zoning Code adopted!**

After years of staff efforts, and multiple public hearings held by the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Board and Town Commission, Ordinance 2018-24 was unanimously adopted at the Town Commission's April 1, 2019 Regular Meeting. The result of the new Zoning Code serves to enhance readability, understanding and organization, creating a more "user-friendly" document along with addressing internal consistencies and other updates needed to improve the Code.

### **Undergrounding**

The Town Commission directed the consultant to evaluate pole heights of 25 and 35 feet for Gulf of Mexico Drive and heights of 15 and 25 feet for neighborhoods. The goal is to determine the impact on the number of poles that would be required to accommodate lower pole heights. The design study underway will help determine pole heights to balance the aesthetics with the infrastructure needs. Field work for the study is underway. Monthly updates are presented to the Town Commission. The next public discussion is on April 15th at the 1:00 PM Workshop Meeting.

### **Village Parking Issues**

Staff has been working with business owners and area residents to address concerns about on-street parking and valet services operating within the Village. Recommendations will be presented for Commission consideration at the April 15, 2019 Regular Workshop Meeting.

### **Certified Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Annual Audit Finalized**

The external auditors have completed their audit of our Fiscal Year 18 financials and have issued an unmodified opinion (highest level of assurance). Congratulations to our Finance Department for this achievement and their effort to ensure the highest level of oversight in the financial controls of the Town.

### **Fruitville Road "Diet"**

The City of Sarasota is considering adding roundabouts and reducing the lanes on Fruitville Road from 4 to 2 between US 301 and US 41. They are scheduled to discuss the plans at their April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Town Commission is concerned about the impacts to Longboat Key and has scheduled a special meeting for April 8<sup>th</sup> to further discuss a response to the City.

### **Gas Station/Broadway and GMD**

The owner of the restaurant has advised the Town that he will be submitting plans for the new restaurant within the next 30 days. He indicated that they are planning to open the fast, casual restaurant around October of this year.

### **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

April 8, 2019	1pm Town Commission Special Meeting (Transportation Priorities and Arts, Culture, Education Center Preconstruction Agreement)
April 15, 2019	10am Goals & Objectives Meeting with Community Leaders, Town Hall
April 15, 2019	1pm Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting, Town hall
April 24 & 25, 2019	6pm 4/24 Sea Turtle Lighting Workshop, Town Hall
	1pm 4/25 Sea Turtle Lighting Workshop, Town Hall

### **Fast Fact**

After the home page, Beach Conditions is the highest viewed page on the Town's website.