



TOWN MANAGER BRIEF

Summer is Here – Monitor the Weather for Storms and Extreme Heat!

Community Hall Fundraising Goal Reached – \$4 Million!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we've officially met our fundraising goal of \$4 million for the new Community Hall at the Town Center Green! This future 200-person facility will provide a versatile space for community events, educational programs, and hurricane recovery efforts. It will be constructed as part of the new Sarasota County Library, supported by an \$11 million contribution from Sarasota County. Next steps include finalizing the design and preparing for groundbreaking in 2026. Thank you to everyone who helped make this vision a reality!

Pre-Storm Sandbag Operation – July 3, August 7 and September 4

To help residents prepare for any storms this hurricane season, the Town will host Pre-Storm Sandbag Operations at Broadway Beach Access on July 3, August 7, and September 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Our Public Works team will assist residents and businesses with sandbag filling during each event. These sandbags are available to Longboat Key residents, property owners, and local businesses to help address potential flooding. Proof of residency such as a driver's license or utility bill is required to obtain bags. There is a limit of 10 bags per household, though residents may bring their own empty bags if additional sandbags are needed.

Utilities Undergrounding Project Nears Completion

All electrical conversions are now complete for all four (4) project phases! Wilco has installed new backlit street name signs. Upon design and permitting, Wilco will begin installing new light poles along the multi-use trail on the east side of Gulf of Mexico Drive. FPL's contractor, Irby Construction, is in the process of removing all remaining electrical poles.

Summer Recess – Town Work Still in Full Swing!

The Town Commission takes a recess from regularly scheduled meetings during July and August each year. Regular meetings will resume on September 8, 2025. Although the Commission is in recess, this remains a busy period as we continue advancing key projects, finalizing the budget, and preparing for the start of the new fiscal year.

FY26 Budget: Priorities, Planning & Progress

The Fiscal Year 2025–2026 (FY26) Budget process continued on June 27, 2025, at 10 a.m. The first Budget Workshop was held on May 19, followed by a second on June 23, which furthered discussions on identifying and funding the Commission's priority projects for the upcoming year. On June 27, the Commission set the maximum millage rate for FY26. They will reconvene on September 8 and 22 (both at 5:01 p.m.) to hold public hearings, approve the final millage rate, and formally adopt the FY26 Budget.

Sea Turtle Nesting Season Underway

Beachfront lights now glow red or yellow to protect nesting and hatching turtles. Dogs are not allowed on Longboat Key beaches—only leashed, trained service animals are permitted. (note: therapy and emotional support animals are not included under this exception). Even well-behaved pets can disturb wildlife and disrupt nesting. Please remove beach furniture, fill holes, and leave only your footprints. Learn more at www.longboatkey.org.

The Gulf of Mexico Drive, Country Club Shores Turn Lane Project - Construction continues to progress in accordance with the project schedule. Superior Asphalt, Inc. is currently installing base rock. The contractor will pause construction during the week of the 4th of July. Looking ahead, embankment and swale work, additional tree removal and the installation of a drainage structure and piping are expected upcoming construction activities in July.

Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

- **July 4, 2025 – 9:00 AM** – 4th of July Annual Freedom Fest at Bicentennial Park on Bay Isles Road
- **July 15, 2025 – 3:00 PM** – Let's Talk Longboat at Bayfront Park - 4052 Gulf of Mexico Drive

Fast Fact: Did you know Americans eat about 150 million hot dogs on July 4th? That's enough to stretch from Washington D.C. to L.A. more than five times... talk about a *frankly* impressive celebration!