

## Mayor's Report for 24Jan2023 Commission Meeting

Much of my report this month was published in my letter to residents in the January Cardinal so I may paraphrase a bit. I want to thank all those that helped gather information, prepare articles and do the layout for the Cardinal. Feedback has been positive and appreciative of the news. I feel this is one of our most important communication tools as it is sent to every resident.

2023 has started off with bang! Heather Roberts, our Town Clerk/Treasurer is now with us full-time. I can confidently say that myself, and all the commissioners are glad to have Heather on board. She is familiar with our finances and the nuances that come with working within our small community.

We also have our new Town Attorney, John Cary with us tonight. Mr. Cary is also West Melbourne's town attorney, but I have every confidence that he will navigate the duties we require with the utmost integrity and help keep us on the right side of the law. He will also be the legal representative at Code Enforcement Board meetings and hearings.

To assist with new construction and upcoming repairs to town culverts, we have agreed to contract the services of Trauger Consulting Engineers, Inc. They have prior experience in the Village and with our permitting department and Town Review Board. We are just waiting for their insurance and other paperwork to sign the contract.

The Code Enforcement Board is meeting regularly now and establishing the guidelines to be followed when, and I say when, a code violation has escalated to requiring a hearing. The CEB does not have a punitive goal, but rather it serves to ensure our community is safe and the Town Codes are adhered to by everyone, fairly, for the benefit of all of us.

I also spoke with Lt. Haman of the BCSO, and encouraged the Sheriff's Deputies to issue tickets for speeding, rolling through stop signs and other traffic infractions. Residents will not be exempt from these tickets. We have complained about speeders and other issues for years, but we residents need to set the example.

Please note, the first Workshop to discuss the issue of Law Enforcement in our Town is scheduled for this Saturday, from 10am-12pm in the AHF Hall. The Commission will host these workshops quarterly and post the meeting announcements. The goal of these workshops is to provide information to help decide the best option for Law Enforcement in the Town moving forward.

As an additional means of communication with residents -I decided to schedule quarterly Town Hall Meetings to provide an informal environment to have residents' questions and concerns heard, noted, and investigated. I look forward to talking with you and helping as I can.

The Town will start using Constant Contact email service as another communication tool to send notices of town meetings, meeting agendas, the mayor's report, and general information important to residents. PLEASE provide your email to the town either in person or via email to Marissa at [OfficeAdmin@melbournevillage.org](mailto:OfficeAdmin@melbournevillage.org) with the Subject line: "Sign me up!"

Thank you. Let's keep the conversation going!

-Mayor Ditty