

Mayor's Report, 27 August 2024

I continue to include reminders about Hurricane Season because we are just entering September which is peak season for activity. Please have a safety kit and/or your "go" bags with items needed for yourself, your kids, and your pets.

The Town hired Greg Tunstall to be our Public Works Maintenance Technician. He comes with a lot of experience and was able to make an immediate impact. I'm sure you've seen him out and about already. Several projects continue throughout the Town. Many of you noticed the stop bars at Sheridan and W. Pine are not in the right position –the contractor will correct these and complete the rest of the work in Town. The Septic at the Town Hall was installed and soon we will have it covered with sod. The timing was great because we are expecting delivery of the playground equipment soon. We also plan to hire a company to clear the feeder ditches throughout Town that have overgrown during the past few years. This will give our Public Works team a good starting point and allow them to keep up with the maintenance.

We will discuss the upcoming election in more detail later this evening, but all commissioner and the Mayoral seat are uncontested. However, we will have a Referendum on the ballot to accept the new Town Charter or not. Feel free to contact me or any of your commissioners if you still have questions about the updated Town Charter. Additional information will be published in the October Cardinal.

Several budget workshops were held during August and tonight we will have a final budget discussion before the two public hearings on September 11th and 23rd. Much of the uncertainty that caused the Commission to be fiscally conservative the past 2 years has resolved and allowed a significant reduction in millage. While still allocating significant funds to our Town reserves to address unforeseen expenses and infrastructure needs, we hope to set the millage rate at 6.85 this evening, which is the lowest since 2009.

And lastly, in September, our Attorney John Cary will provide training on the Government-in-the-Sunshine-Law for all Town Staff, Commissioners, Board and Committee members. The training sessions will be posted and are open to the public if any of you wants to come. You only need to attend one session, but Mr. Cary graciously made room in his schedule for a day session and an evening session to ensure full participation. Our goal is to provide the information and training for our many volunteers that serve and protect the character of our Town. As always, a big shout-out to our volunteers and thank you Mr. Cary.

Thank for listening. Let's keep the conversation going!

Sue Ditty, Mayor