

Mayor's Report – April 2022

April has brought one of the biggest changes for our town in nearly a year with the departure of our Town Clerk and the subsequent hiring of a new clerk. We are so thankful for all the work that Mr. Collen did to help bring our town into compliance and have great faith that Ms. Meyer will be able to carry it on and continue to make great improvements. We also began a new professional relationship with Universal Engineering as our Building Official. They currently are scheduled to take care of all plan reviews and inspections on Thursday of each week.

Additionally, April brought the first Founder's Day in three years. Long before I became a resident here, my family and I would drive through the town and notice all the events planned and just marvel at the uniqueness of this place. We attended the last Founders' Day in 2019 as new residents, and it solidified our desire to be a part of this place and raise our family here. This event would not have been successful if not for the staff and many volunteers, so thank you all for your time and efforts. While the event inevitably looked a little different than in years past, we hope that the same feeling remained, that it was a great afternoon of eating and fellowship with neighbors.

Lastly, there will be some infrastructure work happening in the town over the next few years and as we receive updates in the office, we will pass on to all residents via the website and in our meetings. The first is that FPL will be coming into the town to bury the power lines. They have already completed some of the initial prep work with the tree cutting and clearing around poles. The current date that they have provided is 2023, as I get any more details, I will share. Additionally, the City of Melbourne will be in our town as they complete a water main project along the north side of the M-1 canal. This project is similar to the work completed by West Melbourne on the south side of the M-1, however, we can anticipate more disruption to the land as there will be open cut work versus directional drilling. This project is still in the initial phases, and I have spoken with the project director about the potential impacts and expressed the town's desire to maintain as much of the land as possible. As a reminder, the land in question is county owned, so our authority is limited. I will continue to provide updates as they become available.

As always, thank you for the privilege to serve.

Tabitha Niemann, Mayor