



# Town of Lake Clarke Shores

Palm Beach County's Premier Lakeside Community Since 1957

## MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Town Council  
From: Joseph F. Lo Bello, CPA, Town Manager  
Date: May 31, 2024  
Subject: Status Report for the June 3, 2024 Town Council Meeting

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### **Proposed Upcoming Town Council Meeting Schedule**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6:30 pm - Regular Town Council Meeting (Monday)  
July 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm - Budget Workshop, CRA and Regular Town Council Meetings  
August 13<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm - Regular Town Council Meeting

### **Upcoming Town Events**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 am to 11:00 am - Tennis Camp  
June 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm - Fishing Camp  
June 19<sup>th</sup> - 1:00am - Footprints Senior Club: Hurricane Preparedness Presentation by the Red Cross and Staff  
July 15<sup>th</sup> - 1:30 pm - Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Informational Session

### **Septic to Sewer Grant Request**

The Town was not awarded the 3.5-million-dollar grant request from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This estimated \$7 million project was proposed for the 135 homes in the Town (MICA West). Richard Pinsky reviewed the grant awards to see the direction and targeted projects FDEP awarded. Hundreds of grant applications are submitted by cities and counties each year with only a percentage receiving a portion of the finite dollars allocated. The \$210 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature was awarded to only 27 projects.

Reviewing the map and project profiles, it is clear FDEP focused on projects that fell primarily in the Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) areas. A BMAP is a mandatory pollutant reduction control program which is adopted by FDEP and is legally enforceable. It sets the responsibilities of all parties within the drainage basin of the impaired water body to ensure restoration of the water body to state standards. For the entire area of South Florida, which includes Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, only one water project was awarded. Because Lake Clarke is not in an adopted BMAP area, it is the most likely reason we did not make the final cut.

However, that does not mean our request is not worthwhile. The Florida Legislature changed the rules last session and expanded grant eligibility to include FDEP approved

Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP) projects. A RAP is allowed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and FDEP as an alternate pollution reduction control program. What makes it different from a BMAP is that it is a voluntary pollution reduction program. EPA allows water bodies with an FDEP accepted RAP to be listed in Category 4b or 4e. Lake Clarke has an accepted 4e Plan. Now that we are eligible to fall within the category of a RAP, applying for the 2024-25 Water Quality Improvement Grant Program as a RAP-eligible project will greatly help our chances of success. Staff will continue to apply for every grant we are eligible for that meets the Town's goals and objectives.

### **Pine Tree Lane Bridge**

The Town is still waiting for the State of Florida's Budget to be approved with the extra \$250,000 appropriation for the Pine Tree Lane Bridge. The Town will execute the contract with the contractor after the state approves the budget. In 2022, the state awarded \$600,000 for this project. Please see the artistic drawing of the proposed bridge:



### **Lead Service Line Inventory**

We have been approved for full financial assistance through the Florida Rural Water Association (FRWA) to complete our Lead Service Line Inventory program. This funding should cover the cost necessary to hire a contractor to perform all the visual inspections and field work related to completing the inventory. Due to system age, Hypoluxo Village

(2005) does not require visual inspections to be performed. However, both Lake Clarke Shores and Seminole Manor need this visual verification. The work for each of these systems have been approved for up to \$50,000. Approximately 1/3 of the Lake Clarke Shores system has been inspected on both the Utility side and customer side of the meter. Staff expects the inspections to be completed by late summer.

### **Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)**

Staff is working on a Request for Qualifications from qualified landscape architect for master planning the three parks on Forest Hill Boulevard: Memorial, Pine Tree and North parks.

### **Water Meter Change Outs**

The Utilities Department is working with the contractor, Professional Meters Inc. (PMI) who is performing our system wide water meter change outs. There is a total of roughly 1,500 meters (LCS, Seminole Manor, and Hypoluxo Village) that will be changed out. There will be days when the crew is instructed not to do any work due to monthly meter reading time periods, these are referred to as black-out dates. All meter change outs in Lake Clarke Shores have been completed and the Seminole Manor system is almost done as well. Change outs in the Hypoluxo Village system will begin next week and should take about a month to complete.

PMI will knock on the resident's door before any work begins to announce themselves and inform the customer of the work to be accomplished. The meter change out is typically completed in a short period of time and the water is expected to be off for only 10-15 minutes. If water is running when the contractor arrives, and no one answers the door, they will move on to the next house and reschedule that meter install for a later date.

### **Other items to report:**

- Staff is working on changing the Town's phone system to the Palm Beach County's Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone system and reducing the number of analog (wired) phone lines to save money.
- The County plans on reopening Florida Mango Road in early June.
- Staff is working on implementing the July 15<sup>th</sup> Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Informational Session. Advertisement to our residents started this week. Residents will have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to submit their questions online or at Town Hall.
- Staff is working on a proposed FY2024-25 Budget.
- The Town joined the Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber will be a great partner to promote new businesses and events in Town.
- We would like to thank Palm Beach County Fire Rescue for offering free CPR training to employees this month.
- Staff is receiving volunteer applications for positions on the Code Enforcement Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Infrastructure Surtax Oversight Committee.