



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: January 6, 2024
Subject: Status Report for the January 16, 2024 Town Council Meeting

Proposed Upcoming Town Council Meeting Schedule

January 16th- 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting and CRA Meeting
February 20th- 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting
March 12th- 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting and CRA Meeting

Upcoming Town Events

January 17th – 11am – 2 pm - Footprints – Senior Club
February 9th – 5:30pm – 8:00pm – Valentine's Day Food Truck Event

Pine Tree Lane Bridge

The Pine Tree Lane Bridge replacement project Request for Proposals were opened on October 26, 2023. The Town only received one bid at 3.2 million vs. the Town's budget of 1.35 million. We are redesigning the bridge and changing the Request for Proposal (RFP) to be completely closed during construction instead of one lane at a time open during the duration of the project. We are hopeful this will bring more contractors to bid on the project, bring down the overall cost of construction and shorten the duration of the construction. We are planning on rebidding the project next month. The Town is also requesting an additional \$500,000 appropriation from the State of Florida (the Town was already awarded \$600,000 in 2022).

Pickleball Courts

The Pickleball Courts are open for play from dawn to 9 pm. The Town is waiting on the completion of the resurfacing of the basketball court, and other minor amenities before having a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony. We have tentatively scheduled the formal ribbon cutting ceremony for Friday, February 23rd from 4pm to 6pm.

Vulnerability Assessment Project

The Town held the kick off meeting for the Lake Clarke Shores Vulnerability Assessment Project. The Town of Lake Clarke Shores has been awarded a grant through the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Program (FDEP). This program supports local communities like Lake Clarke Shores in assessing vulnerabilities to current and future

flood hazards and to develop strategies to make affected areas more resilient. The Vulnerability Assessment (VA) is aimed at preparing Lake Clarke Shores for the effects of coastal flooding, inland rainfall induced flooding, and ecosystem changes including consideration of the effect of sea level rise.

ARPA

During FY 2023, the Town expended \$820,438 of Federal Financial Assistance. This consisted of \$108,436 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds and \$712,002 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds. The CDBG Funds were expended on the Maralago Cay Sewer Project. \$106,920 of the ARPA funds were expended on COVID Pay for employees and \$1,516 on the Lawrence Road Watermain project.

Generally, when a local governmental entity expends more than \$750,000 of Federal Financial Assistance in a year, they are required to have a Federal Single Audit of these expenditures. However, because the Town expended less than \$750,000 in non-ARPA funds, Federal Regulations allow a special engagement to be performed by their independent auditor only on the ARPA funds. Since the special engagement is less expensive than a Single Audit, the Town elected to undergo the special engagement.

After the expenditure of the \$108,436 in ARPA Funds, the Town had \$1,004,622 in unexpended ARPA Funds remaining. These funds have to be committed by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026. To avoid the cost of possible Single Audits in future years, the Town has elected to recognize the remaining \$1,004,622 of ARPA Funds in FY 2023 as replacement for lost revenue in accordance with Federal Regulations. These funds will be subject to the special engagement and will be transferred to the General Fund.

Other items to report:

- The Town was honored to have Palm Beach County Commissioner Barnett at our December Senior Club Meeting.
- The Town Hall, Police Department and park restroom buildings were repainted.
- The Town held their first Barbecue Meeting on January 12th.
- Mayor Freebold, Councilmember Maples and Town Manager Lo Bello attended Palm Beach County Days in Tallahassee on January 9 and 10th.
- The Town held their annual Infrastructure Surtax Citizen Oversight Committee meeting on December 19th.