

# Memorandum

**Date:** April 1, 2010  
**To:** Mayor & Commissioners  
**From:** Ken Schenck, Town Manager  
**Re:** Town Update – April, 2010

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I am providing you with brief updates on some of the Town's continuing projects and events.

## **COCONUT LANE DRAINAGE -**

This project is on hold until the Commission decides whether or not to proceed depending on the availability of funds. We have received the construction permits from the SFWMD. The construction permit is good for 5 years and the dewatering permit for 1 year. The dewatering permit has been renewed for another year. We have submitted the project to the State for a 319 grant which would pay for 30% of the cost we have received a verbal confirmation that we are in line for a grant of \$119,000. The funds won't be available until next summer.

## **OCEAN AVE. LANDSCAPE-**

The landscaper has completed filling in the Hawthorne on Ocean Ave. The Garden Club, under the supervision of Commissioner Bingham, has completed the planting of the Lilies which have added to the beauty of the landscaping. We greatly appreciate their hard work on this project. No additional work is planned for Ocean Ave. at this time.

## **SOUTH LAKE WORTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE-**

Attached is the status update from the County on the sand transfer station. This was the main item on the agenda. They've reviewed the results of the Boynton Beach Inlet Study but aren't taking any action unless requested to by the County. This seems unlikely at present.

### **ISLAND DRIVE BRIDGE -**

Construction started on the bridge replacement the week of August 17<sup>th</sup>. One lane will remain open at all times. The water lines have been changed and approved by Boynton Beach. The contractor is waiting for FPL to move the poles from the south side back to the north side. Traffic has been moved to the north lane. There has been a delay of 4 to 6 weeks waiting for FPL to move the power poles. They started moving them on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **OLD OCEAN BLVD.-**

The Garden Club Dune Committee has developed a plan to landscape this section. Jerry Lower will make a brief status report at the meeting. They plan to remove the invasive vegetation in April and then begin planting new vegetation when that has been completed. They will be working with the State and DERM and will present the final plan to the Commission for approval. They have contacted the owners of the neighboring properties to have a coordinated effort.

### **Pedestrian Crossing Street Signs-**

The signs have been installed at the four crosswalks. FDOT has approved the installation.

### **Police Report -**

The police report for the February activities is attached.

### **Harbour Drive Plantings -**

The residents of Harbour Drive have met and are discussing their desires for the entrance landscaping. We're waiting for their comments before we do anything. We have not heard anything to date. Nothing more will be done on this project until we hear something from the residents.

### **Town Hall Pond-**

We had some problems with the Town Hall pond during the heavy rains the end of December. We met with the contractor to try to determine what happened to create the problem of the pond liner rising. His proposal will be addressed later in the meeting.

### **Town Hall Painting Exhibit -**

The first showing which opened on February 25<sup>th</sup> with 3 artists displaying their paintings and sculptures has been a big success. All three artists are residents of Ocean Ridge. The exhibit will run for about two months. We've been contacted by several other local artists who would like to display their works. John Wooten has been working with the Gulfstream School to follow up with a display of art work done by the students. The School is excited about this program and is working closely with John. He will be at the meeting to give an update.

### **Energy Grants-**

We have received a grant offer from the County for \$50,000 for energy improvements on Town Hall. The acceptance of this offer will be addressed later in the meeting. We submitted a separate grant for \$225,000 to the State by the Feb.12<sup>th</sup> deadline for funding to purchase a hybrid truck and a police suv. This State grant also includes funding for residential energy saving incentives. The State received about 150 applications for this grant. The State will rank the grants and discuss them at their April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. A third State grant is proposed but the State hasn't finalized that program yet. We hope to address the natural gas lines in that grant if they are determined eligible. We sent a questionnaire to the residents with their trash bills to determine their interest in bringing natural gas into the Town. We received an excellent response. We sent out over 1000 questionnaires and received 341 responses. Of the single family responses 125 were in favor of natural gas and 134 were not in favor. Of the multi family responses 24 were in favor and 48 were against. There were 10 other responses that didn't include their address, 4 were in favor and 6 against. We are still receiving responses

### **Telephone Contract-**

We contracted with the League of Cities last year to review our telephone expenses. They have developed some cost saving ideas that we have been reviewing. We are also interviewing other companies besides ATT. We have a present contract with ATT but when that expires in the summer we believe we'll be able to reduce our telephone costs. We're still reviewing the options presented by three contractors in conjunction with the League.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS-**

Commission Meeting -----May 3, 2010 @ 6:00 P.M.

Code Enforcement-----April 6, 2010 @ 10:00 A.M.

cc: Edward Hillery, Police Chief  
Karen Hancsak, Town Clerk  
Town Employees