

**WORKSHOP MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPEARANCES AND PRESENTATIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Website Posting Policy/ Social Media Policy Update
2. Citizen Communication App
3. Building Official Position Update

NEW BUSINESS

1. Shark Fishing Ban
2. BCE Update- Undergrounding of the West Side of Gulf Blvd.
3. Medicare Reimbursement Discussion for Town Employee
4. Town Newsletter Discussion

MISCELLANEOUS

Regular Meeting- Wednesday, November 8, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Workshop Meeting- Wednesday, November 22, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Florida Statutes § 286.0105, if any person or entity decides to appeal any decision made on any matter considered at any meeting or hearing of any Redington Shores board or commission, he, she or it will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, he, she or it may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the legal arguments, testimony, and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Redington Shores Social Media Policy

Objectives/Purposes

The Town of Redington Shores (“Town”) Policy Governing Town Use of Social Media (“Policy”) functions to provide policies and procedures for Town utilization of social media services to ensure consistency with the Town’s brand and message. This Policy is narrowly tailored in recognition of the Town’s compelling and significant interests, which includes but are not limited to, ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local law, Florida’s public records law and the Florida Sunshine Law, to promote and maintain an efficient workplace and work environment for Town business, and in the Town’s interests of providing services that benefit the public health, safety, and welfare. Adequate and ample alternative channels to convey various Town-related commercial or personal messages exists that are not limited or affected by this Policy, including but not limited to, speaking during public comment portions of Town meetings, posting or creating content on websites or social media services that are not Town social media accounts, or using alternative means of communication that do not involve Town websites or social media services. Such alternative methods are reasonable for the affected speaker to communicate directly to his or her intended audience.

This Policy is also intended to function as a guide and clear communication to users of the Town’s social media services of the best lawful practice and operational realities in utilizing Town social media services when used for purposes relating to or perpetuating Town business. The Town intends to operate its social media applications in two different formats relating to the government speech doctrine versus the creation of a designated or limited public forum. For Town-utilized social media services where the Town has disabled the ability of the public to comment or post, alternatively, in the event such disabling is unavailable, removed or deleted public postings or comments, or the Town has otherwise communicated or posted a statement that the Town is not seeking or soliciting public comment or postings, then the Town-utilized social media services shall function solely as an expression of the Town’s government related speech and viewpoint. Such government speech shall relate to the Town’s preservation of the ability to promote itself and Town-related news and events, to share governmental related messages and opinions that the Town and its Commission desires to communicate, and to otherwise craft and limit the content and views of the speech of the Town in order to convey information for the purposes set forth herein as the Town desires in its sole discretion as selected by the Town Administrator (subject to the direction and control of the Town Commission). At its core, the Town’s government speech shall be justified based upon the premise that, in order to function, the Town must have the ability to express certain points of view on most issues, including control over that expression, without providing for the expression of contrary views.

In contrast, in circumstances where the Town *actively solicits or encourages public comments or postings from the public* and has not otherwise disabled (or deleted public comments from a Town-utilized social media service where disabling comments is unavailable), then the Town-utilized social media services shall be construed as creating a designated or limited public forum in accordance with the topical and expressive parameters provided in this Policy. The Town retains the exclusive right to treat Town-utilized social media services as designated or limited public forum, or alternatively, as a forum for the sole expression of the Town’s government speech alone

at any time and without notice. Such conversion or modification of a traditional or limited public forum to a forum only allowing the Town's government speech may occur through disabling all comments on the particular social media service, or if the ability to disable comments is unavailable, through the Town's clear communication that public comments or posts are not solicited, will no longer be accepted, and will be deleted as soon as practicable under the circumstances. At all times, however, utilization of Town social media services is intended primarily as a means for the Town to express its own content and viewpoint consistent with the government speech doctrine, to inform and educate the public, to efficiently and timely perform Town-related tasks, and to otherwise provide an alternative avenue for the Town itself to directly communicate to the public.

Responsibilities:

The Town Administrator is ultimately responsible for the maintenance and monitoring of all Town social media accounts in accordance with this policy. The Town Administrator's Office is the primary point of contact for each Town department/operating unit, and will provide an overview and training of this social media policy and its implementation.

The Town Clerk's Office will oversee the records management program with support from the Town Administrator's Office. The Town's Information Technology consultant will provide the necessary technology services, security, guidance and technical assistance for effective social media usage. Authorized users are responsible for actively engaging in social media by posting pertinent information on behalf of the Town on a consistent basis and in compliance with this social media policy.

Policy:

It is the policy of the Town to adopt a procedure to guide all interaction with social media platforms and its accompanying guidelines that provides a standard approach to the collaboration and sharing of information on and in various public domains to provide consistent communication across all media.

Social Media Usage

- While social media platforms provide an effective forum for building relationships and for conveying small "bites" of information, these platforms do not serve as the Town's sole or even primary means of communication with residents, businesses, and others. The Town's social media accounts are intended to be used for secondary informational purposes only.
- Social media is a particularly ineffective tool for communicating about complex issues. The Town will use more appropriate means to communicate detailed information about complex issues and to discuss concerns with citizens and others.
- Practical and legal considerations may sometimes constrain, prevent, or prohibit discussion of certain topics, such as court cases, through this medium.

- Comments that offer thoughtful criticism of the organization (not individuals) and Town initiatives shall not be removed or altered (where the Town has chosen to create a limited public forum) except as provided for in this policy.
- The Town reserves the right to restrict or remove any content that is deemed in violation of this policy or any applicable law. The Town's social media articles, posts or comments containing any of the following forms of content shall not be allowed and shall be removed as soon as possible:
 - ▶ Profane language or content
 - ▶ Comments not topically related to the post being commented upon
 - ▶ Personal or character attacks
 - ▶ Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination
 - ▶ Sexual content or links to sexual content
 - ▶ Advertisements not authorized by the Town
 - ▶ Hyperlinks to third party websites or advertisements regarding third party events unless the Town has become a co-sponsor of the event
 - ▶ Illegal conduct or encouragement of illegal activity
 - ▶ Information that may compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems
 - ▶ Content that violates a legal ownership interest of any other party
 - ▶ Content related to a political campaign including, but not limited to content pertaining to fundraising activities promoting or opposing any person campaigning for election to a political office
- Users shall be informed that by posting to the Town's social media sites the Town relinquishes any and all responsibility and liability for any materials that the Town deems inappropriate for posting, which cannot be removed in an expeditious and otherwise timely manner.
- These guidelines must be readily available for review to residents and community groups by hyperlink on the Town's website. Any content removed based on these guidelines must be retained, including the time, date and identity of the poster when available, in accordance with the Town's policy on the retention of such information.

General Procedures and Maintenance of Town-owned Accounts

- The Town will utilize one central account with desired social media networks (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, X, and others). Individual Town departments, units and employees must, with authorization of the Town Administrator, only utilize the central account to convey desired Town communications.
- An introductory statement that clearly specifies the purpose and topical scope of the Town's social media presence will be included on all platforms used.
- Management of social media accounts and initiatives shall lie primarily within the Town Administrator.

- The Administrator may give a limited number of staff members may be given access to social media accounts and passwords, and permission to post as “the Town of Redington Shores.”
- Town staff members who are not Authorized Users may request that the Town Administrator or designee post a message from the Town on their behalf.
- The Town Administrator’s Office will provide training on social media usage for authorized users in the Town.
- The Town shall not post purposefully inaccurate information. If an inadvertent inaccuracy is posted, a correction will be published as soon as possible.
- Designated Town staff members may post comments/replies without advance review or permission of Town management. However, if staff members have concerns or desire advance review, they may request such from the Town Administrator or designee.
- Pursuant to Florida Statutes § 106.113(2), the Town, or a person acting on behalf of the Town shall not expend or authorize the expenditure of public funds for a political advertisement or any other communication sent to electors concerning an issue, referendum, or amendment, including any state question, that is subject to a vote of the electors. This prohibition applies to a communication initiated by the Town or a person acting on behalf of the Town, irrespective of whether the communication is limited to factual information or advocates for the passage or defeat of an issue, referendum, or amendment. This prohibition does not preclude the Town or a person acting on behalf of the Town from reporting on official actions of the Town Commission in an accurate, fair, and impartial manner; posting factual information on the Town’s website or in printed materials; hosting and providing information at a public forum; providing factual information in response to an inquiry; or providing information as otherwise authorized or required by law.
- The Town will not edit others’ comments. However, if others’ comments are not in compliance with the standards for content listed above, the comments will be removed.
- Any content removed based on this guideline will be retained, including the time, date and identity of the poster when available, in accordance with public records laws.

Guidelines for Authorized Users

- Social media posts made by the Town must pertain to Town news or Town-sponsored/partnered events only.
- As part of the interactive approach to using social media, the Town Administrator or designee may follow, message, like, tag, share and repost posts that contain content that is relevant to the Town’s mission. However, in no circumstance may the Town follow,

message, like, tag, share, or re-post content of any candidate for Town Commission or other political office.

- The Town’s authorized users will approach the use of social media tools as consistently as possible.
- At all times, authorized users shall use good judgment when posting.
- Employees must refrain from posts that may be interpreted as offensive, obscene, demeaning, or inflammatory.
- Documents or information made confidential under Florida’s Public Records Act shall not be posted.
- At times, authorized users may determine other means/tools are more appropriate ways to respond to citizen comment or may determine that it is best not to respond to a comment at all.
- In general, individual complaints, concerns, or service requests will not be addressed via social media.
- Authorized users shall not engage in back-and-forth conversation regarding topics that are complex, controversial, or otherwise sensitive.
- Authorized users, in consultation with the Town Administrator, will determine when an issue raised by others has reached a “critical mass” that requires a Town response on the account.
- A standard reply may be used to direct users with concerns related to sensitive or complex issues. This standard reply shall read something like:

The Town of Redington Shores is very interested in insights, concerns expressed here. However, complex topics typically are not effectively discussed in forums such as this. If you wish to voice your concerns further or obtain additional information, please complete a comment card or attend a Town Commission meeting to address your concern.

Guidelines and Limitations for all Users

- All Town employees, including authorized users of the Town’s social media accounts, and Town officials shall govern themselves in a professional manner that reflects positively on the Town when using social media. Users should always focus on providing high-quality customer service and worthwhile information in a timely manner.
- The conversation shall always remain civil and respectful and all authorized users, employees, and Town officials must refrain from using content in violation of this policy.

- Inaccurate information posted by non-employees may be addressed and corrected, on a factual basis only.
- Repeated violations of this policy shall result in removal of access to the service and be grounds for disciplinary action for Town employees.
- This Social Media Policy shall be revised by the Town Commission as needed. Posts/comments to the Town's social media accounts shall constitute acceptance of this policy.

Last revised November 8th 2023

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, CREATING A SHARK FISHING ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 – ANIMALS – AND ADDING A NEW ARTICLE I, SECTION 14-3, “SHARK FISHING”; TO PROHIBIT SHARK FISHING ALONG THE BEACHES OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES AND ALONG THE SHORE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHANNEL IN THE NARROWS; INCORPORATING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Indian Shores (the Town) is a Florida municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Indian Shores (the Council) finds that sharks and all aquatic life are important to the biodiversity of the coastal waters of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined it to be in the public’s best interest to establish reasonable regulations regarding fishing along the beaches of the Town or along the shore of the government channel in the Narrows; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to eliminate shark fishing from the shoreline and the Narrows irrespective of permits issued under 50 C.F.R. § 635.4 or licenses obtained pursuant to Chapter 68B-44, F.A.C.; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that it is in the best interest of the Town, and the health, safety and welfare of its residents, visitors and businesses, to protect endangered marine life and native species by adoption of this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES:

Section 1: That all of the above recitals are true and correct, and the same are incorporated into this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2: That the Town of Indian Shores Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14 – Animals – is hereby amended by the addition of a new Article I, Sec. 14-3, and shall hereby be created to read as follows:

Sec.14-3. Shark Fishing

(a) No shark fishing shall be allowed along the beaches of the Town or along the shore of the government channel in the Narrows.

(b) No baiting or chumming shall be allowed along the beaches of the Town or along the shore of the government channel in the Narrows. Baiting or chumming is defined as using cut up or ground up bait to put an attractive scent line on or below the surface of the water, or to visually attract other fish; this shall not prohibit someone from using a piece of cut bait on any individual line that is used for general fishing.

(c) The use of shark lures and rigs shall be strictly prohibited along the beaches of the Town or along the shore of the government channel in the Narrows; and

(d) All accidental shark catches must be cut loose.

(e) All shark carcasses and pieces shall be removed from the Indian Shores beaches or along the shore of the government channel in the Narrows within the Town limits.

Section 3: That all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4: That if any provision or part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law, the offending portion shall be stricken and all other provision hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 5: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption in the manner provided by law.

FIRST READING this 8th day of August, 2023.

The first reading of the above Ordinance, upon motion by Vice Mayor Diantha Schear and seconded by Councilor Bill Smith as duly approved at a regular Council Meeting held on the 8th day of August, 2023.

Voting in favor of the First Reading: **Mayor Patrick C. Soranno, Vice Mayor Diantha Schear, Councilor Bill Smith, Councilor Mike Petruccelli, and Councilor Ellen A. Bauer.**

Voting in opposition: **None** Absent: **None** Abstaining: **None**

SECOND READING this 13th day of September, 2023.

The second reading of the above Ordinance, upon motion by Councilor Bill Smith and seconded by Vice Mayor Diantha Schear as duly approved at a Regular Town Council Meeting held on the 13th day of September, 2023.

Voting in favor of the Second Reading: **Mayor Patrick C. Soranno, Vice Mayor Diantha Schear, Councilor Bill Smith, and Councilor Ellen A. Bauer.**

Voting in opposition: **None** Absent: **Councilor** Abstaining: **None**
Mike Petruccelli


PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, THIS 13th day of September, 2023.


Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

ATTEST:

Freddie Lozano, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved as to form:


Regina A. Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney





Town of Redington Shores Newsletter

JUNE 2022



From the Mayor's Desk:

To begin, I'd like to welcome our new Town Administrator Jeff Shoobridge. Jeff brings to the town a diverse set of skills, including town administration, business process improvement, and team leadership. He has quickly developed important relationships with both the town commissioners and staff, as well as effectively established partnerships with many of our neighboring towns and vendors. I am confident that Jeff will do a great job in this new role. If you haven't met Jeff, please drop by town hall when you get a chance to introduce yourself and welcome him to the Town of Redington Shores.



During our March meeting, the commission made the decision to suspend the 4th of July fireworks for 2022. The combination of past pyrotechnic vendor difficulties plus supply chain challenges for prospective vendors left the commission with no other option. We recognize that this is an important event for the residents of our town and we will continue to work with neighboring towns to reevaluate in the future. On a positive note, we are excited to announce that our traditional annual Town picnic will return once again to Constitution Park on Saturday, October 8th, 2022. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of good times and great food.

For those who have driven by town hall on 174th, you may have noticed that our maintenance building is no longer there. Pinellas County had the building demolished as they began work on

installing a sewer lift station. Once complete, the county will begin construction of a new shared EMS facility for the three Redington's with a maintenance facility our town will share with North Redington Beach.

In other construction news, we are in the final stages of undergrounding utilities on the east side of Gulf Boulevard and hope to begin the same process on the west side in about 6 months. Funds from the county's Penny for Pinellas program will serve as the primary funding source for the undergrounding project. Once complete, the investments should significantly increase our town's resiliency during a major storm.

And finally, if you would like to join us at any of the upcoming meetings, please note that our regular commission meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 PM and our town workshop meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 PM. You can always check our website or Facebook page to get updates on town events and activities.

Wishing you and your family a happy and safe summer!

Mayor MaryBeth Henderson

Vice-Mayor/Commissioner
Cinda Krouk
(District Two)

Disaster/Hurricane Preparedness:

June 1st first begins Hurricane Season, and 2022 is expected to be an active one. Gulf waters are already 4° warmer than normal which contributes to a greater chance of storm development in the gulf.



In order to prevent a last minute scramble to get supplies and leave quickly and safely, please create your plan and gather emergency supplies now! Disaster preparedness information can be found at Town Hall, our Library in Madeira Beach, and online at [PinellasCounty.org/hurricane preparedness guide](http://PinellasCounty.org/hurricane-preparedness-guide).

Please take advantage of our State Sales tax relief:

1. Hurricane Hardening Incentive, **July 1, 2022-June 30, 2024 Tax free storm resistant windows, outside doors and garage doors.**

For detailed information go to: floridarevenue.com/taxes/tips/22A01-07.

Please get your **emergency re-entry passes** at Town hall now (current passes have green writing). For safety and security, after an evacuation, re-entry to the Island is limited to residents with these passes. For re-entry, bar codes on passes will be scanned and verified with ID.

Please sign up for **emergency alerts** with Alert Pinellas. Link for registration is found on the Town website. If you need assistance stop in or call Town Hall.

Other news and Updates:

BeBot, a beach cleaning robot is coming to Pinellas County Beaches for the Month of July. Keep an eye out for this golf cart sized, solar powered, remote controlled robot as it shifts sand and collects small plastic pieces of pollution from our beaches.

District 2 Updates, Around the Neighborhood:

Our environment: Please, only rain down our recently cleaned storm drains. Make sure grass clippings and other lawn or construction debris does not get blown or dumped into our precious intercostal waterway or storm drains. Every ounce of care helps!

Emergency storm drain repair: Are in progress throughout the Town, activity will be posted on the Town Website. The work may cause temporary inconvenience in our streets and our neighborhood. Please be aware.

Neighbor to Neighbor: Please do not leave barking dogs unattended outside. Turn off your bright outside lights after 11PM and/or when you are not actively using them. It will save on your

electric bill and be less disturbing to your neighbors

Recycling: Keeping plastic bags out of recycle bins and making an effort to rinse out your food recyclables will really, really help the recycling efforts at our St. Petersburg single stream recycling plant.

Fios: The disruption from the utility upgrade to fiber optic cable in our neighborhood was significant. FIOS indicates the work in our District is complete. If you have damage to your property, or if it has not been returned to its pre-work condition, please contact the utility at: 813-205-4296

Board/Committee District 3 Representatives:

Finance Committee: Bill Sanders (member) and Christy Herig (alternate); Planning and Zoning: CJ Hoyt; Human Resource: Rich Perez; Parks and Recreation: Michelle Ganio; Beautification: Loretta Fricks

Vision 2025/30: A Community driven Town vision initiative will begin late in 2022 or early 2023 to plan and set direction and goals for our Town 2025/30. Your voice will be heard! More to follow

Charter Review and update: FYI Our town Charter is due for review and revision in 2023.

Call your Commish: Cinda Krouk 727-423-5185

Call your Town Administrator: Jeff Shoobridge: 727-241-0126

Thanks for all you do, and have the best Summer ever! Cinda

Commissioner Later (District 3)

Hello Redington Shores residents and businesses. I'm Kenny Later and have been appointed as your new District 3 Commissioner. Some of you may know me as a local musician and entertainer, I guess because I've played the Redington Shores Town Picnic for last 10 or so years, but there's another side of me that you may not be aware of.



I have spent the last 35 plus years in the corporate world with the Medical Software industry,

primarily in Sales Management running national sales teams. One of the companies I helped build went from an \$800,000 1st year to \$1.5 B market cap by the time I left 12 years later. I've traveled nationally, visited all but 3 states and am now retired from that life.

I've been a full-time resident of Redington Shores for the last 15 years since 2007, when I bought my house. I currently reside full time at 17723 Gulf Blvd., in District 3, and have done so for the last couple of years.

I am appreciative for my appointment as District 3 Commissioner because I wanted to serve my community and help Redington Shores grow into its potential. I would like to promote events that would be unique to our town and help us stand out to be one of the most family, pedestrian friendly and desirable beach towns to live in Pinellas County.

I plan to hold Town Hall meetings with the residents from District 3 to listen and work with our citizens to help guide the town in the direction they want to go. I look forward to meeting those of you I don't already know and hope you will participate with me as we move Redington Shores forward into the future. Additionally, District 3 has an opening on the Beautification Committee and the Finance Committee. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Commissioner Kenny Later

Commissioner Blackburn (District 1)

This time of year, we are usually rewarded with a breather after spring breakers & snowbirds return north. The Public Works staff can go back to their regular schedule and have time for special projects. But, possibly due to the current surge of new, permanent Florida residents (1,000 a day!), there's been no shift in the volume of beach trash so we will continue to staff a single truck for a few hours on Saturday or Sunday.



It's not just people flocking to the beach - it's also our feathered and flippered friends: Black Skimmers & Sea Turtles. Please be careful to avoid staked-off areas! Thank you to the Audubon Society & Tampa Bay Area Bird Stewards for their efforts to help Redington Shores be more hospitable to Black Skimmers & other nesting shorebirds. And thank you to Clearwater Marine Aquarium, the National Wildlife Federation & Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission for identifying, protecting & tracking Loggerhead Sea Turtles. Improving the sea turtle nesting habitat has always been the goal of our Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance. The ordinance was recently revised to improve compliance, thanks to the tireless assistance of local residents, David & Emily Grimes. To help us with enforcement, the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research is donating a hand-held spectrometer for measuring light wavelengths so that we can work with property owners & visitors to reduce sea turtle disorientation.

Our town's Beautification Advisory Committee is officially on the books and will be meeting soon. The committee members will be advising the Commission on the aesthetic improvement of Redington Shores: our signage, public easements, town hall, parking lots & more.

Caulin Donaldson, a local resident, brought the Take-a-Toy/Leave-a-Toy to the commission after he noticed that much of our beach debris consisted of discarded beach toys. The idea of this recycling project is beachgoers can take a toy from the box when visiting the beach & return to the box for the next visitor. Two suitable locations have been selected for Take-a-Toy/Leave-a-Toy bins. We're just waiting for the stencils to arrive so they can be properly labeled.

Jennie Blackburn
Dist 1 Commissioner
Town of Redington Shores
(727) 470-0032

**Commissioner Krajewski
(District 4)**



It has been twelve months since the last newsletter, how time does pass! Our community, beaches and commercial establishments have been very fortunate to have weathered the last hurricane without significant issues. As we come out of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are all looking forward to enjoying our piece of paradise.

First, let me extend a sincere appreciation to the following District 4 residents for volunteering their time and talents to serve the town on the following committees:

- . Beatification – Rob Francour
- . Financial Advisory – Paul Herzfeld
- . Parks & Recreations – Emily Schrader
- . Personnel – Jill Weingart
- . Planning & Zoning – Lisa Foster and Merv Dickerson

Let me share a brief progress update regarding key projects where I have direct oversight responsibilities.

Town Sewer Infrastructure

As previously communicated, rehabilitating the town’s deteriorating 64-year-old sewer Infrastructure is severely needed. The town commission has been very focused on addressing the cost of maintaining a well-functioning sewer system, as well as ensuring monthly service fees being charged to our community are accurate. Key to accomplishing these objectives are the completion of the assessment of the town’s sewer system and addressing major repair work to town’s owned sewer lines and manholes.

An assessment of the town’s sewer infrastructure was performed to identify and eliminate rainwater and groundwater infiltrating the sewer system. Potential sources of infiltration identified include cracked sewer lines, offset sewer line joints, as well as leaky manholes and sewer

cleanout connections. Based on the engineering firm’s recommendations to the town commission, initial repair work started on April 18th with 17 mandatory/critical point repairs targeted for completion by June 30th, weather permitting. Please feel free to visit the town’s website to view the target dates associated with the 17-point repairs that are scheduled for your neighborhood <https://townofredingtonshores.com>. The commission also agreed to a 3-month lease of a sewer meter, with an option to buy the meter at the end of the lease. This meter is being installed to monitor the billing to the town, by Pinellas County Utilities, for the processing of the town’s sewage.

Town Stormwater Infrastructure

Project work has been completed to address stormwater runoff associated with sea level rise, king tides and heavy rainfall by televising and inspecting all the town’s Storm Water Mains, Catch Basin (Inlets) and Outfalls at Seawalls. The report identified 43 stormwater point repairs needing immediate/mandatory repairs. The commission has agreed to proceed with these repairs.

Once work begins in June you will be able to follow the repair work scheduled for your neighborhood on the town’s website.

June 1st officially begins hurricane season. Everyone’s preparedness is appreciated. You can pitch in and help keep the town’s stormwater infrastructure operating effectively and efficiently. Here are some helpful ways you can make a difference: monitor your neighborhood storm drains/grates or curb inlets keeping them free of e.g., tree branches, tree leaves, cups, bottles, etc.

- . do not flush down the storm drains/grates or curb inlets, chemicals, grease, paint, liquid plaster, liquid concrete, etc.
- . keep bottles, cups and other solid materials from entering the stormwater outfall openings at the sea walls

Please do not hesitate to contact townhall

(727.397.5538) to report any water backing up into your homes, as well as excess water flowing into streets, driveways, and lawns. We are all in this together!

Financial Advisory Committee

This group has and will continue to play an integral part in the safekeeping of the town's finances. This committee will be engaged in the 2022-2023 Budget Process as well as be involved with special projects that are assigned by the town's commission.

Gulf Beaches Library Board of Trustees

I am humble and honored to have been elected by the Gulf Beaches Library Board of Trustees to serve as chairman. I encourage everyone to take advantage of our library; over the past months major additions have been made including the installation of 20 new personal computers, a new children's literacy computer, as well as renovations/upgrades to the Gulf Beaches Library (GBL) building and grounds.

A first for our town, the GBL Summer Children's Reading program will be hosted by our town on July 8th at 1PM, in townhall. This is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to bring their children to Redington Shores townhall for this special

children's program. Additional GBL's events and programs can be viewed on the GBL website <http://www.gulfbeacheslibrary.org/>. The Gulf Beaches Library is part of the Pinellas County Library system serving our beach communities. Redington Shores, Madeira Beach, North Redington Beach, Redington Beach and Treasure Island, provide 40% of the annual budget to cover the daily operating expenses to run the library. The balance (60%) is provided by the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative.

Last but not least, I will continue to do my absolute best to carry out my fiduciary responsibilities by serving with integrity building strong relationships with the

community. I welcome your advice and ideas to make Redington Shores the showcase of the Gulf Beaches, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Town Administrator Jeff Shoobridge



I would like to extend greetings to the residents of Redington Shores. My name is Jeff Shoobridge and I am your Town Administrator, I am tasked by your Commission to handle the day to day operations of the Town. Please stay tuned to the Town website as I am planning a 'Citizens Government Academy' this fall/early spring that will cover Town operations, areas of responsibility, and an overview of government finance. The things staff do on a daily basis is truly astounding when you look at the complexity and volume of tasks placed in front of them! You will likely see some different processes in place with some aspects of Town Hall operations, I would ask for patience and understanding as we improve service to residents.

If you are or know of a resident that has served in the military, please contact Myself or Tracy at Town Hall as soon as possible so your service can be honored for Veterans Day this Fall. Again, greetings to each of you and thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Jeff

TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM – (NPDES)

POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION

WHEREVER YOU LIVE, YOUR DAILY ACTIVITIES COULD END UP POLLUTING FLORIDA'S WATER

Pollutants from our homes, businesses and farms are major contributors to the pollution of Florida's surface and ground waters. This pollution is washed into the state's waters by rain or irrigation water and is known as POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION. Unlike many other types of pollution, WE cause this pollution and WE can stop it!

WHAT IS POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION?

The blame for water pollution often is aimed at "point sources," such as industrial or sewage treatment facilities. Discharges from these sources flow through pipes and can be readily identified and treated. But **Pointless Personal Pollution** is difficult to identify and treat. This is because many of our daily activities can cause this pollution and it can travel by many different routes into the ground and surface waters. Take a look around your home and property. You can find many sources of **Pointless Personal Pollution** that could end up in the state's waters. Some examples of these pollutants are:

- 1 - Sediments from soil erosion caused by unvegetated soils and by uncontrolled construction activities.
- 2 - Automotive and lawn equipment oil and grease leaking on paved areas or improper disposal of used oil and other products into storm drains.
- 3 - Runoff of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers from lawns, gardens, farms and golf courses.
- 4 - Organic contaminants from litter, yard trash, sludge, garbage from dumpsters and garbage cans and pet and livestock wastes.
- 5 - Pathogens and excessive nutrients from sewer leaks and septic tanks overflowing or located in areas with high water tables.

HOW DOES POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION IMPACT OUR WATERS?

Pointless Personal Pollution contains many kinds of pollutants which contaminate our waters in many ways, such as:

- A) Nutrients from fertilizers, septic tanks and animal wastes enter our waters causing excessive growth of algae and aquatic weeds.
- B) Heavy metals and pesticides that can kill aquatic organisms and contaminate sediments.
- C) Sewage, garbage and litter reduce oxygen in the water to levels that can kill aquatic life.
- D) Sediments from soil erosion clog fish gills and shellfish filter systems cutting off their oxygen supply.
- E) Pathogens from septic tanks and animal wastes contaminate shellfish and lead to the closing of swimming areas.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION?

HOME & HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE

SHOP WISELY. Buy products labeled biodegradable, non-toxic, non-phosphorus, or water soluble. WHY...they readily decompose and will not pollute surface or ground water.

STORE PRODUCTS SAFELY. Keep toxic products in original containers, closed and clearly marked in safe storage places. WHY...to prevent spillage or accidents to children or pets.

PROPERLY MAINTAIN SEPTIC SYSTEM. Inspect systems annually and pump out as needed. Avoid caustic cleaners, chemicals or solvents. WHY...they might destroy waste reducing bacteria or clog absorption fields, which could cause runoff of inadequately treated wastes during rainstorms.

LAWN AND GARDEN

USE GARDEN AND LAWN CHEMICALS WISELY. Follow package directions carefully and only use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers when other methods fail. Do not apply if rain is in the forecast. WHY...excessive fertilizers and chemicals wash off the property and into surface and ground waters.

KEEP IRRIGATION WATER ON THE LAWN AND GARDEN (NOT ON PAVED SURFACES). Divert rainspouts onto unpaved areas or swales and wash vehicles on vegetated areas. WHY...this allows runoff to soak into the soil and not wash over paved surfaces into nearby water bodies.

COMPOST LEAVES, GRASS AND SCRUB CLIPPINGS. Use as mulch for fertilizer and do not rake into roadways. WHY...these materials will decompose and return nutrients to the soil and avoid the necessity of applying fertilizers.

AUTOMOTIVE

DON'T DRAIN USED MOTOR OIL INTO STORM DRAINS. Take used motor oil and antifreeze to service stations to recycle them. WHY...these products are toxic and add pollutants to surface waters if placed or washed into storm drains.

SERVICE YOUR CAR REGULARLY. Have your car inspected and maintained regularly. WHY...to prevent leakage of motor oil, antifreeze and other fluids which can end up in the nearest waterbody. Well-maintained vehicles reduce air emissions, which can contaminate surface waters.

Town's Responsibility:

As a co-permittee of the NPDES program the Town participates with other neighboring cities in the Gulf Beaches Household Chemical Collection Day. The Town keeps the residents informed of this activity thru our Town access channel (Channel 15) and through literature placed in the Town library. All residents may call the Town Hall with any concerns of illicit discharge into the storm drains. Town staff will respond to these calls and take appropriate action.

**IF YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION AND WANT MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Stormwater/Nonpoint Source Management Section
2600 Blairstone Road, Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 921-9472
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Phone: 352/796-7211

TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES

WHAT EVERY TOWN RESIDENT SHOULD KNOW REGARDING FLOOD SAFETY, FLOOD INSURANCE RATES, FLOOD INSURANCE, AND FIRE SAFETY

FLOOD SAFETY:

Local flooding that occurred in the area as a result of Hurricane Opal happened within a short period of time. This flooding can be dangerous. Even though it appears to be moving slowly, a flood 6" deep moving at 3 ft./second can knock people off their feet; a flood 2 feet deep moving at the same velocity can float a car off the road. The message is clear: do not attempt to walk or drive in flood conditions. Some actions such as mitigative retrofits and elevation of structures may qualify for grant monies (see last paragraph).

BE ALERT FOR GAS LEAKS:

Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated. Before evacuating, make sure the gas has been turned off.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM):

The FIRM is a map published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that is used by the Town Building Department, Realtors, lending institutions, architects, engineers, and surveyors to determine in which Flood Zone a particular property is located and the base flood elevation (BFE). This information is useful to engineers and architects in building design and insurance underwriters in rating flood insurance policies. Lending institutions are now legally required to mandate that property owners with mortgages must carry flood insurance on properties located in the flood zone. Since Redington Shores is a barrier island, the entire Town is designated a Special Flood Hazard Area and is located in either a VE or AE Zone. The town has several Base Flood Elevation (BFE) heights. The BFE is the height above mean sea level to which the lowest structural member/floor support of a new structure must be elevated to survive flooding so severe that its height is expected no more often than once in a hundred years. Information on the flood zone or the base flood elevation for your property can be obtained by calling the Redington Shores Building Department at (727) 397-5538.

ELEVATION CERTIFICATES:

All new construction or substantial improvement requires a surveyor's elevation certificate to document the height of the floor, structure and equipment, as well as breakaway walls, or hydrostatic relief vents required in enclosures for garage storage below the BFE. The town maintains a file of these certificates, and can provide copies to anyone as per availability. Certificates are also on the Town website by address. It should be noted that the official file and elevation certificate information is what is used to determine insurance rates, or if enclosures or additions to living space have been made below flood level. These illegal enclosures or changes will not be covered by insurance; only permitted expansions documented as meeting codes will be covered.

FLOOD INSURANCE:

The Town of Redington Shores participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS) and currently has a rating of 7 with 10 being the lowest and 1 being the highest rating. Each rating below 10 gains property owners in Redington Shores a 5% reduction in their flood insurance premiums. Since Redington Shores is currently rated at 7, we enjoy a 15% reduction. If you haven't already done so, you need to advise your insurance agent that Redington Shores has a NFIP/CRS rating of 8 at this time, so you receive the proper discount. Insurance writers should know this now, but it is best to check. Remember normal homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Also you must have flood insurance to participate in some grant programs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The town is graded by NFIP/CRS and awarded points for various activities ranging from adopting flood and storm drainage ordinances, educational projects such as this newsletter, state programs such as the recently enacted Dam Safety Program for which we are allowed points. Unfortunately, your elected officials and town staff can't do it all! To a large extent, it depends on the cooperation and assistance of residents and property owners to make it work. Here are some ways you can help: keep erosion silt and trash out of drains - drains flow to the intracoastal waters and affect beaches.

As a participant in the NFIP and NPDES the town has adopted ordinances on building construction, Stormwater drainage, filling, grading, and excavation. If you see any construction or excavating done without a permit posted, contact the building department.

There are numerous Stormwater inlets on public and private properties in town. The Public Works Department inspects these inlets on a biannual basis to determine if they are being maintained. If you see anyone dumping trash, lawn clippings, etc. into these inlets, contact the building department. If seen at night or weekends contact the police department at 595-5414.

THE TOWN'S PART:

Your elected officials, in an ongoing effort to keep the town safe from the dangers of flooding, have authorized or implemented the following:

The Building Department stands ready to advise property owners, architects and contractors regarding acceptable methods of flood proofing of proposed new construction or existing structures, and to assist with applications for grant monies (see below). It also has an extensive library on these subjects free of charge. Some mitigation improvements may be made to existing structures for better performance during a flood and possible lower insurance rates. Such improvements may include making garage storage area out of ground floor by installing hydrostatic relief and elevating all utilities in that area.

The Town Commission has named Commissioner Casey Wojcik as the town's Emergency Management Coordinator and has adopted the Pinellas County Hurricane Evacuation Implementation Guide. In the event of a storm, citizens are advised to stay tuned to WARM FM 94.9 as a primary source of storm data and WRBQ FM 104.7 as a secondary source. In the event of a hurricane, the Police Department receives regular updates from Pinellas County Emergency Management.

The Town adopted a Flood Management Plan, including requirements for the FEMA 50% Rule. This states that, if a property is damaged more than 50% or if an owner wants to make substantial improvements, which exceed 50% of the fair market value of the structure only (not including the land), the owner will be required to bring the building into compliance with the NFIP regulations and town ordinance requirements for new construction. In the latest update of the Floodplain Management Plan the Town has adopted the task to require new construction to provide freeboard above flood level. This gives the Town more credit for higher regulatory standards, and can help residents with reduced insurance costs. Freeboard is a safety zone of one or two feet above the FIRM map given flood elevation. While many homes provide the freeboard above the flood by putting the garage underneath, others on the beach front must measure to the lowest horizontal structural member to gain freeboard credit. All mechanical and electrical systems must also be installed at the extra elevation to receive credit (cost savings) for flood insurance. Per the Plan all improvements are subject to five year tracking of previous improvements added to the current project to ensure full compliance for CRS requirements and discounts. Literature on this and forms for calculation are free of charge from the Building Department.

Available Grants Programs Include:
FMA (Flood Mitigation Assistance)
RFC (Repetitive Flood Claims)
SRL (Severe Repetitive Loss)
Other information on retrofitting existing homes along with the above program information is available at Town Hall.

The Building Department will meet and discuss grant and retrofit opportunities by appointment. For residents considering applying for grants it will be necessary to have the following items to determine eligibility and funding:
current appraisal
current survey-site approval
current elevation certificate
recent estimate of construction costs to perform mitigation retrofits.

The Town can help once all of the information is gathered by performing a cost benefit analysis and electronically submitting the application.