

**Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida****Town Commission Agenda Memorandum****Office of the Town Manager, Tracey Stevens**

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**Meeting Date: July 6, 2021**  
**Subject: Town Manager's Report**

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Mayor, Commissioners & Residents of Ocean Ridge:

In the month of June, we celebrated the following employee anniversaries with the Town: P/T Dispatcher, Gene Rosenberg, 10 years (although he has served the Town in other capacities such as volunteer Reserve Police Officer for many more years). We thank him for his service and dedication to the Town of Ocean Ridge!

The joint meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars!

The Town Engineer in conjunction with the lighting contractor are still working with FDOT on the Crown Colony Crosswalk lighting plan. We hope to have this finalized soon.

Bargaining sessions for the police union contract have commenced and we hope to have a contract finalized by the end of the fiscal year on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Town's 30-year potable water contract with the City of Boynton Beach ends in November 2021, and negotiations for a new contract with the City of Boynton Beach have begun. I will update you when more information is received.

The Town is expecting to receive approximately \$800,000 of federal stimulus grant funds as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. The guidance for use of the grant funds is being updated frequently, and Town Managers in Palm Beach County are working together closely to keep track of the changes. A public safety element was added, but we don't have enough information to report on that yet. The state is in the process of applying for an extension on the timeframe to release the funds to municipalities. We should still receive half the funds by the end of the fiscal year, however, the date is unknown. Once the town receives the funds, they will be deposited into the general fund as unearned revenue and show as a liability on the balance sheet until the funds are allocated for use. The funds will need to be encumbered by December 31, 2024 and spent no later than December 31, 2026. The Town Engineer and Public Works Department are currently working on a repair/replacement plan for the Town's potable water infrastructure and stormwater infrastructure. It is clear

that we will need to hire a Grants Administrator to administer the federal grant for us in order to conform to the uniform guidelines in the federal register. The costs to hire a Grants Administrator can be captured and reimbursed to us through the grant.

The emergency declaration for the Town of Ocean Ridge has expired. Palm Beach County will also not be renewing the emergency declaration for the County as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. COVID-19 vaccines are readily available for those that wish to receive one. We ask that everyone still remain vigilant as many cases are still being reported in our area, and the pandemic has not ended.

Respectfully,



Tracey L. Stevens, MMC  
Town Manager & Finance Director