

From the Mayor's desk – 4/4/25

Happy Friday!

Welcome to April. Slowly but surely the weather is getting better. We have to get through this cooler weekend and then sunshine and 80's right around the corner!

The Market in the Park scheduled for tomorrow will be moved to the outside lower levels of City Hall and the PD/EMS buildings to take advantage of the shelter in the event of rain. Usually a move like this in anticipation of rain is a sure fire way to guarantee no rain...Hope that is the case tomorrow!

Human Resources:

Lots of recruiting and interviewing happening soon on our open positions.

EMS Director. We have a good collection of qualified applicants from the job posting and will be scheduling interviews shortly. The interview team is being assembled now and will consist of Council member Jenny Green-Pratt, Chief Phillip Hester, a neighboring EMS Director TBD, our Medical Director and HR Director Janet Solis. These interviews will be scheduled for next week or the following. The selected candidate from this process will be properly vetted through a background check and City Council.

Finance Director. This posting has recently closed and we also have a good collection of qualified applicants. The interview team is also being assembled now and will consist of Council member Marsha Hines, City Secretary Amanda Davenport, Mayor and HR Director Janet Solis. These interviews will be scheduled for next week. The selected candidate from this process will be properly vetted through a background check and City Council.

There are also multiple openings in EMS currently. If you or someone you know would like to work in our EMS department, please contact City Hall.

Beach & Parks:

High tides and south winds have limited beach booth activity this week. The weekend staffing at the booths will be subject to weather conditions daily.

Road repairs continue. We will be contracting out our larger road repairs in the next few weeks. These are the larger scale asphalt and cement repairs needed in several spots. The

very large, and extensive road replacement work like Beach Drive will still require receipt of our Category B & C FEMA funds. Currently we have close to \$900,000 identified and approved with FEMA on Category B that is close to becoming obligated, which is the final step prior to the relief funds being made available to the Village of Surfside Beach. Category C is closer to \$250,000 and still requires final FEMA review and approval, which has taken roughly 2 months with FEMA based on Category A & B efforts already.

Public Works:

There was some work done to the lift station at Pompano this week on Wednesday and Thursday. The pumps weren't operating within acceptable ranges. On Wednesday, we hooked up a bypass pump and then removed, cleaned and repaired both submersible pumps. On Thursday the pumps were re-installed and are operating properly, as is the lift station.

Still operating with zero Freeport water intake. As always, please alert City Hall or the Public Works Department if you have any issues with your service.

As mentioned last week, we will be moving to a new utilities billing system over the next few months. Muni-Link will be replacing RVS. I will continue to provide updates to communicate changes before they take effect.

Building:

Stahlman walkover is under construction to finish the ramps on both ends. Concrete was installed this week on the end of the ramp closest to Stahlman.

Other Items of Interest:

Barron has been doing a great job highlighting our local establishments, and what's going on around town. Make sure that you shop and dine local to support them all. I did want to highlight a couple new places that have popped up in the Village over the last few weeks. The new meat market, which will be opening soon, has added a food truck with picnic tables. I have yet to try it, but reports from co-workers and friends have been favorable. In addition, Sharkie's Bar and Grill is under new management this month and making some changes, including new menu items. It's good to see more new and different options coming to town!

As always, I hope that you have a great day and I hope to see you around the island this weekend!

Thanks,

Zach