



TOWN HALL BULLETIN

Important things to know for the week of March 20, 2023

www.fmbgov.com / 239-765-0202 / PUBLICINFO@FMBGOV.COM

This weekly publication covers brief news items related to the Town's recovery from Hurricane Ian. The Town was directly hit on September 28, 2022, by Hurricane Ian, which has been described as the 5th worst natural disaster in the history of the United States.



View Town Council meeting agendas and minutes

Sign up to receive notice of meetings.

Meetings are currently being held at DiamondHead Beach Resort, 2000 Estero Boulevard.

Watch Town Council meetings live

All Town Council meetings, Local Planning Agency (LPA) meetings, Special Magistrate Hearings and Town advisory committee meetings are broadcast live on the [Town's YouTube channel](#)

Meeting dates and times are posted on the [Town's website](#)

The calendar section on the home page is one way to keep up with dates and times.

[Sign up to receive email notifications](#) of meetings and other info as they are posted on the website.

Follow the Town of FMB, including Bay Oaks, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn; Newton Beach Park and Mound House on Facebook and Instagram



The Town Hall temporary complex is on the property next to the Town Hall building that was damaged by Hurricane Ian. Address is 2545 Estero Blvd.

Questions?

Call 239-765-0202

REMINDER – NEXT WEEK, MARCH 29 - DEADLINE for the IAN DEBRIS CLEANUP SIGN UP

Sign ups are still accepted for debris removal through www.iandebriscleanup.com. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, March 29. Debris that were curbside by March 1 will be picked up sometime before March 29. If heavy debris other than regular trash pickup was placed curbside after March 1 it may not be picked up. It will be the property owner's responsibility to coordinate removal and pay for that removal. FDEM want to assure everyone, that any current existing debris operations or previously submitted reports of title property, will be handled accordingly, and will not be impacted by the deadline.

BURN BAN FOR ALL OF LEE COUNTY IS STILL IN EFFECT

This ban is effective immediately due to increasingly dry conditions throughout Southwest Florida. The county's ordinance bans "outdoor burning ignition sources," including campfires, bonfires and trash burning. Grills for food and backyard fire rings are not included. Officials ask all county residents to be mindful of dry conditions and to use good judgment to mitigate potential for significant wildfires. County officials will continue to monitor the drought conditions to determine how long the burn ban will be in place.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE LETTERS

Property owners whose structures were determined to be substantially damaged received informational letters from the Town that FEMA is requiring. The letter gives guidance about permitting if they plan to rebuild, the elevation of structures that are required under current codes, and the National Flood Insurance Program. **If a property owner already has an issued building permit to demolish or repair an existing building, or build a replacement building, their cost forms have been reviewed and they can disregard this letter.** For more information, visit the Building Services Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section of the Town's website.

PROPERTY OWNERS MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS

Financial assistance through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) might be available for interested property owners in the Town of Fort Myers Beach. This program helps property owners rebuild homes or businesses stronger than they were before Hurricane Ian. Property owners do not apply for or receive these funds directly, but they are administered through the Town. The Town must have at least 50 interested applicants before this program can be implemented, and property owners need to submit a preliminary interest application.

The deadline for interest applications is April 10, 2023. Fill out applications of interest at this link: <https://forms.gle/MxRKeStN2ja3kh2d9>

SIGN UP FOR SHRC, NEW PROGRAM THROUGH FDEP FOR HELP WITH REPAIRS

Sheltering in Home for Recovery Continuation (SHRC), helps homeowners with minor repairs, so they can live in their home while completing their recovery. To learn more and apply, visit ianrecovery.fl.gov/unite or call the Unite Florida support line at 1-800-892-0948.

TOWN WELCOMES NEW UTILITIES, B.A.S.E. AND PARKING SUPERVISORS

Steven Matuska joined the Utilities Department, Mike Surik joined Beach and Street Enforcement (B.A.S.E) and Thomas Yozzo joined the Parking team.

THE TOWN'S SIGN ORDINANCE REMAIN IN PLACE

It prohibits signs of certain sizes and in certain places. Fines are possible if this ordinance is violated. To read the ordinances, visit www.fmbgov.com >FMB>Town Ordinances. Click on the codified ordinances link in the first paragraph and scroll down to Chapter 30-SIGNS

UTILITIES

If a property's water is not being used at this time, water and sewer base fees can be waived and the meter can be locked to prevent further billing. Property owners should email the Utilities Department at utilities@fmbgov.com with their name and service address. PLEASE NOTE – All residents are required to pay stormwater fees. If property owners pay their water bill at www.eonlinebill.com/ftmyers or through the automated payment, with a credit card, there is a 3.5 % credit card processing fee added. This fee was approved by Town Council in the Fiscal Year'23 Budget.

EASEMENTS FOR SAND REPLACEMENT

The Town needs beachfront property owners to sign a temporary construction easement to place sand on the beach areas that are private property. Signing this easement does not give the Town rights to private property. It only gives permission to place sand on it. The easement document, construction plans, and other information are at www.fmbgov.com/beach.

STOCKPILING SAND FOR THE EMERGENCY BERM PROJECT HAS BEGAN

At the Wyndham with lots of sand being spread and big equipment activity. As one truck hauls sand in and dumps, another piece of equipment spreads it out to make room for the next truck's load.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 3, 2023, at DiamondHead Beach Resort, 2000 Estero Boulevard. at 8-9 a.m. - meet and great new town manager candidates and continue at 1 p.m.