

Laura Aldrich

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**From:** Laura Aldrich <townclerk@irshores.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** Laura Aldrich  
**Subject:** Town News Alert & Council Meeting 11-16 Recap  
**Attachments:** 11-17-17 DEP Sewer Spill VB.PDF  
**Importance:** High

Dear Residents and Interested Parties,

These items may be of importance and/or interest to our residents:

- **IMPORTANT** news released this afternoon, a **sewer leak at the stormwater sewer in the Bethel Creek area** is leaking sewage into the Lagoon, and the City of Vero Beach is **requesting that you “cut down on water use** so that less water will go into the line and then into the lagoon.”
- As a follow-up comment to **changing the recycle hauler**, the Town Council agreed to do a **short-term extension to the recycle portion** of the **Republic Services** contract past December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to **rebid single and multi-family recycling service**. Waste Management’s final recycle pricing was not able to be negotiated to an acceptable level.
- **Big cell tower news:** the Notice of Commencement has been filed for construction, and the tower construction company, DataPath, believes it will be *operational* in March. Construction will begin much earlier, then the tower companies (Verizon currently, hopefully another company soon) will place their equipment.
- Committee openings: 3 for **Code Enforcement Board** - please [check this link to see what is involved](#). We also have a citizen representative appointed to the [MPO – Citizen’s Advisory Committee](#). The link at the left leads to the County page with information.
- We are in the process of forming a committee of volunteers, the **Shores Environmentally Concerned Residents (SECR)**, to help keep our beaches and shorelines **free from debris and to help monitor the stormwater drain areas**. Please let me know if you are interested in Chairing or participating in this effort. We have several “regulars” who already do beach cleanups on their own, and invite you to officially be named as a volunteer. Again, this helps with meeting our **State-mandated requirements to be proactive** in protecting the waterways from stormwater runoff, pollutants, and environmental hazards.

At the November Town Council meeting, the following noteworthy actions took place:

- The compiled annual **Town Manager’s performance review** was revealed as between “Met Expectations” and “Exceeded Expectations.”
- **Councilman Auwaerter** volunteered to serve on the **Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council** as the Town’s appointed elected official.
- **Pending Legislation:** an interesting constitutional amendment under Proposal 61 is to add a new article regarding the **right of electricity customers to choose an electricity provider**. It was also brought to our attention that [Senate Bill 571](#) (also filed as **House Bill 521**) **was filed to supersede local regulations for tree protections**. It allows anyone to remove any kind, any size, any quantity of tree without mitigation or replanting of replacement trees. You are asked to reach out to Senator Mayfield and Representative Grall and ask that this assault on home rule (local government control) be stopped.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving!

Respectfully yours,

*Laura*

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