



## *Mayor's Letter*

September 15, 2019

**INTERNATIONAL DARK SKIES COMMUNITIES.** Until last week, world-wide there were 22 cities and towns that had been awarded recognition as a Certified IDA International Dark Sky Community. **After two years of hard work, the Board of Directors of the IDA approved Lakewood Village as the 23rd Dark Skies Community in the world.** This is a tremendous achievement. This recognizes our commitment to improved quality of life through minimizing light pollution and enhancing the benefits to the natural wildlife in our community. Many thanks to Ed Reed and Sheryl France for their tireless efforts and dedication in getting us this great honor.

**ROAD UPDATE.** Preliminary design work is continuing by Town engineers Kimley-Horn. The initial survey work is complete - over 19,000 measurements have been uploaded and GIS/CAD maps have been created for Kimley-Horn. At the end of the month, we will walk the Town with the preliminary design to identify additional survey work to perform. **We are still on schedule to award the construction contract on March 12, 2020.**

I have had discussions with both AT&T and Suddenlink regarding the installation of fiber-optic services (internet/tv/phone) to the Shores and areas along Meadowlake and Woodcrest that do not have cable service. The current internet infrastructure in the Shores is an embarrassment and is unacceptable given the current state of technology. It is going to be modernized. Period. I will not accept any more excuses. I think it is shameful and utterly ridiculous that after 14 years I still cannot even get a landline to work at my house. There will be fiber-optic cables laid as we rip-up and replace the roads.

**NEW ORDINANCES.** In response to an increase in complaints, the Town Council unanimously approved amendments to three ordinances (Junked Car, Oversized Vehicle Parking, and the Nuisance Ordinances). The ordinances are available on our Town website. In general, it is illegal to park any oversized vehicle, RV, motor-home, boat, or trailer on the Town's streets - they must be parked on your own property. There are of course exceptions for active loading and unloading. Also, the ordinances clarify that ALL vehicles and trailers must be parked on an approved concrete surface. Lastly, inoperative vehicles must be parked in a structure - you cannot just place a tarp over them and leave them outside. The concrete streets are for driving on, they are not designed to be used as a secondary parking lot.

**KEY FIGURES:** Our fiscal year ends on September 30th. As we enter the last month of the year, our

<i>Cash Balances</i>				
	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Utility Fund</b>	<b>MDD</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
30-Sep-18	\$201,278	\$97,579	\$28,089	\$326,946
1-Sep-19	\$278,661	\$174,444	\$33,329	\$486,434
<b>Change</b>	<b>\$77,383</b>	<b>\$76,864</b>	<b>\$5,241</b>	<b>\$159,488</b>

financial performance has been one for the record books. We are significantly under budget and as a result we have increased our cash balances by almost \$160,000. Large positive operating cash flow is critically important in our credit rating for the financing for the new roads.

There's never been a better time to be in Lakewood Village.

Dr. Mark E. Vargus  
Mayor

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