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**Meeting Name:** Town Council Meeting  
**Meeting Date:** May 28, 2025  
**Prepared By:** Steven J. Hallock, Director of Public Works  
**Item Title:** Pelican Lake Aquatic Weed and Algae Control

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#### **DISCUSSION:**

The Town Council previously approved that any regular maintenance to prevent Pelican Lake algae with chemical use shall be preapproved by them. Currently, the only approved chemical control for algae is Green Clean. The only chemical control approved for torpedo grass is TIGR, and the only biological control for aquatic weeds, i.e. naiad, is Triploid (Sterile) Grass Carp.

Staff have noted increased vegetative mats at the surface of Pelican Lake. While the lake is under drought conditions it continues to be chemically treated for algae, an underlying problem is that the native aquatic plant, naiad, is growing to the surface. As the plants reach the surface, they create a platform featuring abundant sunlight, feeding an algae growth cycle – we kill the algae with the approved chemical and new algae is soon able to grow back. To break the cycle, we need to manage the aquatic weeds.

Stocking Savvy Environmental Consultant, Professor Sean Patton, is recommending:

1. Approval from FWC for stocking Triploid (Sterile) Grass Carp; permit is pending. This is a long-term natural solution. We only need to buy time for them to eat and grow in the lake.
2. To buy that time, we use Aquathol for the initial kill of the aquatic weeds followed 2-4 weeks later with Green Clean afterwards to kill algae mats and planktonic algae blooms. This method is the fastest safe chemical option.

Staff flexibility in responding to lake environmental conditions quickly and efficiently is very important. Treatment delays in an ever-changing natural habitat can be costly. To that end, we are requesting Town Council approval to utilize any combination of management techniques that the Town's environmental consultant recommends, without returning to Town Council each time treatment is deemed appropriate.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Town Council approval for Staff to utilize any combination of management techniques that the Town's environmental consultant recommends, without returning to Town Council each time treatment is needed to keep Pelican Lake healthy and attractive.