

# CAROLINA BEACH

Town Council Workshop Minutes  
Tuesday, April 24, 2018 @ 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers  
1121 N. Lake Park Boulevard  
Carolina Beach, NC 28428

## ASSEMBLY

The Town of Carolina Beach Town Council Workshop was held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 6:00 PM at Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Tom Bridges, Council Member LeAnn Pierce, Council Member Steve Shuttleworth, and Council Member JoDan Garza

ABSENT: Mayor Joe Benson

ALSO PRESENT: Town Manager Michael Cramer, Assistant Town Manager Ed Parvin, Town Clerk Kim Ward, and Finance Director Debbie Hall

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

### 2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### a. Council Liaison Committee Updates

Council Member Garza gave an update on the Parks and Rec and Freeman Park Committee. The Parks and Rec Committee mainly discussed the upcoming budget and Ryder Lewis Park. The Freeman Park Committee discussed a new North End Project that would encourage the pack it in, pack it out concept. There are several new members so they are trying to bring them up to speed. Another topic of discussion was the signs at the hatteras ramp. Drivers are usually trying to maintain speed to go onto the sand and don't want to stop to read all of the signs at that location.

Council Member Pierce gave an update on the Police Advisory Committee. They are brainstorming ideas on how to expand the relationship with the police officers and the citizens. They had suggestions such as coffee with a cop and starting a citizens academy. They will be discussing that in detail at their May 7th meeting.

Council Member Shuttleworth reported that the Wilmington MPO will be back in Carolina Beach May 1st. He mentioned that their top priority for this funding cycle is the airport. They are still looking for a citizen to serve on the Citizen Resource Commission.

Council Members Shuttleworth and Garza just returned from NCBIWA in Pine Knoll Shores today. Dennis Barbour was in attendance as well. The Ports, Beach, and Waterway Commission reported that some time between November and March there will be a sand project funded by state, federal, and room occupancy tax dollars.

The Marketing Advisory Committee is coming up with ideas outside of the traditional Convention and Visitors Bureau for advertising. The budget is \$590,000, which is up 14%. They will be presenting at the May 8th Council meeting.

Council Member Pierce added that she and Mayor Benson serve on the TDA. They are making progress with options for room occupancy tax dollars. Carolina Beach is about \$90,000 behind Wrightsville Beach on collections. The total collection is expected to be around \$2.4 million next year. Carolina Beach will get half of that to use locally and the other half stays with the Convention and Visitors Bureau for the sand fund.

Mr. Cramer reported that the Canal Drive Flooding Committee had their first meeting last week and they had a good turnout. They were given an overview on what the Operations Committee had been working on in regards to flooding. They had several ideas and want to get started on a bulkhead ordinance.

Mr. Cramer explained the King Tide Program where volunteers will go out to the Marina and record the water level each day. They will eventually get weather stations that are backed up to the cloud.

MPT Bridges gave an update on the Operations Committee. They completed the study on flooding and that is available on the website. Part of that study included bulkheads. They have since visited other beaches to look at their bulkhead ordinances. They are also looking at irrigation systems that do not have the required meter. There are still a large number of properties that do not have a meter that is required by the state. The rates have been adjusted so the homeowner would save money if they had the irrigation meter.

Ed Parvin reported that the Harbor Commission has not met in several months.

b. Fire Department - SAFER Grant

Chief Alan Griffin explained the SAFER Grant.

The purpose of the SAFER Grant Program is to provide funding directly to fire departments to assist in increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards, and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments.

The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the NFPA 1710 (Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments) and NC Department of Insurance ISO Rating System. Both of these standards and requirements discuss staffing at a minimal of four (4) personnel on all working structural fires.

Grant Request:

Hiring 3 personnel equaling 1 per shift

The grant covers a percentage of wages, benefits, and equipment issued for a 3 year period

1st year 65/35 federal to local split

2nd year 65/35 federal to local split  
3rd year 35/65 federal to local split  
Current projection has the split for FY 2018/19  
Federal match \$97,500.00  
Local match \$52,500.00  
Total for 3 Firefighters \$150,000.00

Council Member Shuttleworth asked to keep in mind the obligations that are going to compound with this. He reminded Council that Chief Griffin mentioned in the last budget meeting that they are going to need new apparatus in the next couple of years.

Chief Griffin commented that it is not uncommon to have 2 or 3 calls at one time in the summer. It is important to increase the staff and maintain the volunteer (paid per call) staff.

Council Member Garza asked if you could ask for 2 instead of 3 employees.

Chief Griffin replied that the purpose is to put one on each shift. There are 3 shifts.

Mr. Cramer said he feels that Council is in favor of applying for the grant. There is no need for a vote but he wanted to know if Council supported moving forward.

Council agreed to move forward but to keep in mind the other financial obligations being made.

c. Flood Regulation Update

Senior Planner Jeremy Hardison presented the new flood plain maps.

On February 28th, the Town received the letter of final determination from FEMA. The flood map and a flood ordinance must be adopted consistent with CFR by August 28th.

Staff is currently drafting an ordinance. It will be reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission on May 10th and is tentatively scheduled to go to Council on June 12th.

Permitting would go into effect after Council adoption (June 13th). This will not affect flood insurance policies until the effective date of the FIRM (August 28th).

Carolina Beach is moving from a class 7 to a class 6 on the Community Rating System. The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary program for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participating communities. The goals of the CRS are to reduce flood damages to insurable property, strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management. It provides incentives in the form of premium discounts for communities to go beyond the minimum floodplain management requirements to develop extra measures to provide protection from flooding.

Council thanked Mr. Hardison for all of his hard work. It has been a three year process.

d. Lake Dredging Update

Town Manager Michael Cramer gave an update on the Lake Dredge Project.

The purpose of this project is to increase the depth of the lake, for the purpose of reducing flooding of the surrounding residential and commercial structures. The goal was to excavate / dredge approximately 6' of sediment (muck) from the bottom of the lake.

Current Physical Characteristics of the Lake:

Approximate Area = 11.5 Acres (500,940 SF)

Water depth average is approximately 18" deep

Majority of the feature is within the AE Flood Zone

Perimeter of the lake is maintained grass

Elevation is 0' – 2' above MSL

The Lake is classified as Watershed III (moderately developed)

(These waters are also protected for Class C uses)

The features are not tidally influenced

The lake received a Jurisdictional Determination on 4/13/12 and was issued under USACE Action ID SAW-2011-00914

#### Lake Dredge Project

The goal was to remove 83,000 cubic yards of material adding 16,000,000 gallons of water storage.

Results: Removed 32,720 cubic yards of material adding 6,608,623 gallons of water storage which increased holding capacity by 40%.

#### Force Main to Henniker's Ditch

The goal was to install additional pipeline and pump to Henniker's Ditch.

Results: Pump capacity has increased from 8,064,000 gallons per day to 14,112,000 gal/day which increased pumping capacity by 43%.

#### Emergency Pipe to Ocean

The goal was to install underground pipeline up Driftwood Lane to increase pump out capacity.

Results: Pump capacity has increased from 4,752,000 gallons per day to 6,336,000 gallons per day which increased pumping capacity by 25%.

In November, 2017 MOTSU set the following guidelines:

Existing material should be moved onto the Old Spray Field.

Existing material must be removed from the Old Spray Field within 3 to 5 years.

Additional 10,000 cu yds of material can be added to existing 30,000 cubic yards.

A new lease will be established for the spoils location (3 to 5 year term).

At the end of lease, the property must be returned to previous condition.

At this point, the Town has four options:

1) Leave in Place - Minimize the Arsenic impacted soil areas and leave in place.

2) Create New Island – Remove soils to island in the lake.

3) Remove the Soils

\*Find suitable land application site – Town property behind the LORAN site

\*Take to lined landfill – New Hanover County or Sampson County

#### 4) Remediation Action Plan

\*Negotiate a soils blending plan for treatment of the arsenic impacted soils.

The Manager recommends Option #1:

Leave it in place and retain some project funds for developing access to the town property behind the LORAN Station. Use the remainder of the Lake Dredge funds to improve other stormwater infrastructure in town such as Canal Drive and the north end.

Mr. Cramer said he would like to bring this back to a Council meeting as a public hearing.

Council Member Shuttleworth asked for more definitive numbers on using the Town property behind the LORAN station. He would like those numbers some time this summer.

Council Member Garza said that in the meantime, the lake needs to be cleaned up. The trash needs to be picked up.

Mr. Cramer said that Parks and Rec cleans the banks daily. Stormwater will go out weekly to get the areas that can't be reached from the bank.

Council Member Pierce said that she feels Council is in favor of finishing the project.

Council Member Shuttleworth said he feels this should go out for bid to get definitive numbers.

Council agreed that there needs to be a public hearing once there are some hard numbers.

Council Member Shuttleworth said that he has received emails from residents wanting the Town to finish the project.

Mr. Cramer stated that he understands what Council is looking for and will bring it back for a public hearing in a few months.

#### e. Public Private Partnership Discussion

Mr. Cramer presented the idea for a public/private partnership for a mixed use parking deck. He recommends putting out Requests For Proposals to include 300 parking spaces. This would be in the area between Myrtle Avenue, Carl Winner Avenue, Canal Drive and Harper Avenue.

Council Member Shuttleworth stated that he feels this is a great idea. Council agreed that this is a great starting point.

### 3. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Garza asked Council to be patient with the two new Council Members. They are still trying to learn and he feels that some Council Members get frustrated with their inexperience. He asked that all of Council work on functioning as a team and to be respectful of one another.

Mr. Cramer reminded Council that they can come to staff any time before a meeting to discuss

procedures and to assist in crafting a motion that they may want to make during a meeting.

Council Member Shuttleworth asked if staff knew when carnival rides were due to arrive.

Mr. Cramer said that it is usually in May, shortly before Memorial Day but he has not heard a set date.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

MPT Bridges adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Adopted at a regular meeting on May 8, 2018.

Submitted by: Kimberlee Ward, Town Clerk