



CAROLINA BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES • JANUARY 24, 2017

Council Chambers

Workshop

9:00 AM

1121 N. LAKE PARK BLVD.
CAROLINA BEACH, NC 28428

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dan Wilcox	Mayor	Present	
LeAnn Pierce	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Shuttleworth	Council Member	Present	
Tom Bridges	Council Member	Present	
Gary Doetsch	Council Member	Late	9:20 AM
Michael Cramer	Town Manager	Present	
Ed Parvin	Assistant Town Manager	Present	
Debbie Hall	Finance Director	Present	
Kim Ward	Town Clerk	Present	
Noel Fox	Attorney	Present	

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Shoreline Mapping and Risk Reduction Study

(Requested by Michael Cramer, Town Manager's Office)

Nicole Vanderbeke with Moffatt and Nichols spoke about the shoreline mapping program started by the county in 2014. They can calculate how much sand the beaches are gaining or losing along the shoreline. A recap of the Carolina Beach portion from their presentation last fall was given showing how the shoreline and volume changed over the last year. Their methodology was explained, review of storm events, CSDR Project (sand placement), and summary of findings. Summary showed projects are keeping up with the erosion rates. Average loss of sand is about 275,000 cubic yards. Shoreline elevation changes were reviewed with accretion and erosion areas as well as volume. Study showed more material was placed in the north and central areas of Carolina Beach which was based on erosion rate. Summary: placed 1M cubic yards; volume changes showed a gain of 785,000 which says we lost a little over 200,000 between the 2015 survey and when it was placed which is reasonable and shows the beach held up well even with storm activity; study helps show areas with biggest losses/smarter decisions on placement of sand.

Robert Neal with Moffat and Nichols, presented the Risk Reduction Plan. The analysis is a federal requirement for the non-federal sponsor for extending the authorization of the federal CSDR project. Scope of work is separated in two main pieces: data collection and documenting those procedures the town currently participates in, and a risk reduction analysis which takes the data from the monitoring events as well as other data from the Corps of Engineers dating from 2006 to estimate what is the risk of the CSDR project if it was not continued - financial risk to the town. The analysis data has been provided to the county for their review and hopefully finished up by the end of the month.

Michael Cramer said the studies are important for our future projects if we end up not getting an extension on our program and not getting federal funding for the program, we still have data that is annually collected that we can project what the need is so we can move forward with any placement projects in lieu of the federal government.

Mr. Neal reviewed dune management initiatives, public parking (eligible for cost reimbursement), rock revetment, inlet maintenance, floodplain management, construction regulations, sea level changes, and natural disaster action plans done by the town and their importance. Risk reduction analysis: one cubic yard coming off the beach equals a little over 1/2 foot of shoreline recession for Carolina Beach per year or the high water mark will move back approximately ten feet if the CSDR is not reauthorized. Risk assessment for a 15 year period was given showing structural loss and valuation, and shoreline loss and location.

Layton Bedsole, from the audience, spoke about making use of the CSDR borrow site and the goal to reduce the cost, the travel time of the hopper dredges in the Carolina Beach Inlet maintenance element - managing the sand that we're touching more efficiently. This process is under review by federal agencies. Currently the Corps picks the sand up with the hopper dredge, goes down the beach and dumps it in the near shore waters and is moved up on the beach.

Stan Lewis, resident, said the USGS monitors sea level rise which has been millimeters a year, and we may be overestimating what we've measured and we might not have as much erosion as projected.

b. Noise Ordinance Revisions

(Requested by Michael Cramer, Town Manager's Office)

Michael Cramer said in reviewing the current noise ordinance, staff and town attorney felt a rewrite would be in order.

Noel Fox spoke about the draft, some of the adjustments made and suggested recommendations. Three main categories: general guidelines or requirements associated to all noise issues, residential, and commercial areas. Also how to monitor and enforce, fines and fees. There are two ways of addressing a violation - criminal process and civil process. Differences were explained as well as town's interaction with the district attorney in the case of a criminal process.

Mr. Cramer said it is problematic for him to deal with technical measuring of noise and prefers subjective. He thinks what we're getting at is the difference between residential and commercial, subjectivity in the residential, more objectivity in the commercial, more robust process of enforcement. He feels that with adjustments to the details associated to time, measurement components and things like that for commercial, we can get to something where we could have a usable system to address the issue.

Audience member (Karen Lewis) asked what are they supposed to do. There were 16 weddings last year, 6 they did not call the police, that all had music. She only calls when she cannot think anywhere in her home and it is beyond regular noise. Parking is a problem. Noise cannot be heard on the street but can be on the ocean. The police come when they are called but it doesn't last.

Mayor Wilcox said they should work diligently to have something in place by the time spring season comes to give the police department something to enforce.

Mr. Cramer said they are responding to parking issues now.

Mayor Wilcox said we need to concentrate on the resident to resident component right now.

Council Member Doetsch said when there is a call on noise the issue, give the officer who is taking your call the house number, let the officer go to their house first to listen to what they are experiencing so you can relay that back to us so Noel can have a better idea how to control it on the legal end. They discussed an incremental increase in the fine structure that can be extremely painful on the second or third trip.

Council Member Bridges asked for a fine structure for the trash and parking.

Ms. Fox said the town has its responsibilities to all citizens which the noise ordinance will apply to, the trash regulations will apply to and the water and sewer. She is not trying to take away anything from the Lewis' personal situation but said they have civil remedies and they should consult an attorney that represents them about what civil remedies they may have.

Mr. Lewis said it is not the owners you can challenge because they have a contract that is signed by the renters that says they are not going to make loud noise, etc. You can only apply something civil against the wedding guests and those are people who don't come back. You either fine them one time but it doesn't do anything. He feels the decibel levels can be done but where do you do it from? It is subjective still about decibel levels depending not only on the background noise but where you measure from so I don't think one decibel level is going to work.

Mayor Wilcox said the town attorney and staff should concentrate on the resident to resident component and come back before March. Council and staff agreed.

Tom Barber, lives across the street from the house in question. One of the many promises not kept by the owners of the house was to have a manager on site for each event. They had one once. Also a father of the bride was confrontational to Mrs. Barber because she had cars removed from her driveway. He feels this goes beyond noise in that it is an accident waiting to happen.

c. Dogs on the Beach

(Requested by Kim Ward, Town Clerk)

Michael Cramer said they don't have any information to bring to council on the issue. Right now on the municipal beach strand, you are not allowed to have your dog on the beach during the season, April 1 through September 30. You can have your dog on a leash after that anywhere on the beach. In Freeman Park, the times are the same but during the April 1 through September 30 you can have your dog on a leash, during the off season they can be off a leash but under the owner's control. Enforcement is difficult. How would council like to proceed? If there are changes, what kind?

Council Member Bridges recommended not changing anything because of the issue of turtle nesting.

Council Member Shuttleworth asked that staff look at some comparative ordinances from other municipalities such as Myrtle Beach or Topsail, etc., to see how other people regulate it.

MPT Pierce would be amenable to dogs in other areas, not in the heart of where all the people are.

Council Member Shuttleworth said maybe before 9:00 in the morning and after 6:00 in the evening. Council agreed.

Council Member Doetsch asked for better definition of "off the leash and under control". If you can't keep them under control you keep them on a leash.

Mr. Cramer said the most difficult portion for staff is enforcement. He probably could figure out a way to work it into the parking contract or hire town employees over the summer, under parks and rec, to be ambassadors on the beach. They would have to be sworn to give civil citations. Those things cost money. Even at that there is no guarantee someone will be around when a dog does something they're not supposed to do. It is almost futile to some degree, but we make the best attempt that we can. We can bring back recommendations on all these things for discussion.

Mayor Wilcox recommended signs at access locations saying no dogs on the boardwalk.

Council Member Shuttleworth said he would like to hear from the public. Council agreed.

Police Chief Spivey said Myrtle Beach dog hours are before 9:00 am and after 5:00 pm, on leash or electronic leash.

Council would like staff to bring it back before the season begins.

III. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Kimberlee Ward
Kimberlee Ward, Town Clerk

2-21-2017
Date Approved

