



CAROLINA BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES • APRIL 26, 2016

Council Chambers

Workshop

6:00 PM

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

1. CALL MEETING 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	Present	
Michael Cramer	Town Manager	Present	
Ed Parvin	Assistant Town Manager	Present	
Debbie Hall	Finance Director	Present	
Kim Ward	Town Clerk	Present	

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Northend Flood Mitigation

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

Michael Cramer said this item is more for public input and information for them.

Gil DuBois gave an overview on stormwater program for Canal and the northend of Carolina Beach to include maintenance and repairs. He feels they can get the north end done in 3 to 6 months and hopes to replace 6 valves instead of just 3.

Christine Higgins - Flooding on Canal and northend has been an issue for over 40 years. A group of homeowners have formed the Northend Nuisance Action Group and would like to work with the town to find some ways to reduce the frequency and severity of flooding. They would like the town to consider 3 requests. (1) Would like the town to make finding and implementing near and long term solutions a priority - allocating resources and budget, maintenance on an ongoing basis and look for long term solutions. (2) Want a clear maintenance plan to fix and maintain the drainage and schedule for that. (3) Would like to have a commitment from the town to work with the group to develop and implement a long term strategy and solutions to reduce or eliminate flooding in the harbor. Millions of dollars and homes are at risk. They would like to work with the town to find funding for research for solutions and give direction on how to implement them. Funding is available.

Council Member Shuttleworth spoke on the Rising Tides Summit he attended last year with regard to nuisance flooding. One recommendation was raising your house. Flooding is from the harbor and stormwater. He will be attending another summit, getting together several times a year and are looking at federal legislation. Sand renourishment does not use local dollars/tax dollars. Federal funding has gone away and will be tough to get funding for nuisance flooding. We have received FEMA money to elevate over 9 homes that have had repetitive loss.

Gil DuBois - The Operations Committee would be glad to have them attend their meetings and be involved. They are looking at ways and new technology for handling stormwater. Their next meeting is May 3rd at 10:00 am.

Stephanie Norris, 910 Canal Drive said her questions mostly focus on maintenance and would like to understand the priority/focus. She feels no other area of town floods as much or as routinely as their section. She asked about the flooding location at the northend.

Gil DuBois - There is a section on Canal and one section on Virginia that probably floods more than anywhere else. The sub-base of Canal continues to decrease. Some places had asphalt added during utility work. That is part of the concept we are working with right now to get implemented. We have started the cleaning process several days a week and by July 1st there will be a full crew working every day on stormwater work. First priority will be Canal Drive which has already begun at the 900 block. Catch basins with sumps in the bottom were made to help prevent sand buildup from blocking the pipes. He has increased personnel and is requesting more who will be focused totally on stormwater.

Stephanie Norris reviewed a flooding timeline, her communication with the town and 7 months later, the catch basin is still clogged and has experienced more flooding in the last three weeks.

Gil DuBois promised she will see some improvement. He explained problems/events that have caused delays. They are trying to set up a cleaning schedule to be done on a quarterly basis.

Stephanie Norris asked about the bulkheads at the stub ends, breaching.

Council Member Shuttleworth suggested taking an inventory of what is out there, what the elevations are, and come up with a plan on what it would take. Florida and Georgia get a tremendous amount of flooding that we don't see on Canal.

Stephanie Norris suggested creating a bigger detention basin at Sandpiper and Canal to remove some of the water on Canal; using some street ends to create a detention area; dredging Canal. They will be meeting with Spencer Rogers with SeaGrant as well.

Julie Memory, 913 Canal Drive said her problem is not the runoff but the backflow from the drain in the middle of her driveway.

Mayor Wilcox asked that the group get their thoughts together as a group and bring it back because they have a lot of other things to do tonight. He reminded everyone of the construction and cement slabs that have taken place over the last 20 years and eliminated a lot of filtration area.

Jerry Kennedy - The Town of Carolina Beach has worked diligently for the last 50 years to try to accommodate us and I appreciate it. She recommended that the committee put an application in the paper and come up with some suggestions. We can do something to better the problem.

Harry Petunius, 913 Canal Drive said on several occasions they have had to park 2-3 blocks away and wade through the water. What is in that water? Is there sanitation in there? Bacteria content? It is taken into the house. Another big issue is cars

speeding through the water creating a wake into the garage or over cars. Would like to see the police department do a better job of closing the road and keeping people off of the street. People move the sawhorses.

Joe Coen is here to support the town's spending plan. He asked why we can't put a pipe down the middle of Canal in addition to a bulkhead or a wall with a flat bottom that can be cleaned out when it fills up with sand. Question is, where do you put the water? There are wetlands around the lake. Can that be dug out to make the lake bigger? There are pipes going from the lake to the harbor at the base of Canal. Canal is the number one priority but asked the town to take a look at Fayetteville. The drains at Squigley's near the telephone pole, at Lake Park and Fayetteville and the drain behind the fence in the parking lot of the condo backup very quickly.

Harry Petunius asked what do we do if there is 3 feet of standing water in the street and there is a medical emergency on our block of Canal?

Mayor Wilcox - We have had emergencies before and they have managed the situation. It is not a good situation and we know it exists. We need to engage some engineering and look for an overall plan and put the maintenance schedules together.

Harry Petunius asked are the duckbills working.

Gil DuBois - They work but require a lot of maintenance. We are looking at other types of valves.

The resident of 923 Canal Drive asked about the street sweeper, she doesn't see sand or silt going into the truck. It's still there.

Gil DuBois asked her to wait a couple of weeks and see if that hasn't changed. If not, call him.

A gentlemen from the audience asked if there is someone in the town who has been assigned responsibility for predicting when these floods are going to occur and doing the things that need to be done?

Mayor Wilcox - It is coordinated between the town manager, operations director and the police department.

The speaker feels a better job could be done of knowing when events are coming and we need the permanent barriers to stop traffic on Canal. People who live there know to park elsewhere and walk to their homes.

Mayor Wilcox reiterated the need for help on creating an overall plan and resources for funding.

b. Utility Project Funding Discussion

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

Michael Cramer gave a presentation on utility project funding and the revenue bond projects for 2015/2016.

Council would like to see projected operating results for 10 years.

Michael Cramer - We will be bringing a resolution for the final bond and final rate adjustments on May 10th. We will have additional bid information in the next two

weeks and will know specific dollars for projects that will reduce any projects that we have and were completed and take out those contingencies we used to have and make the adjustments for what we're expecting to be interest rate changes. We are at \$32M for the refinancing and new debt, and that looks like 11.5% each year for the first 3 years and 5% after that. That trend would continue on after this point. Total of 60% increase over 5 years. If council approves the bond order on May 10th you will be requested to approve a resolution to change the rates for the next fiscal year by the 11.5%. By that same date we will have 70% of the projects bid and will have a definitive answer on how much we are asking. The LGC will meet in June to approve or deny the permit application for financing. If approved, the bonds are then sold, hopefully by the end of June.

c. Consider Resolutions in Support of AIA Water & Sewer Inventory Grant Applications

(Requested by Jerry Haire, Grant Administration)

Jerry Haire said there are funds available from Division of Water Infrastructure for Asset and Inventory Grants. Applications are due Friday. Funds would be used to hire a consultant to work with the town and Cityworks staff for water and sewer system asset inventory condition analysis and preventative maintenance program. Two grant applications, one each for water and sewer, max grant of \$150,000 with a 20% match which would total \$360,000.

Michael Cramer - These resources would go towards developing information for future projects such as Canal Drive and other parts of town where we would need that same critical information about our system and what is out there.

Council Member Doetsch made a motion to approve Resolutions No. 16-2125 and 16-2126 for AIA Water and Sewer Inventory grant applications. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Text Amendment – Amend the Town Code to Implement a Business Registration process. Applicant: Town of Carolina Beach

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

Abby Lorenzo reviewed the text amendment to the town code to implement a business registration project, it's process and cost. The purpose is to create a database of active businesses open to the general public in Carolina Beach and to utilize that contact information for annual and bi-annual health and safety inspections. Proposed annual registration fee for existing businesses would be \$10; new businesses a first time fee of \$20 and annual registration fee of \$10.

Council agreed to have it brought forward in the consent agenda for the June 14th council meeting.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wilcox made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Kimberlee Ward
Kimberlee Ward, Town Clerk

5.10.2016
Date Approved