



**MINUTES
TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH
Special Called Meeting/Workshop
February 21, 2007
2:00 pm**

Members Present

Ron Klein, Mayor
Carl Bazemore
Len Steiner
Ron Watts
Lou DeVita
Bob Bobinski

Linda Fluegel, Town Administrator
Kim Cochran, Town Clerk

Council set the initial budget workshop for April 23rd at 9:00 am and another for May 4th at 9: am.

This meeting was called to discuss common future goals and projects in preparation for the new fiscal year budget.

Several topics were discussed in depth.

The proposed relocation of the ABC store was briefly discussed. Council felt a new store located in the high growth 904/Old Georgetown Rd. area would capture additional town revenues.

A. Bike and Walkway Paths

- i. Lights on Bridge or Causeway**
- ii. Planning Board.**

B. Bird Trail

- i. Island**
- ii. Twin Lakes**
 - a. Ownership**
- iii. Literature**

Bazemore inquired on making 40th st. access handicapped accessible but the consensus was the dunes were too steep and would cause disturbance. He asked about the lights on the bridge. Fluegel said BEMC was looking at a figure for maintaining these lights monthly and alerted them that it would be significant. There was discussion of whether the lighting was really needed.

Bird Trails were discussed and Council mentioned purchasing/upkeep of the lakes. The overriding issue was lack of parking. Council instructed Fluegel to call the owner to ask if he was willing to donate or sell the right of ways around the lakes to be used for parking. DeVita suggested a kiosk with pamphlets at the gazebo. Fluegel pointed out there wasn't much he (DeVita) could do unless the sign ordinance was changed as pamphlets and signage of that type were not allowed. Watts offered to pay for these— Council asked DeVita to research finding a company to do this work.

Watts inquired if they didn't put lights on the bridge could the money be redirected later for another project. Fluegel agreed it could.

C. Boat Access

- i. Contact Fish and Wildlife**

Council expressed the need for a new boat ramp and instructed Fluegel to contact Fisheries and Wildlife and ask them to come to Sunset and help pick a spot for a new boat ramp.

D. Community Ties

- i. Designate event**
- ii. Group of 5-10 to generate ideas**

Council approved the concept of a common cause to tie the community together. They recognized the need for a designated event and felt there should be nucleus of volunteers to hold an annual event of some sort. Fluegel stated she had sent the Resolution to D.O.T. asking for the old ramp at the bridge after the new one is built which could eventually be the place for future events.

There was discussion of the empty lot at the bridge. The original size had been reduced because D.O.T. had taken a portion and it was now 1.10 acres. The owner had offered it to the Town and Council agreed to proceed with trying to purchase the lot.

The idea was mentioned of assigning a public group to help notify the public during storms but Council concluded instead of helping it would impede the police dept.'s efforts to do same.

E. Trash Cans

F. Dog Leash Laws

G. Recycling

The new tax valuations were broached by Watts and what impact it would have on the budget. Reactions varied. Watts and Bazemore felt it was not unreasonable to use part of the increase to push back cans since island owners paid a large amount of accommodation tax. DeVita, Steiner and Bobinski disagreed and stated the majority of the tax is already currently used for the island which included the Chamber of Commerce, the Tourism and Development Authority and other additional services for the island such as extra garbage pickup, code enforcement, extra police in the summer and walkways. They felt it was the owner's responsibility to take care of their own cans the way other property owners did. Council agreed they could not commit to a tax rate until the budget was prepared and no conclusion was reached.

Leash laws and recycling were broadly discussed with no changes.

H. Bird Island Annexation

There was discussion of annexing Bird Island. Council believed the town should contact South Carolina concerning the SC/NC state line dividing Bird Island and find out what kind of help we could receive from police if it was needed. Council instructed Fluegel to look into annexation.

Height ordinance was discussed. There was concern among several Councilmen of there being no height restriction in MR-1 and MR-2, and they wished to do away with the "two up for one back" ordinance. There was differing opinions and other council felt it was unnecessary as MR-1 was on Shoreline and those lots were deep and away from the road. A larger home would not be noticeable and there was only so far you could go back to raise the height. There was discussion of capping the height as a precaution.

Council agreed to contribute to the gala Sea Trail was hosting for the tourism board. The consensus was it would serve Sunset Beach well to be represented.

I. Water Runoff problems or solutions

There was discussion of stormwater outlets on the island .Fluegel informed Council that the Planning Board is already addressing that issue in the Land Use Plan.

There was no further discussion. Council adjourned at 5:10 pm.

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH

Attest:

Kim Cochran, Town Clerk