



**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH**  
**Special Called Meeting with Dept. of Transportation**  
**Official**  
September 7, 2006 p.m.  
2:00 pm

**Members Present**

Mayor Ronald Klein  
Councilman Len Steiner  
Councilman Ronald Watts  
Councilman Louis DeVita

**Guest**

Alan Pope, Dept. of Transportation

Linda Fluegel, Town Administrator  
Mike Isenberg, Town Attorney  
Kimberly Cochran, Town Clerk

**Absent**

Councilman Bob Bobinski  
Councilman Carl Bazemore

Alan Pope, with the Department of Transportation, brought with him the draft of the TIP. They are maintaining the April schedule for the bridge. Pope stated the bridge cost more than it would have if they had been allowed to build it years ago. The cost has gone from 8 million to 18 million with an additional 6.4 million in right of way cost. The branch of DOT that acquires right-of-ways still has 3 to 4 more parcels to complete before this is all settled. They are still adhering to the following dates:

February 2007 – Advertise for bids  
April 2007 – Open bids and award bids.  
May to June 2007 – Beginning of construction.

It will take approximately 2 years to complete the proposed bridge. The design has not changed and it includes 5 ft. of paved shoulder to accommodate pedestrians and bikes. It is also being designed to accommodate street lighting if the town wished to install later.

Councilman DeVita and Steiner arrived late.

Watts inquired if the DOT would make an allowance for seasonal traffic. Pope replied yes, they do allow lane closures and detoured traffic, but to keep in mind the more they do this, the longer the bridge completion would be delayed. He also asked if there would be widening of the causeway to which Pope replied that yes, there would be widening on the island side landing area for storm water retention ponds and for a temporary tie-in to the detour point.

Various topics discussed were bridge lighting, roads, and the speed limit on Main St. which Pope stated that at 35 mph was the lowest they would go and that was only if conditions called for it.

Also discussed was the portion of the bridge attached to the mainland which some of the Council thought would be nice to keep for a public area. Boat ramps could be negotiated with the NC Wildlife and Marine Fisheries Dept. at a later date. The Dept of Transportation would not entertain a name for the bridge until within 2-3 months of completion. Steiner inquired if the DOT would be interested in turning over to the Town the right-of-way from the causeway marshlands down Sunset Blvd. to Main Street. Pope replied they would always be willing to talk.

Council thanked Mr. Pope for coming to Sunset Beach for the informational meeting. Meeting adjourned.

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Kim Cochran, Town Clerk

