

**Town of Sunset Beach
Monthly Council
Work Session & Regular Meeting
May 5, 2014**

MINUTES

Members Present: Mayor Ron Watts, Mayor Pro-Tem Lou DeVita, Councilman Terry Johnson, Councilwoman Carol Scott, Councilman Wilson Sherrill, and Councilman Mike Williams

Members absent: None

Attorney & Staff Present: Susan Parker, Town Administrator; Mike Isenberg, Town Attorney; Donna Rogers, Finance Director; Cindi Stephenson, Deputy Finance Director; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Kevin Dempsey, Fire Chief; Lisa Massey, Police Chief; Sandy Wood, Building Inspections Department Director, and Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk

**Work Session
6:45 pm**

Mayor Watts called the Work Session to order, called for agenda amendments, and general discussions by the Council.

Agenda Amendments

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO ADD A CLOSED SESSION TO THE AGENDA PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3). COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO ADD A CHAPTER 95 SHADING DEVICE DISCUSSION TO THE AGENDA. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Council Discussion

GSATS - Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that Committee Members have submitted the required code of ethics paperwork but haven't heard if paperwork was acceptable as of yet.

Riverside Drive Subdivision - Sandy Wood explained that the fill dirt removed from the park became the property of the park contractor when excavated. The Riverside Drive Developer has now received all required permits and is in compliance.

Congressman McIntyre Luncheon- Mayor Watts, Councilwoman Scott and Councilman Johnson attended a luncheon for retiring Congressman McIntyre. Mayor Watts advised that the Town sponsored a turtle nest in honor of Congressman McIntyre and presented him with Town related artwork.

Council Discussion (Cont.)

Chapter 95 Discussion with Business Owners - Mayor Watts advised that a meeting was held with business owners to discuss Chapter 95.

Lunch with the Ocean Isle Beach Governing Body and Town Administrator - Mayor Watts advised that the Sunset Beach and Ocean Isle Beach Governing Bodies along with the respective Town Administrators met for lunch on April 15th for a roundtable discussion. Mayor Watts advised that the Town Administrators are brainstorming on ways the Towns can share resources and projects in order to possibly reduce associated cost for both towns.

Seismic Testing Forum - Mayor Watts advised that the Area Mayors have scheduled a Seismic Testing Forum for May 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Shallotte Town Hall Council Chambers.

Roundabout - Mayor Watts advised that the Roundabout is now in use and requested all motorists to exercise extreme caution when entering and exiting.

Community Meeting - Mayor Watts reminded the audience that the Community Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14th at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

**Monthly Meeting
7:00 pm**

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Watts called the monthly meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consideration of Draft Agenda Adoption

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Public Comments

Richard Hilderman 407 37th Street – Requested permission to install educational signs concerning the nesting birds on the east end of the island on the t-poles that hold the trash cans.

Richard Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Lane – Requested a copy of Councilman Johnson’s Jaguar’s Lair proposal.

Alan Lewis 421 Randall Street – Requested Council to consider amending UDO Article 6 to express that a qualified engineer must prepare the storm water system plans when builders are going over the 30% rule for impervious surface.

Minutes

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2014 WORK SESSION MINUTES, THE APRIL 7, 2014 MEETING MINUTES AND THE APRIL 15, 2014 WORK SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Town Administrator Report

Sandy Wood – Certification – Susan Parker announced that Sandy Wood has graduated from the Municipal Administration Course from the School of Government which included over 150 hours of instruction.

PEG Channel

Susan Parker advised that the Town Channel will be live by May 24th and encouraged non-profit organizations to complete the necessary paperwork to have their organizations and events advertised.

2014/2015 Proposed Budget

Susan Parker presented the Council with the 2014/2015 Proposed Budget and highlighted the budget message. Mayor Watts announced the first Budget Work Session will be Wednesday, May 7th.

Departmental Reports

Police - Chief Massey announced that the Memorial Day Ceremony is scheduled for May 26th at 9:30 am in the Town Park. Boy Scout Troop 201 will present the wreath, Linda Ladrack will sing the National Anthem, and Steven Baker and Ben Simmons will play taps. Congressman Mike McIntyre will be the guest speaker.

Public Works - Dustin Graham advised that the gazebo roof is finished; the roundabout construction is on target for completion by June 21st and the no parking signs with arrows are being installed on the west side of Sunset Boulevard South.

Building Inspections - Sandy Wood advised that the number of remodeling and additions permits issued has increased in the past month. Wood advised that the Park construction is progressing with trail work. Wood has met with the State Grant Auditor to review the progress and the Town is applying for the first draw from the PARTF grant funds this week. Wood advised that the Streetscape project approval from the State has been delayed because the State is requiring three (3) items to be redone or repaired. The contractor is planting the annuals today.

Fire Department - Chief Dempsey advised that the call volume is increasing and his Staff is preparing for the season.

Finance Department - Donna Rogers reviewed the Budget at a Glance ending March 31st with the Council.

Old Business

Consideration of Acceptance of the Planning Board UDO Amendment Information Including Section 10.05 Individual Single Family Residential Landscape of Lots Less Than One Acre and the Transient Definition Recommendations

Carol Santavicca, Planning Board Chairwoman, reminded the Council that Section 10.05 is the exact verbiage that was in the old zoning code and is being recommended because of its omission from the UDO; however during the re-review requested by Council the Planning Board has incorporated some values for sod and irrigations systems to help ease the difficulties experienced by island lot owners when attempting to meet the requirements.

Old Business (Cont.)

Consideration of Acceptance of the Planning Board UDO Amendment Information Including Section 10.05 Individual Single Family Residential Landscape of Lots Less Than One Acre and the Transient Definition Recommendations (Cont.)

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD UDO AMENDMENT RECOMMENDATIONS. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA, COUNCILMAN JOHNSON, COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Consideration of Scheduling Public Hearings for June 2, 2014 at 7:00 pm for the following: UDO Amendments and Rezoning the following Municipal Properties: Fire Station #2 – 7149 Old Georgetown Road; Town Park - 206 Sunset Boulevard North; Town Boat Ramp – 101 Sunset Boulevard North

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 2, 2014 AT 7:00 PM TO HEAR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED UDO AMENDMENTS AND THE REZONING OF MUNICIPAL OWNED PROPERTIES OF FIRE STATION #2, TOWN PARK AND TOWN BOAT RAMP. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA, COUNCILMAN JOHNSON, COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Chapter 95 – Shading Devices Ordinance Discussion

Councilman Johnson advised that the manufacturer recommendation of how to erect cabanas is not what the Council adopted and requested the Council to reconsider allowing the cabanas be installed as manufacturer instructs. The Council briefly discussed the tie down methods, the current ordinance and what changes would need to be made to the signs if the ordinance was amended. Council requested Susan Parker to investigate and report findings during the May 21, 2014 Work Session.

New Business

Sunset Beach Merchants Association Donation Request

Dave Nelson, Merchants Association Representative, requested the Council consider the Merchants Association Donation Request for the 2014/2015 proposed budget. Nelson advised that the Merchants Association is launching a new Association website soon that will include links to all member businesses. The Association has placed marketing ads in various publications and online, and has developed a map pamphlet of Sunset Beach and the businesses that can be distributed by the merchants.

Authorization to Lease Property for Beach Patrol Trailer

The Council reviewed the lease agreement between Sunset Beach & Twin Lakes, Inc. and the Town to allow for parking of the Beach Patrol 4-wheeler Trailer in exchange for keeping Lots 15 & 16 bush-hogged and mowed during the lease term.

New Business (Cont.)

Authorization to Lease Property for Beach Patrol Trailer (Cont.)

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Request to Place a Town Approved Bird Nesting Sign at the 1818 East Main Street Walkway

The Council discussed the request to place a Town approved Bird Nesting Sign on the east end of the island. With no objections heard from Council, Mayor Watts requested Staff to work with the birding group to implement the request.

Public Comments

Richard Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Lane – Spoke in opposition to the proposed budget and the possible tax rate increase.

Jean Hutchinson 436 6th – Advised the Council that the Old Bridge Preservation Society will be opening the Tender House as a museum on Saturday, May 24th.

John Corbett 423 Sailfish Street – Requested the Council to critically examine the proposed budget during the budget session.

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Thanked the Fire Department Staff for the tours and public relations they do with visitors that come to the fire department.

Ed Gore 435 Shoreline Drive West – Advised Council of the importance to maintain nature and the wildlife.

Karen Dombrowski 719 Fairway Drive – reminded Council of the natural environment and cautioned against sod and irrigation which encourages fertilization.

Closed Session

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY REGARDING JAGUARS LAIR. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO RECONVENE THE MAY 5, 2014 REGULAR MEETING. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Adjournment

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MAY 5, 2014 COUNCIL MEETING. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Town of Sunset Beach

Ron Watts, Mayor

Submitted by:

Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk

*The May 5, 2014 minutes were approved by Council during the June 30, 2014 Council meeting.