

**Town of Sunset Beach
Monthly Council
Work Session & Regular Meeting
February 3, 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; Joann Thomasen, Administrative Assistant; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Richard Childres, Assistant 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

The Following items were added to the Agenda:

- 50th Anniversary Committee
- MS Breakaway to the Beach Event Update
- Applicant Questions for Board of Adjustment
- Approval of the Draft Agenda

Council Discussion

Beautification Committee Update

Mayor Watts advised that the Beautification Committee has submitted its yearly report and recommendations to the Council.

Birdwalk Plaques

The Council reached a consensus to add a discussion to the March Work Session concerning placing plaques for Ed Gore and Carl Bazemore on the Birdwalk.

Community Meeting

Mayor Watts advised that the Community Meeting was held on January 15th at Sea Trail and approximately 50 residents attended.

Recent Ice Storm

Mayor Watts thanked the Staff for their service during the recent Ice Storm.

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.

Police Officer Ed Rudloff Recognition

Chief Massey presented retiring Police Officer Ed Rudloff with a plaque and his service revolver. Rudloff was a member of the Sunset Beach Police Department from 1986 until January, 2014.

MS Breakaway to the Beach Event Update

The bicycle event is scheduled for October 18th and 19th and will begin and end at Sea Trail. 200 + cyclists have already signed up for the event. The organizers thanked the Town for the past support of the event.

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

Rich Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Lane – Read a prepared statement concerning the Town’s financial condition.

January 6, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes and January 21, 2014 Work Session Minutes

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 6, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND THE JANUARY 21, 2014 WORK SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Town Administrator Report

Susan Parker thanked the Staff for their dedication and service during the recent ice storm. Parker reminded the Council that she would be attending a conference for the remainder of the week. Parker reviewed the prepared Budget-At-A-Glance Monthly Financial Report with the Council.

Departmental Reports

Police

Detective Joe Smith advised that several break-ins have occurred on the island and encouraged homeowners to record the serial numbers of their belongings to aid police in the recovery of the property if stolen.

Departmental Reports (Cont.)

Public Works

Dustin Graham advised that the Gazebo remains under construction due to delays caused by the recent bad weather. Graham advised that the bathroom unit is being moved back to the Gazebo area soon.

Building Inspections

Concerning the Roundabout, Sandy Wood advised that NCDOT postponed the bid opening to February 6, 2014. Concerning the Jinx Creek Dredging project, Wood advised that CAMA has inspected and approved the spoil island; that dredging will begin soon and is expected to take four weeks. Concerning flood insurance, Wood advised that the Building Inspections Department has received numerous calls related to the pending flood insurance rate increase.

Fire

Kevin Dempsey advised that call volume has increased due to heating/air conditioning units and reminded everyone to have their units serviced regularly. Dempsey advised that the ice storm also increased the call volume.

Finance

Donna Rogers deferred reporting to the Auditor.

Old Business

2012/2013 Auditor Report

Wade Greene, Auditor, reviewed and presented a power point presentation of the 2012/2013 audit with the Council and those in attendance. The 2012/2013 Audit Report has been accepted by the Local Government Commission (LGC).

Jaguars Lair Update

Councilman Sherrill advised that the curbing/guttering has been completed. Work is being completed on Mayfaire Street now.

Town Park Update

Jeff Thompson, Withers and Ravenel Representative, addressed the Council concerning the misunderstanding of the additional trees that need to be removed from the parking area site within the Park. Modifications have been made to the parking area but seven (7) cedar trees still need to be removed. Thompson advised that the trails are also being modified to move further away from the base of the trees and the water. The Council questioned the cost of the changes and Thompson advised that the costs are unknown at this point but stated that the total project cost would not increase. Staff was instructed to proceed with the removal of the seven (7) trees.

50th Anniversary Committee

Herb Tinger, Committee Member, advised that several Committee members met with David McCune, local artist, concerning a sculpture to be placed on top of the time capsule pedestal. The Council reviewed a proposed drawing which is a one sided metal fabrication of the Town logo. The Council expressed a desire for the sculpture to be two-sided. The expected cost is \$4,000 - \$5,000 for a two-sided sculpture. The Committee has approximately \$2,600 remaining from the

Old Business (Cont.)

50th Anniversary Committee (Cont.)

original budget and sponsorship, and expects additional proceeds from the Island Market for t-shirt and decal sales.

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SCULPTURE AND FOR IT TO BE TWO-SIDED. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA, COUNCILMAN SHERRILL, COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

New Business

Public Access Channel Information

Susan Parker advised that ATMC is able to provide the Town with a public access channel. The channel will air pre-recorded Council Meetings and other public informational items such as Meeting Notices, Community Bulletin Board, Special Event Programming and Emergency Information crawlers. This would require someone to film and edit the recordings. There may be a possibility to display the meeting in the conference room as it takes place. The estimated start-up costs are estimated at \$4,365. Filming and editing costs per meeting is estimated to be between \$120 and \$200.

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION FOR THE TOWN TO PROCEED TO ACQUIRE THE PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL AND TO DIRECT STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Sunset at Sunset Committee Appointments

Councilman Williams advised that the Sunset at Sunset Committee is requesting the Council to appoint Jean Hutchinson and Karen Joseph to the Sunset at Sunset Committee.

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT JEAN HUTCHINSON AND KAREN JOSEPH TO THE SUNSET AT SUNSET COMMITTEE. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA, COUNCILMAN SHERRILL, COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Applicant Questions for Board of Adjustment

Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita requested the Council to review the proposed questions emailed earlier and to send any final amendments so the questions can be mailed to the applicants.

Public Comments

Rich Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Lane – Commented on the Auditor’s Report and the presentation given.

Public Comments (Cont.)

Charlie Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Requested the lights in the Council Chambers be repaired and advised that the Auditor’s Report was well received.

Ed Gore 435 Shoreline Drive West – Complimented Council for their actions and encouraged the Council to use the public access channel for safety educational information.

Closed Session

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL 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 FEBRUARY 3, 2014 REGULAR MEETING. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AS PROPOSED BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO REMOVE CONFLICTS AND FURTHER ALIGN THE POLICY WITH THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT PENDING ATTORNEY REVIEW OF THE AMENDMENTS. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Adjournment

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 3, 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

Ronald Watts, Mayor

Submitted by:

Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk