

**Town of Sunset Beach
Monthly Council Work Session
March 18, 2014
9:00 am**

MINUTES

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

Members absent: Mayor Ron Watts

Attorney & Staff Present: Sandy Wood, Building Inspections Department Director; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Kevin Dempsey, Fire Chief; Richard Childres, Assistant Fire Chief; Donna Rogers, Finance Director; Cindi Stephenson, Deputy Finance Director; Lisa Massey, Police Chief, and Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk.

Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita called the Work Session to order and advised that Mayor Ron Watts and Town Administrator Susan Parker were attending the NC Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association Annual Meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that the Seismic Testing and Oil Drilling Resolution samples in your packets are for information only. Council will discuss further during the April 15th Work Session. Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita requested to add Board of Adjustment Applications/Interviews discussion to the agenda. Councilman Sherrill requested to add permission for the Summer Concert Series to use the advertisement panels on the solar trash cans to advertise the concert schedule to the agenda. The Council agreed and both items were added. Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that Susan Parker, Town Administrator requested that the Review of the 2014 Road Resurfacing Bid Proposal be removed from the agenda.

Presentation by Richard Hilderman - Recapping the February CRC's Science Panel Discussions and showing photos of the area at spring high tide levels

Richard Hilderman reviewed a power point presentation with Council containing information from the February CRC's Science Panel discussion, showed photos of the water levels surrounding the Mad Inlet area and provided his professional opinion that Mad Inlet would be a hazardous area for development if the inlet reopened and concluded that development would have a negative impact on the surrounding marshland.

Public Comments

Sammy Varnam, Developer – Offered Council a rebuttal to the information provided by Mr. Hilderman, showed photos of the Mad Inlet area from 25 years ago and advised that the land mass surrounding the Mad Inlet area has grown at a rapid pace over the last 25 years.

Rich Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Circle – Questioned why the Council is not pursuing the individual that submitted falsified documentation to the CRC in 2004 stating that the Town requested the inlet hazard designation be removed from Mad Inlet.

Public Comments (Cont.)

Carol Santavicca 9109 Forest Drive – Advised that in the Town’s old zoning code and the newly adopted UDO the CR-1 District was written with conservation in mind for the environmentally sensitive areas while still allowing for development.

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Questioned if the CRC decision to remove the Mad Inlet hazard designation was the final decision.

Katie Hovermale 1419 Bay Street – Agreed that the Mad Inlet area was fragile and requested a hold be put on development until a study could be done.

Ed Gore 435 Shoreline Drive West – Requested the Council to seek the truth and facts concerning the Mad Inlet area.

Discussion Concerning Birdwalk Plaques for Ed Gore and Carl Bazemore

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE INSTALLING PLAQUES ON THE BIRDWALK BENCHES IN HONOR OF FORMER COUNCILMAN ED GORE FOR DONATING THE LAND AND FORMER COUNCILMAN CARL BAZEMORE FOR INITIATING THE BIRDWALK PROJECT. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Consideration of Adoption of Chapter 95 Beach Strand, Waterway, Channel and Canal Regulations

The Council reviewed the amendments made during the March 3, 2014 Meeting and corrected a few grammatical errors.

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT CHAPTER 95 AS REVISED AND TO REPEAL THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

- 71.08 Driving or Riding on Sand Dunes Prohibited
- 71.09 Beach Strand Closed to Vehicular Traffic and Ridden Animals
- 92.40 (B) Open Burning on the Beach Strand
- 96.31 Sea Turtle Sanctuary
- 96.32 Pets on Beach Strand
- 130.06 Certain Activities Prohibited in Ocean, Canals and Waterway
- 130.08 Obstruction of Canals, Establishment of Navigational Channel for Feeder Canal; Construction of Piers
- 130.09 Holes on Beach Strand
- 130.10 Glass Containers Prohibited on Beach Strand
- 130.11 Regulating and Controlling Debris and other Materials resulting from Boating Accidents
- 130.15 Shading Devices and Sporting Equipment on Beach Strand
- 130.99(B)(C)(D) Penalty

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Consideration of Beach Patrol Proposal and Purchase of Fire Department Beach Equipment

Council reviewed the proposal from Fire Chief Dempsey to add Beach Patrol as an operation of the fire department, to hire an EMT to supervise the operation, patrol the beach, and to purchase emergency equipment to be utilized by emergency responders while on the strand and in the water. The majority of the Council agreed not to make operational changes or purchase equipment for the upcoming season. The Council agreed to reconsider during the 2014/2015 and/or 2015/2016 budget cycles if necessary.

Consideration of Tent Regulations on Beach Signs

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TENT AND CABANA REGULATIONS LANGUAGE TO BE PLACED ON THE 5 TEST BEACH SIGNS. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Permission for Summer Concert Series to Utilize panels on Solar Trash Cans for advertising Concert Schedule

The Council discussed allowing the Summer Concert Series Committee to utilize the panels on the solar trash cans for advertising the concert schedule and reached a consensus to allow four to be used.

Board of Adjustments Applications/Interviews

Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that nine (9) applications were received, one applicant withdrew and two (2) applications didn't answer the follow-up Council questions. Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that the interviews will be conducted within the next two (2) weeks and information will be provided to each Council member before the April 7, 2014 meeting.

Public Comments

Katie Hovermale 1419 Bay Street – Questioned the fragility of the island and the effects that terminal groins will have on Sunset Beach if installed by our neighboring communities.

Councilwoman Scott reminded the Council and those in attendance of the 50th Anniversary Time Capsule Ceremony scheduled for March 26, 2014 at 4:00 pm in Council Chambers.

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 18, 2014 WORK SESSION. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH

Lou De Vita, Mayor Pro-Tem

Submitted by:

Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk

*The March 18, 2014 Council Work Session minutes were approved by the Council during the May 5, 2014 Council Meeting.