

**Town of Sunset Beach  
Monthly Council Work Session  
October 20, 2015**

**MINUTES**

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

**Members absent:** None

**Attorney & Staff Present:** Susan Parker, Town Administrator; Rawls Howard, Planning Director; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Kevin Dempsey, Fire Chief; Lisa Joyner, Police Chief; Bonnie Schwerd, Finance Officer and Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk.

Mayor Watts called the Work Session to order.

**Draft Agenda Amendments**

Susan Parker, Town Administrator, advised that a Closed Session was not needed and could be removed from the agenda. Councilman Williams requested to add a Sunset at Sunset Update to the agenda.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON 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**

None Heard

**Consideration of Authorization for Clerk to Advertise Fireman's Relief Fund Board Position with Term Expiration of January, 2016**

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO AUTORIZE THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE THE FIREMAN'S RELIEF FUND BOARD POSITION WITH A TERM EXPIRATION OF JANUARY 2016. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**Consideration of Appointment to the ABC Board with Term Expiration of October 2018**

Mayor Pro-Tem DeVita advised that three (3) candidates applied for the ABC Board, one of which didn't reside within Town limits. Both of the other candidates had extensive experience with an ABC Board and the general operations of an ABC Store. The Council requested Staff to obtain a legal opinion as to if residency could be required or preferred for appointment to the ABC Board. Mayor Watts requested that an Annual Planning Session topic be a discussion concerning term limits for the Town appointed Boards to encourage citizen participation.

**Consideration of Appointment to the ABC Board with Term Expiration of October 2018 (Cont.)**

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO RE-APPOINT DONALD KOSE TO THE ABC BOARD WITH A TERM EXPIRATION OF OCTOBER 2018. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**Consideration of Approval of Resolution Requesting Speed Limit Reduction on Hwy. 904 (Seaside Road) between Post Office and Old Georgetown Road**

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION REQUESTING NC DOT TO CONSIDER A SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION ON HWY. 904 (SEASIDE ROAD) BETWEEN THE US POST OFFICE AND OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**Consideration of Approval of Letter to Secretary Van der Vaart, Department of Environmental Quality Concerning Wind Turbines**

Mayor Watts advised that the proposed letter is a result of comments made during a recent NC Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting concerning the placement distance of wind turbines from the shoreline.

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED LETTER TO SECRETARY VAN DER VAAT, DENR CONCERNING WIND TURBINES. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Mayor Watts advised Council that the Village at Bald Head Island Council is requesting the Council to adopt a Resolution opposing the issuance of wind energy leases within 24 nautical miles of the coast. The Council agreed to add the Resolution to the November 2, 2015 agenda for consideration.

**Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance Amendment for Chapter 72 Parking Regulations Concerning Parking In Bike Lane**

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT CONCERNING PARKING IN THE BIKE LANE AS FOLLOWS:

- CHAPTER 70 SUBSECTION §70.01 DEFINITIONS – ADD BIKE PATH DEFINITION;
- CHAPTER 72 SUBSECTION §72.03 TO ADD (I); AND,
- CHAPTER 72 TO ADD SUBSECTION §72.12.

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

**Consideration of Approval to Construct Town Park Gazebo**

Susan Parker, Town Administrator, introduced Alan Lewis, East Coast Engineering & Surveying. Mr. Lewis reviewed the Town Park gazebo and bathroom final construction plans

### **Consideration of Approval to Construct Town Park Gazebo (Cont.)**

with the Council. Lewis advised that estimated cost of the gazebo is \$75,000 and \$90,000 for the bathroom. The construction plans include metal roofs for both in the specifications due to life expectancy of 40+ years. Shingle roofs are approximately \$20,000 less than the metal however the life expectancy is only 20 years. Lewis advised that Council could request bidders to provide an alternate bid for the shingles. Lewis advised the project would take 3 – 4 month to complete. Parker advised that the water and sewer hook ups will be an additional estimated \$20,000. Parker reminded Council that both the gazebo and bathroom facilities were included in the master plan submitted for the grant and that both are expected to be constructed. Staff was directed to obtain a legal opinion concerning the requirement to construct the gazebo and bathroom facilities.

### **Consideration of Approval of the Budget Amendment for Storm-Related Damage to Bulkhead at Town Park**

Parker advised that Grice Construction Company will be completing the emergency repair of the Town Park bulkhead damaged during the recent storm. The Town will be submitting all storm-related repair cost to FEMA for reimbursement consideration.

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE STORM-RELATED DAMAGE REPAIR TO THE BULKHEAD AT THE TOWN PARK. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

### **Marketing RFP Review**

Bonnie Schwerd, Finance Officer, distributed the three (3) Marketing RFP's received and requested directions from the Council. Mayor Watts suggested the Council review the RFP's and provide feedback to Bonnie by October 28, 2015. Schwerd will provide Council with a summary of Council comments during the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for Council consideration to award the Tourism Marketing Contract.

### **Revised Noise Ordinance Amendment Discussion**

The Council reviewed the current Noise Ordinance, and the proposed Noise Ordinance amendment derived in part from the Brunswick County Noise Ordinance. The Council discussed the need for the sound level meters and training to ensure that the police will be able to enforce the regulations when a violator will not adhere to a verbal warning. Staff was given directions and requested the Noise Ordinance amendment be placed on the November 2, 2015 agenda for consideration.

### **Sunset at Sunset Update**

Councilman Williams advised that the event was postponed from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to October 10<sup>th</sup> due to rain and ended early due to rain. The Council briefly discussed the editorial in the Brunswick Beacon concerning the Sunset at Sunset event and the negative comments being circulated.

### **Public Comments**

Walter Seidel 626 Millslough Lane – Advised Council of trees within the Town right-of-way that need to be removed. Advised that Dustin Graham, Public Works Director and Susan Parker, Town Administrator did have several trees removed and the others pruned; however, five (5)

**Public Comments (Cont.)**

trees remain that he believes are still hazardous to his home. Requested a second opinion be obtained. Graham will obtain a second opinion.

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Commented about negative comments being made about the Town.

**Adjournment**

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 20, 2015 COUNCIL WORK SESSION. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**Town of Sunset Beach**

*Ron Watts, Mayor*

Submitted by:

*Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk*

\*The October 20, 2015 Minutes were approved by the Town Council during the November 2, 2015.