

**Town of Sunset Beach  
Monthly Council Work Session  
December 11, 2014  
2:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

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

**Members absent:** None

**Attorney & Staff Present:** Susan Parker, Town Administrator; Bonnie Schwerd, Finance Director; Cindi Stephenson, Deputy Finance Director; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Lisa Joyner, Police Chief and Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk.

Mayor Watts called the Work Session to order.

**Draft Agenda Amendments**

COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DRAFT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**Public Comments**

Rich Cerrato 517 Twisted Oak Lane – Encouraged the Council to give more notice concerning agenda items to the public; suggested free parking passes for residents and property owners; requested park discussions to be held during regular meetings instead of work sessions; advised that Council should called the bonds for Jaguar’s Lair.

**Town Park Update**

Bonnie Schwerd, Finance Director, provided Council with cost for trek and wood materials to be considered for the boardwalks; trek \$152,500 and wood \$108,500 + \$10,000 engineering cost. Susan Parker introduced the contractors for the park project, Jason Rogers and Pleas Webster with Carolina Creations. Mr. Webster discussed the pros and cons with both trex and wood materials for the boardwalks and recommended wood which will conform better to the curves and the kick rail. Wood also has a comparable life span to trex with maintained properly with the wood being sealed annually and pressure washed as needed to keep the boardwalk free of debris. The application for the major CAMA permit has been submitted.

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CAROLINA CREATIONS TO USE WOOD FOR THE PARK BOARDWALKS. COUNCILMAN JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

### **Paid Parking Proposal**

Kerry Loomis, Lanier Parking Solutions, discussed a paid parking proposal with the Council. The paid parking areas, approximately 116 spaces include the gazebo area and Sunset Blvd. South. Main Street would remain free parking but with enforcement of the parking regulations. Loomis has negotiated a free trial offer for three (3) payment kiosk machines which are solar. The machines can accept cash, coins and credit cards but don't dispense change. The machines require internet connection for credit card transactions \$54 per month per unit. Parking would be enforced from March through October with staffing to cover 7 days per week, 8 hours per day. Office space within Town Hall would be needed for the public to obtain passes, pay their fine and for Staff to count and deposit the money. The proposal included offering residents and property owners 2 free parking passes for \$25 per season. Council requested Staff to develop a request for proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from other parking companies for comparison.

### **Annual Planning Session**

The Council reviewed the draft Annual Planning Session agenda as proposed and Staff was directed to proceed with the agenda topics as presented.

### **Public Comments**

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Advised this was a very productive Work Session; agreed with paid parking as long as residents and property owners get free parking; advised that the roundabout trees and decorations look great.

John Hobgood 423 Sunset Blvd. South – Advised Council that not everyone utilizing the parking areas is going to the beach but rather into the small businesses that line Sunset Blvd. South; requested Council consider allotting a few 15/30 minutes spaces; voiced that Council should enforce the 20' driveway widths to allow for more parking on Main Street.

Cliff Erickson 430 Sunset Blvd. South – Advised that the employees of the small businesses along Sunset Blvd. South use the public parking spaces also.

### **Closed Session – NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3)**

COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY 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.

MAYOR PRO-TEM DEVITA MADE A MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS 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 DECEMBER 11, 2014 WORK SESSION. COUNCILWOMAN SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR WATTS CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Susan Parker advised that Attorney Richardson gave legal advice to the Council concerning Jaguar's Lair and the Council gave instructions to the Attorney on how to proceed.

**Adjournment**

COUNCILMAN SHERRILL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE DECEMBER 11, 2014 COUNCIL WORK SESSION. 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 December 11, 2014 Work Session Minutes were approved by Council during the January 5, 2015 Meeting.