

MINUTES
TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH
Regular Called Meeting, Public Hearing & Work Session
August 4, 2008
6:45 p.m.

Members Present

Mayor Ron Klein
Mayor Pro Tem Len Steiner
Councilman Lou DeVita
Councilman Ron Watts
Councilman Bob Bobinski
Councilman Wilson Sherrill

Others Present

Mike Isenberg, Town Attorney
Gary Parker, Town Administrator
Kim Cochran, Town Clerk

6:45 PM Work Session

Parker reminded Council that the County required feedback on their choice of years to assess for sewer if they went the assessment route. They were of the consensus that it would be in assessment form, but they needed to know the timeframe. They also wanted to know what percentage of citizens the Council thought would pay in the first year. He asked them to add it as item “b” under Old Business. Parker also requested they place item “c” under Old Business to discuss the second fire station site.

Steiner asked if the generators were operational. Parker informed him they would be by tomorrow. Bobinski asked if they had heard anything on the Memorial monument for the park. DeVita said he had heard nothing.

Parker addressed the issue from last month a gentleman had about a tree growing through a mobile home. The Building Inspector had made contact with the owner and it was scheduled for demolition on August 11th.

Council asked how far along the bridge was and Larry Crim replied 10%.

DeVita informed other members that he went out frequently to the beach and after all the code enforcement had left for the day, there were people letting their dogs run the beach without the proper scoopers to clean up after them and others were climbing the dunes taking pictures, etc. He suggested that Code enforcement may want to work in various shifts to ticket these people. There should be zero tolerance for this type of behavior.

Bobinski thanked Carole Scott and wanted her recognized for her efforts working for Brunswick Family Assistance. She had done a great job collecting food and so far had collected 2000 lbs. of food and around \$1000 dollars.

Mayor Klein asked the building inspector if there was a problem with bike displays on the island...Curtis stated the police made the owner/owners move them out of the right of ways.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 pm

1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE.

Mayor Klein called the meeting to order and led the Council in the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVE OR AMEND AGENDA

Council added Item "b" and "c" under Old Business.

**3. MINUTES OF REGULAR CALLED MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
JUNE 30, 2008, EXECUTIVE MINUTES FROM JUNE 30, 2008 AND THE SPECIAL CALLED
MEETING/WORKSHOP FROM JULY 23, 2008**

Motion by Watts to adopt all three sets with no changes, Seconded by Bobinski. Motion Carried.

5. REPORTS:

a. Administrator –Parker reiterated the generators would be up and running tomorrow. He informed Council that the County would be doing a onetime outreach program for the new passport office. They would be here on Sept. 3rd, between 9am and 12pm. As soon as the date and site was confirmed, it would be posted on the web and out front on the board.

b. Police- See report attached. Chief Massey stated she thought this July 4th went much smoother. The rain helped too, but they had a lot fewer problems. Chief Massey then presented a plaque to Officer Sam Grantham for his 25 years of service to the Town.Council thanked him for his service.

c. Public Works- See Report attached

d. Building Inspections: See report attached.

c. Fire- see report attached.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

**a. Mutual Assistance Agreement Between Ocean Isle and
the Town of Sunset Beach**

Motion by Watts to adopt the Mutual Aid agreement, Seconded by Steiner. Motion Carried unanimously.

**b. Consideration of Awarding Debris Removal/Disaster Recovery
Assistance Contract**

Parker addressed the hurricane preparedness packet he had compiled for them. He had been contacting various companies that did debris removal and disposal and requested proposal for services. He felt this was extremely important if we were to get hit with a major hurricane in the future. They had requested proposals for service with an option for annual renewal.

There were three companies: Ashbritt Environmental of Pompano Beach, Fl.; D & J Enterprises of Auburn, AL; and Phillips and Jordan of Robbinsville, NC. After review of the proposals by Larry Crim, himself and Donna Rogers, Finance Director, they were recommending to Council the company of AshBritt Environmental. The contract was for standby services. It would only be activated by need after major damage.

Motion by Watts to award contract to AshBritt Environmental based on findings of best financial accounting system, best interaction with staff, better staff expertise and better staff monitoring. Seconded by Steiner, Motion carried unanimously.

**c. Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Certain Surplus
Town Property**

Motion by DeVita to Authorize Disposal of Surplus Property, Seconded by Sherrill, Motion carried unanimously.

d. Website Fees and Listings

Watts briefed Council on his meeting with DeVita and the Town Clerk about business listings being placed on the website. There would be a onetime fee of 25.00. Attached is an outline of requirements for business listings. Steiner added they may want to include medical services available in town.

Motion by Steiner to add businesses to the town website with fees, Seconded by Sherrill. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Reschedule September Meeting due to Labor Day

Motion by Steiner to move September's regular meeting from the 1st to the 8th. Seconded by Watts, Motion carried unanimously.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Appointment to Firemen's Relief Fund Board

Motion by Steiner to appoint Allen Rundall to the Firemen's Relief Board, Seconded by Bobinski. Motion carried unanimously.

**b. Recommendation to County on Sewer Assessment
Payback Period (if Assessments are used)**

Mike Isenberg, Town Attorney stated he had spoken with Huey Marshall, the County Attorney to see if a period longer than 10 years could be instituted. There was new legislation to allow for this in certain circumstances, but unfortunately it did not apply to Sunset Beach.

There were also two statutes 160.153(a) and Chapter 162A to set up taxing districts and would give a longer period to pay. They will be discussing this with the Local Government Commission about it if it can be done and if so, how to recoup the 1.3 million already spent. Mr. Marshall would report back to Mr. Isenberg when he has more information. He did know, however, they could get a better rate by NOT doing bonds.

Motion by Steiner to request the County use the 10 year payback period for financing the assessment cost, and ask that they aggressively pursue other methods such as tax districts to finance the proposed sewer. Seconded by Bobinski, Motion carried unanimously.

Parker sated he had also pursued a community assistance program with HUD for hookup grants for those with moderate income status (it has to be just under 36,000). There was only so much money available for this, but those that met the threshold may be eligible. It would help with hookup fees, plumbing fees, disposal of tanks; etc. There was, however, a limit to the amount of money available. For instance, this year there is \$75,000 available, and for example, if 75 families applied they may only be eligible to receive \$1,000. It would depend on the number of people applying and on the amount of money the State has for the program.

c. Review Proposed Fire Substation #2 Site

Parker and Chief Barbee used a map for reference showing the fire district and where the proposed station would be of the most benefit, which was right before the #904 and Georgetown Road intersection (past the proposed assisted living development). This was based on a five year plan for the station. They felt this was an excellent location for one. There was discussion of being contained within the required five mile radius. Bobinski asked if Angel's Trace Road were fixed, wouldn't that place us within the five mile radius

required for the outer limits of Sandpiper Bay? Chief confirmed it would. After more discussion, Steiner suggested again that they speak with Mark Saunders and Sea Trail about repairing the road as it's now the shortest distance to Sandpiper and Wyndfall.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Carol Santavicca, Forest Dr., Chairperson for the Sunset at Sunset Steering Committee informed Council that they had the Marine Band and Brunswick Big Band for the event. It was a little difficult getting food vendors for one day so they were hoping to count on local vendors. She expected this to start possibly around 1:00 pm. She would keep them updated.

Charlie Nern, 647 Oyster Bay was going to speak about the boat ramp but Council informed him it had already been voted on and the decision to purchase had been made a couple of months ago.

Ed Gore, 435 Shoreline Dr W, asked Council to beware of delaying the sewer installation too long while deciding. The longer it was delayed the more it could potentially cost the citizens.

Bill Ehling, Shoreline Dr., stated he had spoken with Congressman McIntyre's office and said no one had mentioned grants. He (Ehling) was scheduled to speak with the Commissioners and they said no one had asked about grants.

Mr. Parker showed Mr. Ehling specifically the numerous agencies he had contacted pursuing grants. He would be happy to meet with Mr. Ehling and show him the responses. Parker stated there was not much out there and maybe Congressman McIntyre would find one.

Ray Thompson, Live Oak Dr. asked why there were so many grinder pumps. He didn't understand why the County couldn't use gravity pumps instead. Council stated that would be something the county would have to decide.

Norm Schott, 617 Sea Trail Dr, objected to the cost of the sewer. He stated that his cost back home was only \$3,500.00. He also complained about the lack of parking on the island and the lottery that the pier has. Council informed him that parking was always something they were looking at for the future but they needed to wait until sewer was put in.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO INSTRUCT STAFF CONCERNING THE POSITION TO BE TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL IN NEGOTIATING THE PRICE AND OTHER MATERIAL TERMS OF A PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY BELONGING TO OCEANSIDE CORP., ON HWY #904 AND A SHORT PERSONNEL EVALUATION.

Motion by Watts to go into Executive Session for the above stated purpose for the McLamb property on Hwy #904, and for personnel evaluation, Seconded by Steiner. Motion carried unanimously.

Council returned to open session.

Motion to return to regular session by Steiner, Seconded by Bobinski. Motion carried.

No action taken.

9. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Steiner, Seconded by Sherrill.

Adopted this 8th day of September 2008.

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH

Mayor Ron Klein

Kim Cochran, Town Clerk

