

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH
Special Called Meeting/Recycling Workshop

July 29, 2009
3:00 pm

Members Present

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

Others Present

Gary Parker, Administrator
Larry Crim, Asst. Administrator
Kim Cochran, Town Clerk
Donna Rogers, Finance Director

The workshop was called to order at 3:00 pm by Mayor Klein to discuss the proposed land acquisition of the Varnum/Gore property, possible beach lot for parking, and the proposed recycling contract with Waste Industries.

Parker began by discussing the existing site the Town has purchased for a boat ramp. They had learned a great deal since then, about another 5 acre site that seemed more amenable to a permitted boat ramp. Parker explained he had spoken to Debra Wilson with CAMA for feedback (without telling her specifically what the town was looking at) on anywhere in Sunset Beach that could be permitted without a variance. Ms. Wilson stated the only parcel was between Crabby Odd waters and Twin Lakes Restaurant. She didn't discuss the PNA (Primary Nursery Area) and possibility of dredging. The 5 acre site's dredging permit had expired on Dec. 2005 but she stated it was still good for about

10 years and permitting would not be a problem. Parker felt it was an ideal site for a boat ramp and park.

Steiner said it was a magnificent piece of property. The town currently did not have a focal point for events, etc. There was no better site, and felt Council should pursue this.

Bobinski agreed that this was the place to get...in the past people had missed the opportunity to purchase something for a park as the "beach was our park" but most feel differently now.

Council discussed various entities that would possibly help fund this by way of grants. Council inquired if the town was at risk for any grants it had already received. Parker stated no, the County was okay with it as long as a boat ramp was built somewhere.

After more discussion, **Motion** by Steiner to authorize the town Administrator to start negotiations with the principals of the five acre site and see where it would lead. Seconded by Bobinski. Motion carried.

Council also discussed the feasibility of purchasing the lot next to the current parking area on the island. The Town was in great need of public restroom facilities and more parking. There was discussion of whether or not the town could afford to do both properties. The placement of restrooms was discussed. They could not be built in the VE zone near the dunes, but had to be by the street in the AE zone. They decided the Town would never know until it sits down and talks to the owner.

Motion by Sherrill to explore the possibility of adding beach area for parking and restroom facilities, but NO negotiations. Seconded by Steiner. Motion carried.

Recycling 3.40 p.m.

Parker stated he had spoken to Greg Brinkley with Waste Industries as Council asked him to do to see if the contract can be changed. Waste Industries was willing to change the contract based on "Urban South" CPI. They would not, however, reduce the CPI itself nor do a decrease if fuel cost should go lower. They have an escalator rate of 2.45 as a base and every 8 cent increment would change our rate by 1%. The town had also asked for a 2% cap which they refused...they would only agree to a 5% cap.

Steiner and DeVita felt this was ridiculous as they would go up but were not willing to reduce.

There was much discussion by Council of the villas and condominiums that had dumpsters but no cans, where they would be placed, etc.

Watts stated it was fair to expect this at first but it could always be renegotiated each year. Right now the point was to provide cans. It was a learning experience for all and maybe a committee was needed to help with information/logistics.

DeVita confirmed that they did need a sort of “Point of Contact” for each community to determine what was best for each one. Council asked him to send letter to his contacts and try to establish a “sub-committee” of sorts for each location and its logistics. The town could not answer for every location, but there needed to be some sort of operational plan.

Council agreed for DeVita to make contact with neighborhoods for points of contact.

Larry Crim asked about the second trash pick up. He stated they had started years earlier in Sea Trail for the rental condominiums and townhomes as Sea Trail felt they were being slighted by the town because they were not doing the same trash pickup for them as was being done on the island. With the current econmy, it clearly was not needed now. The island however, was still running over. They placed extra cans by the walkways and it was still not enough. He stated Waste Industries would not pick these up. Council instructed public works to keep putting them up through the season and have his men dump them until the season was over. That was what we always did and could continue to do. After recycling came it could be worked out later.

Motion to adjourn by Sherrill, Seconded by Steiner. Motion carried.

Adopted this the 3rd day of August, 2009.

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH

Ronald F Klein, Mayor

Attest:

Kim Cochran, Town Clerk