



TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH

Budget Workshop

May 10, 2006

9:00 a.m.

Members Present

Ronald Klein, Mayor

Carl Bazemore, Mayor Pro-Tem

Len Steiner

Lou DeVita

Bob Bobinski

Ron Watts

Linda Fluegel, Town Administrator

Kimberly Cochran, Town Clerk

7:00 pm Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order

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

2. Council decided to delete "New Item Briefing" as the 6:30 Special Called Meeting (work session) took care of new items to be discussed.

3. Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 6, 2006.

Council instructed Clerk to make necessary corrections and Steiner asked if they all wanted corrections to come through him to shorten the process. Council did not. Clerk will send Draft copy ahead of meeting for Council to approve. Motion by Bazemore to adopt minutes with corrections, Seconded by Steiner. Motion carried.

4. Public Hearing:

a. Adoption of Brunswick County Storm Water Ordinance

No comments.

5. Reports

a. Administrator –Fluegel supplied a Budget Amendment to keep line items in balance. Motion by Watts to adopt, Seconded by Bazemore. Motion carried.

b. Finance: None

c. Police –Chief Massey gave detailed report on criminal activities in the town.

d. Fire Department- Chief Barbee provided January’s report.

e. Public Works- Written report provided.

f. Building Inspector-Fluegel informed Council Jeff Curtis’s father had passed away. Steiner inquired about Curtis’s health.

g. Town Clerk- Clerk provided Sufficiency of Petition for Cobblestone Subdivision. Annexation (for information only)

Mayor Klein confirmed the next meeting would be on March 6, 2006 and asked for a public hearing on Cobblestone Subdivision Annexation since the Petition was now certified.

Motion by Steiner to call for a Public Hearing on March 6, 2006 on Cobblestone Annexation, Seconded by Bazemore. Motion carried.

6. New Business-

a. Amendment to cost of making copies.

Fluegel briefly touched on the request that the basic cost go from 10 cents to 15 cents. (see amendment attached for further detail) Steiner stated the cost of pulling files and making copies was sometimes time consuming. Watts asked how long it normally took. Fluegel stated we retrieved the requests as quickly as possible and have tried not to make anyone wait. The requests were completed within a reasonable time. The last request required 2 days due to file age and location.

Motion by Steiner to adopt copy costs, Seconded by Bazemore. Motion Carried.

b. Amendment to Water Ordinance #51.11 Consumers Responsibility; and #51.12 Special Meter Readings

Fluegel stated the change is to add the words “if witnessed by an employee”. She thought it was an old ordinance but it was only policy. She wanted to add this clarification because without the employee seeing the problem before it was covered or fixed there was no way for the Town to know whose fault it was. The Special Meter Reading amendment would increase the cost of any employee going out to read a customer’s meter. She felt this would discourage customers from frivolously demanding employees go out and re-read their meters. The new radio reads have proven time and again they were very efficient in readings. Of course, if it is town related, no charge would be made. She also wanted to make sure customers knew if it was not the property owners fault, the bill adjustment would be for the usage *over* the minimum. The minimum *had* to be charged.

Motion by Steiner to adopt the above mentioned water amendments, Seconded by Bazemore. Motion Carried.

c. Planning Board Recommendations

i. Final Plat of lots on Blane Island- (Night Heron Court) for information only.

Steiner asked what was showing on the map (fronting on Hwy #179) in front of the lots. Fluegel stated it was a wall or something with a gate. Blane Court would be an entrance only. The exit would be on Night Heron. There was a plan but she had not seen it yet. Klein felt they were shooting for an attractive entrance. DeVita asked if a fire truck could get in and out. Fluegel responded yes, it was a 50 foot right of way. Klein stated several residents had called him concerning the ruts in the roads. He stressed that part of the normal procedure was the contractor having a special construction entryway as not to interfere with the road. They are under obligation to have a sufficient surface, so the resident's concerns were addressed.

ii. Amendment to #151.003 Definitions - (See motion under item iii.)

iii. Amendment to #151.077 Parking Ordinances.

Motion by Bazemore to call for a public hearing on amendments #151.003 and #151.077 on March 6th 2006. DeVita Seconded. Motion carried.

d. Resolution Expressing opposition to Internet Bill (Bits II)

Motion by Bazemore to approve Resolution opposing BITS II, Seconded by Steiner. Motion Carried.

e. Resolution of Annexation Consideration for Sandpiper.

Mike Isenberg explained they would need to adopt this at least 1 year before any annexations could be considered. This was just identifying the area you were considering as a possible annexation.

Motion by Steiner to adopt, Seconded by Bazemore. Motion Carried.

f. Request from Ocean Isle Beach for sponsorship of NC Beach Inlet and Waterway Assoc.

Motion by Bazemore to sponsor the NCBIW Association for \$250.00, Seconded by Watts.

Ayes-Bazemore, Watts, DeVita, Bobinksi.

Noes- Steiner. He explained that if he had attended the workshop he may have voted differently but felt he didn't know enough.

Fluegel inquired how many were going. Watts, Bazemore and Steiner confirmed they would.

g. Appointment of the Planning Board as agent to Land Use Plan

Fluegel stated this would make the Planning Board the lead agent for the Land Use Plan to work with the planner. If not, they could appoint another committee.

Motion by Bazemore to appoint the planning Board as lead agents, Seconded by DeVita. Motion Carried.

h. Amendment to the CATV Franchise Ordinance

Isenberg informed Council this would have to be passed twice. If it was passed tonight it would have to come before them again in March.

Motion by Bazemore to adopt the CATV Franchise Ordinance. Seconded by Steiner. Motion Carried.

7. Old Business:

a. Rescind Sunset Beach's Existing Storm Water Ordinance

b. Adopted Brunswick County Storm Water Ordinance.

Motion by Bazemore to rescind the old Storm Water Ordinance and adopt the new one from the County. Seconded by Steiner. Motion Carried.

8. Open Discussion

Ron Watts asked if the other Council members had any interest in brainstorming on budget and goals. Council confirmed they did. Discussion ensued about when to meet. Decision was made to meet on March 1st at 1:30 pm here at Town Hall.

Steiner gave a brief summary on what the Lockwood Watershed Project was doing. He spoke on how 80% of the river was closed to shell fishing. The contaminant levels had risen dramatically. He felt it was an excellent place for young fish to be raised. The County and Coastal Federation had taken it upon themselves to look seriously at regulations affecting landmass around the water to possibly improved and stabilize the level of pollution. They also wanted to look at the fecal coliform levels. He figured in 6 months they would send a recommendation on innovative ways to control the runoff.

Klein commented to the public that if they (the public) wondered how Lockwood affected us, take a look

from the bridge up the waterway during boating season ... the mass of boats was caused by the abundance of silt built up at Lockwood Folly at low tide..

He stated he, Len and Linda had also met with Coastal Federation on a discussion on the final plans for the sewer systems. It was obvious everyone's concern was that they wanted to plan everything for the way they were now, and do everything they can to make sure the same limitations stay in place. Any limitation anyone put in place could, in the future, be changed. Now they could take steps to try and anchor it. Primarily, the head count relies very much on the size of the structure and ordinances were in place protecting that now. The Town was looking at all the ways possible to make sure those ordinances stay in place. Everyone is in agreement this is a primary issue and they want to ensure that all portions of our town are eligible to get sewer and find a way to accommodate everyone's needs and income levels.

He stated the next meeting would probably be early to mid-March. Watts inquired if they had any idea of rates; Klein responded that was one of the things they were looking at.

Fluegel said she had just spoken to URS this afternoon and they had finished the rate study and they were going to email it to her. Steiner stated they were pursuing some sort of financing now. Fluegel asked Council if they wanted her to send out the packages to several banks instead of pursuing just one institution. Council confirmed they did.

Minnie Hunt, N. Shore Dr., stated she was confused as to what the 6:30 open session was. If they were going to start at 6:30 why didn't they just open the meeting? They were discussing things on the agenda and she felt the public would like to hear the debate.

Steiner stressed it WAS open to the public. It allowed the Council to understand more thoroughly the items on the agenda. They did this because there would be no voting, just discussion.

Klein stressed to Mrs. Hunt that at the last minute items came up to be introduced that no one would know anything about and they could discuss them without interfering with the procedural part of the meeting. He felt if anyone wanted to consider the meeting open at 6:30 then do so, Council was here.

Hunt said that for instance, the items listed under the Planning Board were discussed, and if no one was here, the public would have no idea what went on.

Rich Marchell asked Council if they had a work session prior to the meetings. Steiner stated if they did, it would be like tonight.... the public still wouldn't know what was done if they didn't show up. Marchell asked how early they got the agenda packages, to which Council replied about a week.

There was more discussion between the public and council on the 6:30 work sessions.

Patty Scholl, 593 Summer Green Ct. spoke on the Eastwood Bluff community. She and others were opposed and detailed her complaints and Sea Trail's response. Attachment is hereby included and made a part of these minutes.

Richard Cerrato, Sea Trail Plantation, asked if the Town could purchase audio equipment/microphone as he was hearing impaired, as were many others. He inquired if Sunset Beach was an equal opportunity employer and stressed the importance of hiring qualified Hispanics and Afro-Americans; he then asked if the Town could put in bike paths or benches and a park. He proposed a public informational meeting to discuss and review the Towns developments; he felt the public didn't know what was going on. He stated there was an article in the Sunset News in 2005 listing all the developments taking place. He then started enumerating the many developments. Mayor Klein asked how long his speech was as there was a 3 minutes limit.

Mr. Cerrato stated it was the Council's job to listen to him; that "you were here to serve us" and continued to list developments. He asked if they would have public hearings. Council responded there were always public hearings; it was the law. Mayor Klein then halted Mr. Cerrato and suggested he give the clerk his prepared speech if he wanted it on the record, as he was over his 3 minute limit.

9. Adjournment

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

Town Clerk