

December 3, 2017

In an attempt to clarify an upcoming agenda item scheduled for the December 19th meeting **“consideration to begin the FY19 budget process in January.”** My intent was to have a planning work shop in January to list and prioritize agenda topics for discussion during the upcoming year.

As we address the many tasks and potential associated cost, it will be necessary to know the available non-restricted reserve balance funding in order to prioritize our request. Let me provide several examples: island sidewalks, the leaf & limb program, the dredging program, the Living Shoreline Program and the start-up cost for the storm-water management program. As a matter of interest, the Living Shoreline Program is already listed as an agenda item for the 12/4 council meeting. I am simply requesting a financial analysis work sheet listing both restricted and non-restricted funds in order for all of us to better understand our financial position before establishing our wish list for the proposed January Work Shop.

My basic question is: How do we fund these programs without impacting our long standing 75% savings policy and without increasing taxes? As reported in the recent audit, the town is only 6% above the 75% savings level, which is approximately \$400,000. To me, the reported restricted funding although comforting in an audit report should not be used as a gage regarding expendable funds.

Agenda Request: 12/19/17 Council Meeting:

- 1. This document for discussion.**
- 2. Confirm date/time scheduled for January Work Shop Meeting.**
- 3. To place the North Jinks Creek Dredging Program as an agenda item for immediate resolution before continuing with this costly study.**

Related to item # 2, I also believe there are permits:

- A. North Jinks Creek.
- B. Mary's and Turtle Creek
- C. The feeder canal, bay area and the canals.

It would be also be helpful to know the associated cost (expended, committed and the remaining estimated cost) for each permitted area for the 12/19 council meeting.

The January 8, 2018 Council Meeting:

- 1. Reactivating the ERC Committee by formally inviting the previous members and to seek new members.**
- 2. The Town of Sunset Beach Legal Conflict of Interest Policy. I will provide Lisa the policy with Grady's recommendations hopefully to be inserted in the January 8th packet.**

- 3. A recommendation to transfer the Sunset at Sunset event from the Town structure to a non-profit organization such as Sunset Vision or other non-profit organizations. This prudent business recommendation was originally suggested by both Ms. Parker and the former Finance Director due to accounting, staff effort and liability concerns.**
- 4. Fire Department feedback concerning the 2017 cabana experiences.**

In closing, I am anticipating each of us will submit to Bob, Susan and Lisa our agenda topics for the January Work Shop in order to develop a consolidated agenda list and to eliminate any agenda duplications. Also, I would like to suggest additional workshops (open to the public) in order to develop a consensus for topic discussions and to hopefully avoid lengthy council meetings without interfering with our goal to have total transparency above what is required by law.

If you have any questions regarding the requested dredging financial analysis for the 12/19 Council Meeting or the Reserve Funding analysis for the January Workshop, please do not hesitate to call. To me, whether we respectfully agree or disagree is not the current issue. We all just need to be on the same first page.

I believe this is the first time the voters have elected a new Council and Mayor with no more than two years of service in their current position. We all have a lot to learn by first listening.

May our Lord Bless all of us as we turn the pages together the next two years!
Peace!

Rich

PS: On Sundays I don't watch the NFL anymore, I prefer doing town and business work.