



SUNSET BEACH

North Carolina

Town Hall • 700 Sunset Blvd. N. • Sunset Beach, NC • 28468
Phone: 910.579.6297 • Fax: 910-579-1840 • e-mail: sunsetbeach@atmc.net
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A Message from the Mayor & Council

This is the 6th edition of the Town of Sunset Beach Annual Report. The information below reflects a condensed version of the full report you can find online on the Town's website (www.sunsetbeachnc.gov). We anticipate that this will be the last mailed version; look for future reports to be posted only on-line. We hope that this will result in easier and more complete information for our property owners and visitors alike. As listed on the back page, we encourage you to sign up on the website home page so we can notify you when additional reports are posted, along with other important information.

Our Annual Audit for the year ended June 30, 2016 shows the Town in sound financial condition.

Proposed legislation to de-annex Palm Cove, at the east end of the island, Sunset Beach West at the west end of the island and Sunset Creek Commons, a 72 unit age restricted subsidized housing apartment complex off NC State Highway 904, was defeated. Proposed legislation to de-annex the Sunset Creek Commons property was re-introduced in the State Senate in March of 2017. The Palm Cove and Sunset Beach West issues were resolved through settlement.

Council adopted several changes to the UDO. Of major significance is an effort to provide a coordinated and attractive approach to commercial development along NC State Highway 904 and Sunset Boulevard.

Over the years our beach has received many accolades, and this year Sunset Beach was named the 4th Best Beach in the World by National Geographic.

An engineering study for construction of sidewalks on the south side of Main Street is underway and is being partially funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Grand Strand Transportation Study Group. It is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for the urban transportation planning process for our area.

Community meetings were held giving residents the opportunity to engage with Council on a variety of topics. In addition, the Town website continues to be maintained as a major source of budgetary and financial information. Information is also available through e-alerts and on the Town Facebook page.

Staff News



The Town of Sunset Beach welcomes Kenneth J. Klamar as our new Police Chief. Chief Klamar was selected following a nationwide recruitment with the assistance of the Police Executive Research Forum.

Chief Klamar began his law enforcement career in 1995 and advanced through the ranks to become the Perkins, Ohio Chief of Police beginning in 2009.

Mayor Forrester said, "I have every confidence that Chief Klamar will distinguish himself early as a visionary leader and effective community leader. His success with implementing community policing and his experiences with summer tourism will serve this community well."

"While I've only been here for a short time, I've met many residents and have been warmly greeted by them and the Town Staff. I'm looking forward to a long, and happy stay in Sunset Beach," Klamar said.

FEMA's Preliminary Flood Maps

Preliminary flood maps are currently available and viewable online at www.ncfloodmaps.com. You may search for specific properties by clicking the map at the top of the page and using the mapping system. It should be noted that the address location search is not accurate, so you may need to move around the map to find a specific location.

Large portions of the Island may be reclassified from VE zones to

AE zones based on these preliminary maps, with some sections being removed from the special flood hazard areas altogether while the Mainland areas will see minor, yet significant, changes. These maps are only preliminary and may be subject to change. Official flood maps are proposed to be released at some point in 2018. If you have any questions, please contact the Planning & Inspections Department.

NEWS ABOUT OUR TOWN

We Have Been Busy



Our Public Works Staff replaced and widened the 1st Street Beach Access to provide an ADA access point with the placement of a pergola approximately mid-way to the beach for shade and rest for those less mobile. Staff also repaired and extended 10 Beach Accesses that included 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th Street accesses.

The Town partnered with NCDOT to resurface and widen Main Street. This project included an additional 1.5 miles of bike paths on both sides of the road which extend east to west on the island.

Current projects include the repair and replacement of the 10th and 17th Street beach accesses with a projected completion date in late

June. This project should reduce the number of steps needed to access the beach.

Proposed street resurfacing projects for this fall include: Stokes Court, Waterway Drive, and Holly Lane.

Proposed crack sealing includes: Shoreline Drive East, Azalea Circle, and Indigo Circle.

Hurricane Matthew Update

On October 8, 2016 Hurricane Matthew brushed past the Town of Sunset Beach and left in its wake approximately \$350,000 in personal property damage. The Town expended approximately \$400,000 as a result of the storm event and has submitted those expenses to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for reimbursement. It took six (6) weeks to remove approximately 17,800 cubic yards of vegetative debris – that equates to 320 truckloads.

During this event the bridge was closed and there was a voluntary evacuation declaration. This event should be a notice to all property owners that they must obtain their Hurricane Passes annually.

In addition, the causeway was breached during the event and experienced wave erosion damage. The North Carolina Department of Transportation plans to conduct repair work on the causeway beginning this summer. Citizens and visitors may expect intermittent lane closures during this repair work.



Mark your calendar — Saturday, October 7 is the date for the Town's 11th Annual Sunset at Sunset Community Festival. Held in front of the Ingram Planetarium, the day celebrates the end of the beach season and offers residents & visitors a day of music, food, crafts, and activities for children.

Volunteers are always needed & welcome.

Visit www.sunsetatsunset.com for more information.

What's New in the Town Park

The Veteran's Memorial now has all its pillars engraved and contains more than 800 engraved bricks.

Public Restrooms constructed at the south end of the park were completed last spring. They are ADA accessible, heated and air conditioned.

The Floating Dock Pier has been repaired and the picnic area completed.

The last remaining amenity in the Town Park to be completed is the observation deck located south of the floating dock.



2016 Shoreline Management and Pre-dredge Analysis Update

In February 2016, the Town of Sunset Beach contracted with Moffatt & Nichol to conduct a Phase 1 Study to determine the feasibility of performing navigation dredging of approximately 3.5 miles in the areas that include Mary's Creek, Turtle Creek, Jinks Creek, the feeder Canal, finger canals and the Bay area. Initial results were positive and the Town elected to move forward with the design and modeling that began in July 2016.

Phase 2 began with securing a North Carolina Water Resource Development Grant for \$2,779,327 through the State's Shallow Draft Navigation Fund. The design and modeling of the proposed work is approximately 95% complete. Moffatt & Nichol presented that information at the March 21, 2017 Town Council meeting.

All work for Phase 2 has been completed. The results of the work will be presented to the Town Council in June so they can begin discussing future plans. Meeting notes and projects updates related to this project can be viewed at www.sunsetbeachnc.gov.

Additional items discussed with the various agencies included

applying for two (2) separate permits to simplify the process for the 'maintenance' areas. Separating these areas from Jinks Creek may allow the Town to move forward. Additional discussion included requiring an Individual Permit (IP) for Jinks Creek to meet NEPA requirements. Further additional significant environment documentation may also be required; no decisions have been made whether or how to proceed.

Moffatt & Nichol will explain and further discuss the topics of this Agency Coordination meeting at the June 26, 2017 Town Council Meeting and recommend the next steps for the 2016 Shoreline Management and Pre-dredge Analysis project.

The second Agency Coordination meeting was held May 5, 2017. The results of the meeting will be used to help determine the scope of work in Phase 3 of this project. Issues to be addressed could include additional testing or modeling, identification of areas to be dredged, creation of dredging assessment districts, and the funding plan. No decisions have been made as of the publication date of this Annual Report. Go to www.sunsetbeachnc.gov for additional information and updates related to this project.

Mosquito Control Information & Helpful Tips

The Public Works Department sprays for mosquitoes within Town limits during the summer months. Spraying is typically done between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. on this schedule:

- Monday** - Island **Tuesday** - Shoreline and Seaside Station
Wednesday - Sea Trail (from Calabash River to Old Georgetown Road and Sugar Sands)
Thursday - Bonaparte, Oyster Bay, Lakewood Estate and the remainder of Sea Trail
Friday - Cape Side, Sandpiper Bay, and Wyndfall

Mosquito control by the Town will not get rid of every mosquito. Please visit Town Hall to obtain free mosquito briquets to place on your property to help reduce the mosquito population. The briquets can be tossed in ditches and rain barrels, crushed and distributed in birdbaths, potted plants and around shrubbery or trees. Please visit the Town website and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov for more information.

What about those nasty No-See-Ums???

Although we humans consider them nuisances, the State of North Carolina does not. Therefore, the Town is not permitted to spray for their elimination. Repellents are either useless or very limited in fighting them. If it makes you feel any better, these critters are also found on Mount Everest!



Some “summertime” reminders

Our visitors will soon be here, and most of us will be visiting our beautiful beach and Town Park. If we all work together, the summer will be fun for all.

- All pets need to be on a 10 foot or less leash and owners are required to clean-up after them.
- Beginning the Friday before Memorial Day thru Labor Day pets may only be on the beach before 8:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.
- Do not take, disturb, or destroy sea turtle nests or eggs.
- Remain on the beach access walkways when crossing the dunes.
- No tents, cabanas, or canopies are permitted in the two-block area located between 1st and 27th Streets.
- Tents and cabanas should not exceed 12x12 feet and anchor tie-downs must be placed within the footprint. There must be a 10 foot space between tents and the rear of the tent must align with the adjacent beach trash can poles.
- Make sure the wheels of your parked vehicle are not located within the bike path and are completely off the paved asphalt of the road.
- No surfing, surf or net fishing between 5th and 32nd Streets from May 1 through Oct. 31.
- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the park.
- Smoking prohibited in the Town Park.
- No bottles or glass containers are permitted on the beach.



New Bike Paths Coming

The Town has partnered with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to construct 2 five-foot bike lanes on State Road 179 from Queen Anne Street (Fibber McGees) to the roundabout as part of the resurfacing of Sunset Boulevard. The estimated project cost is \$731,485 with the Town contributing \$289,188. NCDOT plans to begin construction next spring with a completion before Memorial Day, 2018.

Stormwater Study Completed

Last year, the Town contracted for a Stormwater Drainage Study to evaluate the town's stormwater system. Consultants presented a proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Study results to the Council during the June 20, 2017 Meeting that included a prioritized projects list for replacements, repairs and maintenance. The data collected was used to develop a 5- and 10-year Stormwater Drainage Capital Improvements Plan and Maintenance Plan with the goal of addressing localized flooding issues and improving water quality. The Council will now evaluate the Plan, Study, and Projects List. Additional Information will be included on the website as it becomes available.

Contact Us

How To Reach Us

Town Hall: 579-6297
Inspections Department: 579-0068 or 579-0075
Police Department (non-emergency): 579-2151
Fire Station #1 (non-emergency): 579-2456
Fire Station #2 (non-emergency): 579-8090
General e-mail: info@sunsetbeachnc.gov

Stay informed: Watch Channel 99 and visit the website: www.sunsetbeachnc.gov.

Sign up on the website home page to receive meeting, informational & emergency notices via e-mail.

Town Council meets at 6:45 p.m. the 1st Monday of each month and at 9:00 a.m. the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers at Town Hall.

Watch them now on You Tube!

Looking for more information?

Our Town website (www.sunsetbeachnc.gov) contains a great deal of information, including: Financial Information, Garbage and Recycling Calendar, Sunset Beach Council schedule, list of scheduled park events and donations, personnel changes, Town Staff and Council Directory.

Watch for the next Annual Report on our website.