

**SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 7, 2020
Surf City Town Hall – Hosted via Conference Call**

Members Present:

Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor
William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem
Donald R. Helms
Teresa Batts
Jeremy Shugarts
Dwight Torres

Staff Present:

Kyle Breuer, Town Manager
Ashley Loftis, Asst. Town Manager
Stephanie E. Hobbs, Town Clerk
Amy Kimes, Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER • Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor

The Mayor called the meeting to order, each member stated “here” for their presence.

II. INVOCATION • William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro•Tem

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE • Donald R. Helms

IV. PROCLAMATION: RSVP DAY •

V. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA •

Mr. Helms made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it was carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA •

**Items under Consent are generally of a routine nature. The Board may take action to approve/disapprove all items in a single vote. Any item may be withheld from a general action, to be discussed and voted upon separately at the discretion of the Council.*

1. Ordinance Amendment No. 02: Section 16•83 Owners to Purchase Numbers
2. Tax Releases
3. Approval of the Minutes: March 3rd and March 23rd, 2020

Mrs. Batts made a motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Shugarts seconded the motion and it was carried.

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT •

Manager’s Report:

- **Budget** work continues and all departmental budgets have been submitted. It is anticipated that by the end of the week the Finance Director and I will have met with all departments. We would like to continue our discussions with Council at our work-

session later this month. As the current COVID-19 pandemic continues, we are tracking potential revenue losses and shortfalls however, revenues such as accommodation and sales tax are on a 2-month lag.

- **Beach Nourishment – Federal Project**
 - Project is moving forward in earnest; the Corps is shooting for a starting date by the first of the year.
 - Will be working towards necessary parking and access requirements as well as securing easements.
 - Provided options for potential staging areas for equipment and materials
 - The Corps anticipates
- **FEMA Berm Project**
 - The project is near completion. We've been working with the contractor and engineer on final locations as well as damages that need to be remedied.
- **DWR Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund – I'm currently working on two separate applications. The first application is to seek funding to help offset the differences with the FEMA project and Category B reimbursements and the second is for the Corps project. It is not anticipated that they will both be funded; however, we'll apply for both projects in hopes of getting one approved.**
- **Oceanside structure addressing – Community development staff will begin assessments on oceanfront structures mid-March to ensure ordinance compliance.**
Reference 5.18.6

VIII. NEW BUSINESS •

4. Final Plat Approval: Magnolia Reserve Phase 1A

Mrs. Kimes discussed Magnolia Reserve Phase 1A, Stroud Engineering is requesting the approval of the final plat. Preliminary site plan was approved June 2019. The developer plans to install streets, trees, lighting and sidewalks. The current plan does not require NCDOT improvements on Hwy 210 at this time but will later warrant turning lanes. Staff and the planning board recommend approval.

Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the final plat for Magnolia Reserve Phase 1A. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

5. Resolution No. 2020•03: Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act

Mr. Breuer discussed Resolution No. 2020-03 is a resolution of support for loan approval specifically for additional supplement appropriation for disaster relief act. The town could be forgiven for up to 25% of the loan through the disaster relief act. The first project is for the head works at the WWTP, this process is construction ready. It will allow the WWTP to be better prepared for funding and resiliency. The second part is for waterflow specific for fire flow.

Mr. Helms made a motion to approve resolution No. 2020-03 as presented. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it was carried.

IX. COUNCIL FORUM •

Mrs. Batts urged residents to stay home and stay safe for the next few weeks as this is critical

to the spread of the virus. She stated she understood that a lot of people are suffering, and she asked everyone to be mindful of their mental health.

Mr. Fowler thanked the manager and all town employees as we continue to move forward. He asked those on social media to check facts before posting. To please call the town hall and stay positive. We are a community who need to come together and abide by the orders and stay home so we can get over this.

Mr. Shugarts spoke on the success of the closing of the beach accesses, it has greatly minimized day trippers. He spoke of his experience with riding with Cpl. Bailey on the beach and that the beach was not crowded, and people are listening and staying safe. He stated he was confident that services would not be declining, as we work through the new budget for next year. He asked individuals to avoid spreading rumors and to get the facts.

Mr. Torres he asked everyone to stay home and to not transmit the disease. He stated he has been in constant communication with local leaders, staff and state elected officials. He gave statics pertaining to COVID-19. He stated his own brother was diagnosed with COVID-19, his sister in-law is experiencing symptoms and is self-quarantined. He does not want this to happen to anyone in our community. He stated these restrictions are temporary in nature and will lift the restrictions as soon as possible. He asked that everyone listen the Governors order and the Mayors state of emergency. He stated there are a lot of charities suffering as well during these difficult times. He stated he would be donating his council salary this month. He praised staff for their hard work.

Mr. Helms stated he supported the council comments. He asked the public to please be careful what is posted on social media. He commended all of the public safety staff and utilities as they continue to work during this time. He ask the public to please be careful and follow the guidelines that have been put in place. He thanked the Mayor, manager, and employees for the job they are doing. He specifically thanked Jason Lingle, IT for his dedication to the town. He asked everyone to remember what Easter really means.

Mayor stated now is the critical time, now is not the time to reduce restrictions. He urged everyone to put their best foot forward and follow the stay at home restrictions. Economically, it is hurting everyone, but the struggle is worth it to saves lives. He appreciates everything that citizens are doing and employees as they work hard to protect our citizens.

X. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTS •

Mr. Edes spoke on the USACE phone conferences which are scheduled for every other week. In late May early June we will be obtaining easements. He stated he has forwarded the town clerk and the manager advice from the Attorney General's office regarding the open meetings law. He reminded everyone there are 40 some cases in New Hanover, this is spreading quickly and urged everyone to avoid transit travel. If limit our interactions now this will be over more quickly.

XI. CLOSED SESSION • Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

Mr. Edes spoke on the USACE phone conferences which are scheduled for every other week. In late May early June we will be obtaining easements. He stated he has forwarded the town clerk and the manager advice from the Attorney General's office regarding the open meetings law. He reminded everyone there are 40 some cases in New Hanover, this is spreading quickly and urged everyone to avoid transit travel. If limit our interactions now this will be over more quickly.

XII. ADJOURNMENT •

Mr. Helms made a motion to move he 17th meeting till April 16th due to a scheduling conflict. Mrs. Batts seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Helms made a motion to go back into regular session. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mrs. Batts made a motion to move forward with motion to allow the attorney to move forward with the steps necessary to procure all real property interest required by the federal project, once we go back into open session. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Helms make a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

Listen to the live stream at: www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity