



**SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Surf City Welcome Center – 102 N. Shore Drive

Stream Live: www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity

4:30 PM

Members Present:

Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor

William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem

Donald Helms

Teresa Batts

Jeremy Shugarts

Donald Helms

Dwight Torres

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor
- II. INVOCATION - William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Donald R. Helms
- IV. CHAMBER DIRECTOR INTRODUCTION – Karen Williams Burton
- V. BEAUTIFICATION & APPEARANCE COMMITTEE AWARDS -

Home of the Month: Anthony & Tina Lee at 1055 1st St.

Business of the Month: JM's on the Water at 602 Roland Ave.

VI. MAYOR'S REMARKS -

We ask that all in attendance please set your cell phones to silent or vibrate mode. The Council offers the public an opportunity to speak during the meeting. Comments should be limited to three minutes each and must be directly issue oriented with agenda items for this meeting, or an issue upon which the Council has control.

Citizen speakers will be acknowledged in the order in which they sign up to speak and will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual Council member. Speakers will address the Council from the speaker's podium at the front of the room and will begin their remarks by stating their name and address. Discussions between Speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.

Public comment is not intended to require the Council to answer any impromptu questions. Speakers are expected to be civil in their language and presentation. Any comments where the primary purpose is to promote business or candidacy shall not be allowed.

In accordance with the Council's adopted Rules of Procedures, Councilmembers shall reserve responses, if any, for the Council Forum on the agenda.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA -

Mr. Torres made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143.318-11(a)(3) attorney client privilege. Mr. Helms seconded the motion, and it was carried.

VIII. 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. Meeting Minutes - January 5th & 15th, 2021
2. Resolution No. 2021-04 –Personal Property 214 N. New River Dr. & 2007 Crown Vic Vin#1320
3. Site Plan Approval – Waterside Amenity Site
4. Site Plan Approval – Waterside Townhomes
5. Site Plan Approval – Triton Village Phase 2
6. Personnel Policy Updates

Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT - Citizens have an opportunity to address the Council for no more than three minutes per speaker on topics which concern agenda items of this meeting.

Mr. Chuck Depure discussed his concerns regarding the proposed parking lot on S. Shore Drive.

Oliva Marshburn 408 Briar Wood Trail discussed her dislike for paid parking. She ask for parking for county residents.

No Name 201 S Dyson Street requested to be included in the local resident passes.

No Name Topsail Township Resident did not favor paid parking.

Randy Batts 167 Charles Creek Rd requested the item be tabled until after COVID or voted against.

Jonni Kennedy questioned the process for those with handicap parking.

Dewayne Hort of Driftwood Dr Hampstead asked if annual parking passes would be available for county residents.

John Cherry 1966 Watts Landing Rd discussed his dis-like for paid parking.

William questioned how it would be addressed when the parking lots are full and visitors park on side streets.

Ken Roberts 1949 Jackson Store Rd Beulaville expressed his concern for lower rates than \$25 per day.

Charles Knowles Elwood Lane Wallace expressed his gratitude for the free parking that the town had. He asked for a seasonal fishing pass.

Rodney King expressed his gratitude for the family feel on the island. He expressed his dislike

for paid parking.

Randall Worthington of Quarterhorse Ave stated he was in favor of paid parking.

Paullete Jackson 2713 S Shore Drive stated she was against paid parking most importantly on N. and S. Shore Drive. She discussed the liability of people using others crossovers.

Willard Jackson 2713 S. Shore Drive discussed the dangers of parking in the right-of-way along S. Shore Drive.

Melanie of Hampstead expressed her dis-like for paid parking.

David Jones 126 Columbia Dr Statesville NC, he the owner of Carolina Realty asked that the board not move forward with paid parking at this time. He spoke on the current plan and it's lack of public safety. He specifically spoke on those properties along Charlotte Ave. He stated he was in favor of paid parking after a strategic plan.

Mikki Tucker 1222 S. Shore Drive spoke on her knowledge of paid parking since September 2020. She thanked staff and council for their hard work. She stated she felt it was too premature and that the public needs to be provided an opportunity for input. She asked for the item to be tabled.

Tate Tucker 2308 S. Shore Drive stated he was opposed to paid parking. He expressed that he as a citizen feels like he is not being heard. He ask for a survey on paper for all the citizens and business owners can answer. He also stated the process is moving too fast. He provided a timeline of how he believed paid parking developed.

Daniel Blevins 621B. N. New River Drive stated he is against paid parking. He gave statistics on poverty for Pender County. He stated a few years ago he was in the same boat to not be able to afford paid parking. He stated this is not what community does to each other. He ask for a different avenue and make it a progressive system. He offered ideas to paid parking passes. He stated this will change the culture of the community.

Sandy Miller 110 Teaches Court stated she is not opposed to paid parking. She stated the last year was not enjoyable, you cannot move the closer you get to the weekend. Something must be done different. With the north end now charging the traffic will only be worse here. She stated if she leaves her house in the summer, they have to change their plans to account for all the individuals here. She did express her disappointment for the communication on behalf of the town. She questioned the design of the new parking lots on S. Shore Drive.

X. MANAGER'S REPORT -

- **Beach Nourishment – Federal Project**
 - For Surf City, we're looking at an 18-month dredge timeframe with a 24-month contract
 - Surf City's contract will overlap with NTB for an estimated one year timeframe or total project timeframe of 36-months
 - Still not sure on whether or not the sand will be placed via hopper or pipeline, but an "Industry Day" was held on Jan. 11th and all the "Big Dogs" from the dredge industry were there.
 - The Environmental assessment should be issued for public assessment by the end of Feb, then maximum 135 days for public comment.
 - BOEM lease only can be signed after the acceptance of Fish & wildlife – BOEM comes in to play for borrow areas beyond 3-miles offshore.

- There is enough sand inside the 3 miles to complete contract for Surf City, then continue to get BOEM lease and modify contract #2 for NTB to use those materials if need be.
- Sand placement between early fall 2021-early 2022, all dependent on environmental assessment from Fish & Wildlife
- PPA Execution, hopefully by the end of February 2021.
- **New Town Hall** – Interior work is ongoing, including case work and cabinetry, flooring, and other finishes. Staff will be meeting with the contractor and generator vendor to do an owner training on operations.
 - We've got pricing back on the exterior sign and have selected the lowest bid. We'll be able to work on final design prior to erection.
 - Overall the project continues to remain on-schedule and within budget. Staff will begin focus on interior finishes, taking inventory of what furniture we will take with us and will need to purchase. Our goal is to keep what we can, with the understanding some furniture will need replacement.
- **Old Town Hall**
 - Waiting on asbestos report to come back from the inspector, and then to hopefully award a demolition contract on this and the Old Ward building after Feb. 8th.
- **PD Property**
 - Staff has received an offer in which we'll be working with the Realtor on the details and potentially bringing that to Council for consideration. This is for the vacant land section only.
- **Town Ordinance Update**
 - The next round of reviews will take place on tomorrow, February 3rd. Staff will be working on finishing chapters 10, 11, and 13.
- **S. Shore Flooding**
 - NCDOT and Public Utilities staff will be on-site next Wednesday and Thursday to begin the process of cleaning out the existing infiltration basins, as we anticipated they're full of sediment. Additional considerations will be evaluated in regards to the longevity of keeping them cleaned out, it truly is a joint effort between the Town and NCDOT and we're thankful to have such good partnerships with them.
- **Budget**
 - Next up is departmental budgets being due at the end of February. I provided department head's an overview of the current fiscal year and appreciate all the work from the finance department on gathering the data. We'll approach the upcoming budget year in a conservative approach with still many uncertainties out there.

XI. CLOSED SESSION NCGS 143.318-11(a)(3) Attorney Client Privilege

Mr. Torres made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143.318-11(a)(3). Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.

No Action was taken.

XII. OLD BUSINESS -

7. Paid Parking – Ordinance Amendments Sec. 17-103, 17-106 & 17-111; Fee Schedule & Parking Map

The consensus of the board was to table the item until March 2nd, set a workshop for more public input on February 12th at 9am.

Mr. Helms made a motion for the town manager to move forward with procuring the paid parking infrastructure. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion, and it was carried.

XIII. COUNCIL FORUM -

Mr. Torres stated he looked forward to working with his colleagues at the workshop.

Mr. Fowler thanked everyone who came out and for their comments that were sent it. He stated the town is moving forward. He too looked forwards to the workshop.

Mrs. Batts thanked everyone for their comments. She spoke on the comments that were received and the want for paid parking. She stated the town hopes to work towards making Surf City a safer place to park.

Mr. Helms stated he appreciated the comments. He too looked forward to the February 12th workshop.

Mr. Shugarts spoke on the new Chamber Director. He gave an update on the Beautification Committee and the Tourism Committee. He stated the Greater Topsail Area Alliance has started meeting again.

Mayor thanked all the residents and neighbors for providing their input on paid parking. He stated all opinions are considered valuable. The next workshop will provide more information. He spoke on the community's feel and that all comments are gratefully appreciated.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION – NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

Mr. Helms made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3). Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

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

No action was taken in closed session.

XV. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTS -

Mr. Edes gave a brief update on raising the occupancy tax, the local bill deadline for the House is March 3rd and the Senate is March 11th. The other avenue is for paid parking revenues for on street parking. The new bill needed for the town would provide an opportunity to use on street parking revenues for beach nourishment.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT -

Mr. Helms made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Torres seconded the motion, and it was carried.

