



**SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 6, 2021
Surf City Municipal Complex – 214 W. Florence Way
Stream Live: www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity
4:30 PM**

Council Members Present:

Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor

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

Donald Helms

Teresa Batts

Jeremy Shugarts

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. SPECIAL RECOGNITION– Sgt. Bailey & MPO Fehling
- V. BEAUTIFICATION & APPEARANCE COMMITTEE AWARDS -

Home of the Month: Leigh B. Warpole at 424 N. Shore Dr.

Business of the Month: Sweet Island at 306 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. Groups of individuals seeking to speak on the same topic of concern will need to pick an individual speaker to represent the group as whole.

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

VIII. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA -

1. June 1st, 18th, & 25th, 2021 Minutes
2. Enhancement & Beautification Committee Appointment – Desiree Taron
3. Advisory Board Re-Appointments
4. Budget Ordinance Amendment – Fire Dept. Insurance Claim
5. Budget Ordinance Amendments – Utility Capital Costs at WWTP
6. Copier Contract
7. Ordinance Amendment No. 2021- 11- Chp. 11 Nuisances Art. II Noise
8. Resolution No. 2021-17 – Council Rules of Procedure Amendment

Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mrs. Batts seconded the motion, and it was carried.

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.

Peter Sloan 512 Terraces thanked the council for the July 3rd celebration and gave an update on Jeep week, Sept. 13th -19th, 2021.

Tommy Russell 338 Edgewater Way stated his stormwater situation along his property. He explained he had tried to work with DR Horton and had not gotten any responses. He requested assistance from the town in getting the stormwater issues alleviated.

Jeff Surles 1006 1st Street complained about Tortuga's Nest regarding noise, fighting, threats, urination in public, and claiming of underage drinking. He requested police presence in the parking lot to calm the patrons.

Randal Nickle 210 Edgewater Way thanked the community, school, and the police officers. He requested all speed limits signs changed to 20 mph inside of Waterside Development.

John Davis 208 Edgewater Way expressed his love for the Town of Surf City. He asked that DR Horton be held to a higher standard, he stated they are slipping by. He also requested a crosswalk at the entrance of Waterside Development.

Zach Snell 6096 6th St. voiced his concerns with paid parking and his dis-taste for it. He requested more than two free passes for residents per property. He asked for transparency in how the funds were being used.

X. NEW BUSINESS –

9. Satellite Annexation Request – Lynnlee Properties, LLC, at 12553 NC Hwy 50, Pender County Pin# 4236-32-1318-0000, Containing 1.9 +/- Acres

Mr. Helms made a motion to approve the resolution directing the clerk to certify the petition, set the public hearing for August 3rd and send the annexation to the planning board of zoning classification. Mr. Torres seconded the motion, and it was carried.

XI. MANAGER'S REPORT -

- **Council Fall Retreat**

- Staff is preparing for a November 8th retreat to focus on annual objectives as well as potential items for next budget year. We will be meeting at the same location as we did last Fall.

- **ARP Funding**

- Staff has been tracking the American Rescue Plan funding and subsequent guidelines that go along with the program. The Town will see a disbursement this year of \$393,432 and the same disbursement in 2022 for a total of \$786,863.99. Once full eligibility is more clearly realized, staff will develop a list of projects that may qualify to be funded. Unlike the prior CARES Act funding, the ARP funds don't have to be obligated until 2024. The developed list will be prioritized and presented to Council for final decision.

- **Parking Capacity Analysis**

- Staff has prepared and published a Request for Proposals for qualified firms to perform a parking capacity analysis. This is a priority for the Town to determine short-, mid-, and long-term strategies to increase parking capacity throughout town. Proposals are due by July 23rd in which they will be evaluated, and we will make a selection and recommendation to Council for potential contract award.
- Pivot Parking will be presenting at your July 16th work session to provide a mid-season overview.

- **Paid Parking**

- Parking continues to progress. An internal policy document has been created and shared with Pivot to help guide theirs and our decision making.
- Last week, we were able to locate an additional 50 or so parking spaces to add to the overall capacity, to be used for golf cart parking.
- We continue to evaluate the parking map and overall functions and make adjustments
- We have created an online parking map to help guide folks to available parking within Town.
- Staff is currently working on developing a request for proposals to seek guidance on overall capacity as it relates to short term/mid/and long range solutions to continue to build parking capacity for our beach.

- **Tropical Storm Elsa**

- Town staff are currently monitoring the progression of Tropical Storm Elsa.
- Based on the latest data, we are planning for the possibility of minor impacts midweek, mainly Thursday.
- As of the latest model runs, the system center will make its closest pass between 1pm and 5pm Thursday, roughly 80 miles to our west.
- Rainfall totals of 3-5" with higher amounts in isolated areas may lead to surface flooding in flood prone areas

- Gusty winds, potentially tropical storm force in intensity are possible, especially midday Thursday
- Isolated tornadoes are always a possibility with tropical weather.
- Emergency management will be sending out briefing packages as information becomes available.
- **Vector Control**
 - The County Health Department continues to provide mosquito control services for the Town. As a reminder, there's a web form on the Town of Surf City website that anyone can fill out to request nuisance vector services above and beyond their normal spray operations. Also, if you wish to be on the do not spray list you can request that as well. All forms are sent to the County for them to address.
- **Beach Nourishment Committee**
 - The Beach Nourishment committee has met twice over the last month to evaluate their position and seek additional direction. Through their efforts and leadership, staff will prepare a memo to Council for your July work session to formalize their efforts to not only focus on beach nourishment efforts of the Town but also take on resiliency efforts to help set coastal resilience goals, and to help local needs identifying and prioritizing projects.
- **Beach Nourishment – Federal Project**
 - Unfortunately, we heard from North Topsail Beach regarding their intent to sign the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA). This action will require the Army Corps of Engineers to descope NTB from the project and move through their internal process to refocus to a Surf City only project.
 - Pam Castens is here to discuss with the Board as to what those steps are.

XII. COUNCIL FORUM -

Mr. Torres thanked the Mayor and the manager for the wonderful July 3rd event. He welcomed everyone back to the new normal and exercise their civic duty. He stated he would address the issues to along with his colleges. He wished everyone a safe summer and ask them to prepare for hurricane season.

Mr. Fowler stated he had the same sentiments as Mr. Torres. The council will take action to assist to alleviate those issues. He spoke on the USACE project, and that Surf City will be moving forward, and we have planned and saved for this project beginning over 12 years. Surf City can move forward, and we look forward to working with USACE. Staff is working with Pivot Parking to work through any issues that may arise. We stated it was an honor to see everyone that came out July 3rd event.

Mrs. Batts stated she shared the same comments and concerns. She too thanked the staff and emergency services for working together and making July 3rd a great event. She congratulated the two officers for their dedication and hard work earning their certificates. She too stated Surf City is ready to move forward with USACE project. She reminded everyone of the great event that Surf City has going on this summer.

Mr. Helms thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He stated he was happy these issues are brought to light and that gives the board an opportunity to work on them. He spoke on the new noise ordinance that was just passed and its new regulations. He stated he hoped everyone was able to enjoy the July 3rd celebration.

Mr. Shugarts stated he agreed with his colleagues and their comments. He let the patrons know that the board does listen, and they do work on all the issues that are brought up. He thanked the staff for the fireworks and that they were amazing. He thanked everyone for attending.

Mayor spoke on the July 3rd event and how great it was. He too stated the board would investigate the issues brought up tonight. He stated he understood that paid parking is not easy to implement but, these funds are for the beach nourishment, and then fund the re-nourishment cycles. He stated Surf City is a fabulous place to live.

XIII. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTS -

Mr. Edes stated the new emergency plan has been reviewed. The town is on track to have all the easements in place for the for the USACE project. He briefly spoke on the bar issues and that other towns have the same problems. Many of the regulations of bars are guided by ABC Commission and not regulated at a local level.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT -

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