

# TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

5375 N. Virginia Dare Trail, Southern Shores, NC 27949
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PITTS CENTER

Tuesday, February 06, 2024 at 5:30 PM

## **MINUTES**

# **Call Meeting to Order**

Pledge of Allegiance Moment of Silence

#### Present

Mayor Elizabeth Morey Mayor pro tem Matt Neal Council Member Paula Sherlock Council Member Mark Batenic Council Member Robert Neilson

# Amendments to / Approval of Agenda

**Motion** made by Council Member Sherlock to approve the agenda as presented, Seconded by Council Member Batenic. The vote passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Morey, Mayor pro tem Neal, Council Member Sherlock, Council Member Batenic, Council Member Neilson

## **Consent Agenda**

**Motion** made by Council Member Sherlock to approve the February 6, 2024 consent agenda, Seconded by Council Member Neilson. The motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Morey, Mayor pro tem Neal, Council Member Sherlock, Council Member Batenic, Council Member Neilson

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

 Minutes Approval-January 16, 2024 Mid-Month Mtg., Closed Session 11/14 (Session 1 & 2) and Closed Session 1/16

#### **General Public Comment**

Katie Morgam-101 Maddox Crossing, Colington-HB259, thanked the Town for participating in the lawsuit against the State pertaining to the provision in the State budget that prohibits the towns from applying zoning regulations to the affordable housing project.

# Staff Reports

Police Chief David Kole presented the Police Department's monthly report for December.

Fire Chief Ed Limbacher presented the Fire Department's monthly reports for December & January.

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Closed Session-pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3) attorney-client privilege

Motion made by Council Member Batenic to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3), Seconded by Council Member Neilson. The motion passed unanimously. Voting Yea: Mayor Morey, Mayor pro tem Neal, Council Member Sherlock, Council Member Batenic, Council Member Neilson

**Upon returning to open session,** Mayor Morey **moved** that we as the Council of the Town of Southern Shores direct the staff to take some very needed steps to modernize our town code and propose changes both in the form of ZTA's and TCA's to the Town Council, that's text amendments and town code amendments, Seconded by Mayor pro tem Neal. Motion passed unanimously.

# **Staff Reports**

Town Manager Ogburn provided the following updates.

<u>Land Use Plan</u>- The consultant has sent the latest version to Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) to get their review on the revisions made to what they've already suggested, and staff hopes to set a public hearing for the Land Use Plan at the March 12<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

<u>Grant Opportunities</u>-The town partnered with the NCLM and Witt O'Brien to pursue grant funding. Staff have been working with the consultant on potential grants for stormwater, and the Juniper/Trinitie culvert bridge. Grants will be coming soon.

<u>Juniper/Trintie Culvert Bridge</u>-Kimley Horn will be making a presentation on the Juniper/Trinitie bridge at the March 12<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

<u>Planning Department-File Room Addition</u>- Staff is currently working on getting estimates for both scanning historical files for the Planning Department and an addition to the town hall, along with the security improvements.

Ripple Fiber- has about one more month of work to be completed in the town right of way.

Council Member Sherlock stated she had several neighbors contact her to confirm that the utility flags in the right of way along NC12 were not for widening of the road. Town Manager Ogburn stated he believes they are from Verizon and confirmed no widening of the road.

Town Attorney -nothing to report.

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

None

### **General Public Comment**

Katie Morgam-101 Maddox Crossing, Colington- The Juniper/Trinitie Bridge has never been right and hopes the metal circle under the bridge is removed (culvert).

## **Council Business**

Council Member Sherlock-The Albemarle Rural Planning Organization ARPO met on January 17<sup>th</sup>. There were twenty-two participants representing seven counties. Mostly housekeeping items took place, but the primary goal of that meeting was to vote on the legislative priorities for this section of North Carolina and the Mid-Currituck Bridge will remain as one of those priorities.

Council Member Neilson attended the Current TV meeting and recommended a push to advertise the channel on local municipalities' websites. The annual grants are available for producing videos and equipment purchases.

Council Member Batenic attended the Dare County Tourism Board meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> where new members were sworn in, including himself. He was placed on the grant and finance committee. He stated that he did not realize how much the Tourism Board did for the county and the reach and budget that it has. There was no monthly report this month.

Mayor Morey and Mayor pro tem Neil attended the initial Housing Task Force Committee meeting where there was a very robust discussion and exchange of comments and ideas. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> in Manteo. Mayor Morey is also on the special committee for sustainable tourism and that meeting will be held February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Morey thanked the citizens for their patience with the newest utility installations taking place in the town right of way. The end goal is better internet service for residents.

Town Manager Ogburn stated Sally Gudas has requested the Town enter 13 Skyline into the Flattop Tour on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00 pm, Council agreed by consensus.

Council Member Neilson suggested having Current TV do a video of the Flattop Tour, Council was in favor.

## Adjourn

**Motion** made by Council member Batenic to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m., Seconded by Council Member Neilson. The motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Morey, Mayor pro tem Neal, Council Member Sherlock, Council Member Batenic, Council Member Neilson

ATTEST:

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Morey, Mayor

Sheila Kahe, Town Clerl