



**Minutes**  
**Town of Atlantic Beach, North Carolina**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, March 23, 2015**



The regularly scheduled meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council was held Monday, March 23, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room, 125 West Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

**Members Present:** Mayor A. B. Cooper, III; Mayor Pro Tem Danny Navey; Councilmembers: Harry Archer, Ann Batt, Eddie Briley and John Rivers

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Walker, Town Manager; Derek Taylor, Town Attorney; Katrina Tyer, Town Clerk; Jeff Harvey, Police Chief; Adam Snyder, Fire Chief; Jessica Fiester, Planning Director; Marc Schulze, Public Works Director; Sabrina Simpson, Administrative Services Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Cooper led the assembly in a moment of silence then in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDAS**

Councilmember Archer made a motion *to approve* the agenda as prepared. Seconded by Councilmember Batt. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items listed below are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one introduction/motion/second/roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.*

1. Tax Collection Report
2. Tax Releases
3. Financial Report
4. Surplus Vehicles and Equipment Sold
5. Town Council Meeting Minutes: 2/19/2015, 2/23/2015

Mayor Pro Tem Navey made a motion *to approve* the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Rivers. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**(Clerk’s Note: a copy of Consent Agenda items are hereby attached and therefore made a part of these minutes.)**

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

Mayor Cooper provided the audience with background information on the proposed sales tax distribution legislation and encouraged everyone to contact State Representatives and attend the County Commissioners meeting on April 20 to voice opposition.

Beach Nourishment – Sand Issues. Captain Willis was not present. He notified the Clerk earlier he wished to withdraw his presentation.

**ACTION AGENDA**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT: PROPOSED DESIGN and GRANT FOR DOUBLETREE WEST AND DUNES AVENUE BEACH ACCESSES**

Jessica Fiester, Planning Director, reviewed the CAMA beach access grant policy and identified past projects that have been successful.

**Jenny Beasley, 950 Avon Rd, Winston Salem, 120 Club Colony**

- opposes the proposed access on Dunes Ave.
- feels the access would have environmental impacts and alter the dune line
- feels the dune provides protection and aesthetics to the area

**Boyd Bason, of Raleigh, brother of Jenny Beasley. 120 Club Colony**

- concerned with environmental impacts as well
- doesn't feel the neighborhood wants to see a structure, they like the natural vegetation
- feels it may impact storm drainage and exasperate parking problems with strangers parking in his driveway

**Martha Beam, 208 Dunes Ave**

- the access would be beneficial to those who are handicap to be able to get out to the beach and over the dunes
- concerned how the access would be constructed and how much space it may take up
- agrees that parking may be a concern
- questioned about lighting and whether there will be any water facilities

**Stephen Jefferson, 117 Club Colony**

- he and his wife want to ensure there will be proper construction of the decking to allow drainage and sand movement
- wants to see the proposed design and be able to provide input before it is finalized

**Lou Wagner, 121B Dunes Ct**

- thinks the positives are obvious
- main negatives are the environmental impacts and parking. Other accesses appear to aid in dune nourishment and the police can enforce any parking issues
- positives are the hundreds of kids, the handicap people and those with bad knees, like him, struggling to walk over the dunes
- has talked to many people about this and all support it but two
- hopes we proceed with the project

**Edith Wagner, 121 Dunes Court**

- has never seen parking to be a problem
- thinks the other accesses in the neighborhood are appealing
- there should be a walkway there to accommodate everyone

Mayor Cooper stated we had seven or so letters of support for the project as well. He confirmed the concerns of parking, appearance and environmental impacts would be addressed.

*Clerk's Note: Citizen letters of support are hereby incorporated into the minutes.*

It was the consensus of Council to proceed with a preliminary design and further communicate with the residents.

**7. PUBLIC HEARING FOR AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 11, SIGN REGULATIONS AND APPENDIX A, DEFINITIONS OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE**

Jessica Fiester, Planning Director, reviewed the current sign ordinance and the proposed amendment, which was brought about due to the amount of sandwich boards that clutter the business district. Jessica explained that this amendment adds dimension and defines the size of the allowable sandwich boards. It also states the sandwich boards must be upright. Feather flags were not addressed in the original ordinance at all.

With no comments or questions from Council, Councilmember Briley made a motion *to enter into* the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Archer. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

No comments.

With no comments, Councilmember Archer made a motion *to exit* the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Briley. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

During joint discussion, there was concern among Council that businesses should have either two sandwich boards or two feather flags, not both. Also, they should be limited to two snipe signs, not allowing two beyond the sandwich and feather signs. Signs also need to be kept in good repair, not faded, torn, or tattered.

It was the consensus of Council for staff and the Town Manager to address some of these changes and areas of concern and then hold another public hearing.

Councilmember Batt made a motion *to schedule a public hearing* for a revised set of amendments at the regular Council meeting on April 27. Seconded by Councilmember Rivers. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**8. RESOLUTION #15-03-03: Resolution of Commitment of Funds Water Resources Development Project Grant**

Presented jointly by Jessica Fiester, Planning Director and Marc Schulze, Public Services Director.

We have the opportunity to get \$50,000 in reimbursements so we can do up to \$100,000 in dredging, effectively doubling our existing dredging budget this year, but we need to approve the resolution tonight to meet the application deadline. The areas considered for dredging are Royal Channel, two spots in New Causeway Channel, Causeway Channel, Anchorage Channel, 8 ½ Marina Channel, and two spots on Causeway Channel near two of the buoys. The Crows Nest Channel also has areas of concern.

Councilmember Archer made a motion *to approve as amended* to include “other channels as the Town determines”. Seconded by Councilmember Briley. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**9. DRAINAGE PROJECTS UPDATE**

Marc Schulze, Public Services Director, reviewed the West End Drainage Project. Due to the heavy rains this past year and the water issues on Mobile Drive the Town installed drop basins and cleaned the ditches on Mobile Drive. The Town also cleaned the westend ditch out, the ditch runs from Mobile Drive to the Hoop Pole Creek Basin. It was cleaned out by inmate labor to remove the overgrown vegetation and we ran a sewer jetter to clear the drainage pipes. Lee Street has erosion on the ditch bank, the plan is to concrete the ditch bank.

**10. ORDINANCE 15-03-02: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8, Fire Prevention and Protection, Section 8-39, Abatement of Public Safety Nuisances**

Adam Snyder, Fire Chief, reviewed the proposed ordinance. The Town currently has 249 hydrants. It was determined that 52 of them are considered privately owned. Over time the hydrants deteriorate and need repair, which the Town has been doing. If an owner of a private hydrant does not repair their hydrant, the Town has to repair it so they are able to access it. This Ordinance will make the owner responsible for the repairs.

Councilmember Briley made a motion *to approve* Ordinance 15-03-02: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8, Fire Prevention and Protection, Section 8-39, Abatement of Public Safety Nuisances. Seconded by Councilmember Batt. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a) FY15-16 Revenue Update: Property Tax Reval; Sales Tax; Business Licenses
- b) 2015 Beach Music Festival Update

Mr. Walker reviewed the projected 2015 county tax reval estimates. He reviewed how proposed sales tax would affect Atlantic Beach with loss.

Mr. Walker reviewed the BMF planning and the success of collecting sponsorships.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL COMMENTS**

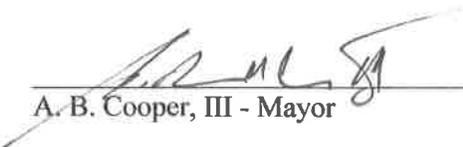
Councilmember Archer congratulated the finance department on receipt of the fifteenth annual CAFR award recognizing excellent financial reporting.

There being no further action taken or business before Council the meeting stood adjourned. The time was 7:56 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the April 27, 2015 meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council.



TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH

  
A. B. Cooper, III - Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Katrina Tyer - Town Clerk