



**MINUTES**  
**Town of Atlantic Beach, North Carolina**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, February 26, 2018**



The regularly scheduled meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council was held Monday, February 26, 2018 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 Richard Porter; Councilmembers: Harry Archer, Richard Johnson, Danny Navey, Austin Waters

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Walker, Town Manager; Derek Taylor, Town Attorney; Katrina Tyer, Town Clerk; Sabrina Simpson, Administrative Service Director; Michelle Shreve, Planner; Arrington Moore, Events/Mgmt Asst; Marc Schulze, Public Works Director; Jeff Harvey, Police Chief; Mike Shutak, Carteret News-Times

**CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and three Cub Scouts from Pack 130 led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDAS**

Councilmember Archer made a motion *to amend and approve* the agendas by moving consent item 4(k) Approval of 2018 Town Park Rates to the action agenda. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Porter. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Financial Report
- b) Budget Amendment
- c) Tax Collection Report
- d) Tax Refund - Edgerton
- e) Tax Releases
- f) Authorization to Advertise Tax Liens
- g) Surplus Sales – Office Chairs
- h) Approval of FY18-19 Budget Calendar
- i) Approval of FY17-18 Audit Contract with Thompson, Scott, Price & Adams
- j) Approval of 2018 Parking Program
- ~~k) Approval of 2018 Town Park Rates (moved to action item #6)~~
- l) Town Council Meeting Minutes: 1/22/18

Mayor Cooper reviewed the consent items for the audience.

Councilmember Waters made a motion *to approve* the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

**5. CITIZEN REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

Ed Suggs, Assistant Cub Scout Master, Pack 130

He is requesting permission for a special mini golf tournament at the Town Park on April 21, 2018 as a fund raiser to assist kids who are unable to pay for dues and uniforms. Raindate would be the following Saturday. The goal is to have 72 participants. They will provide food and entertainment. He asks the Town to allow use of the park, clubs, and balls at no charge. They are requesting use of the green space for a tent that will remain up over the weekend. Mayor Cooper stated he felt this would be a great event, the Town can open the course a little early.

Councilmember Navey made a motion *to approve* the Cub Scout Pack 130 Mini Golf Tournament scheduled for April 21, 2018 event as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Archer. Vote was unanimous, 5-0. Motion carried.

## **6. APPROVAL OF 2018 TOWN PARK RATES**

The proposal is to change miniature golf rates from \$3/person to \$5/person with age six and under remaining free. Mr. Walker explained the mini golf fees offset park costs beyond just the expenses of concession food and staffing.

- Year-round Internet access at the park for security cameras and splashpad
- Utilities for year round lighting and operation of pump house
- Landscaping
- Splashpad replacement parts and ongoing chemicals for treatment
- Year round staffing by Public Works for park/lawns upkeep and bathroom cleaning
- Possible bands/other events to be held at the park per Council retreat goals

Mayor Pro Tem Porter feels increasing by only one dollar may be better and still keep park operations in the black. He is concerned a high increase may keep people from visiting.

Councilman Archer feels \$5 a person is still a very reasonable charge compared to others in the area. He also feels we should start saving funds for hiring a Parks and Recreation Director, which this increase in rates would do. With all of the events we hold that are free, he feels this is permissible.

Eddie Briley was allowed to speak and said the park was built to provide families with a cost effective game. He feels that a \$2 increase is too high at once. He does not want to see this discourage someone from going to the park. He suggested staying at the current rate.

Mayor Cooper reminded Council and the audience at their retreat they decided to plan a concert series at the park, an increase would help cover the costs. He suggested a \$1 increase for this season and to review in more detail during budget discussions.

Mayor Pro Tem Porter made a motion to increase rates by \$1 per person, age six and under still free. No Seconded. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Councilmember Archer made a motion *to increase* miniature golf rates by \$2 per person, making it \$5 per person. Seconded by Councilman Waters. Vote was 4-1 with Mayor Pro Tem Porter voting in opposition. Motion carried.

## **7. REVIEW OF BICYCLE PLAN UPDATE**

Michelle updated Council on the Comprehensive Bicycle Plan, completed in 2012 with help from a NCDOT grant and consultant Rivers & Associates, recommends projects that will improve bicycle transport. The projects recommended by this plan are catered towards bicyclists or bicyclists and pedestrians.

The projects that have completed or addressed by the Town are largely projects that benefit pedestrians. For example, of the eighteen Multi-Use Trails recommended, six have been installed as sidewalks instead, which are for pedestrian use and not bicyclist use. The difference is that a multi-use trail is wider, set farther back off the street, and is for use by pedestrians and bicyclists. The implementation of sidewalks over multi-use trails is largely an issue of space, the public right-of-way is limited, and acquisition of easements can be costly and/or render the subject property's parking nonconforming.

The Public Works Department has installed the recent set of sidewalks on East Fort Macon Road, which brings down the cost and ideal to implement.

In order to move towards bicycle-friendliness, there are a few different projects that could be completed. Bike lanes were installed on West Drive, East Drive, and Atlantic Boulevard, in accordance with the plan. These streets were already wide enough or were reconfigured to be wide enough to accommodate bike lanes. Many of the streets identified for bike lanes are not wide enough. Widening the road shoulder in order to add a bike lane is a project type identified in two places: along the north side of West and East Bogue Boulevard and along the west side of the Causeway. As noted with the multi-use trails, easement acquisition can prove difficult, among other barriers to implementation. The plan recommends sixteen

projects to implement “sharrows”, which is a combination of signage painted on the road and signs posted next to the road to encourage drivers and bicyclists to share the road. Sharrows are a lower cost option, and the paint on the road and the sign would be placed within the existing right-of-way without too much disruption to current traffic patterns.

Last month, NCDOT requested a status update of each of the 58 projects recommended by the plan. The status update includes a chart addressing each item, including date of construction and cost for projects completed and a comments section for projects not completed. Michelle submitted the status update on January 31 and has not received a response.

Councilman Navey reminds Council that we need to be careful adding stripes to the road making it confusing, citing parts of Raleigh as an example of too many lines.

Councilman Waters inquired about expanding the road for a bike path along the Causeway. Councilmember Navey advised of the confusion there would be at the Old Causeway intersection.

Councilman Archer suggests incorporating the bicycle plan into the RFP for the Causeway Updates. He also suggests installing signage indicating to ‘share the road’ and signage on the sidewalks to allow bicycles.

Mayor Pro Tem Porter would like to know if there are NCDOT requirements that limit locations of the sparrows on town streets. Michelle will inquire, but knows there are regulations for state roads.

## **8. REVIEW OF RECREATIONAL WATER COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Johnson reviewed the newly created Recreational Water Committee, led by him.

Mission: On behalf of the Mayor and Council, study and evaluate the current status of water quality in and around Atlantic Beach. Work to ensure that, along with our healthy beaches and open boating channels, Atlantic Beach has clean safe water for the recreational enjoyment of our citizens and visitors.

Scope: Meet with all relevant agencies and organizations to determine roles, responsibilities, and authority as it relates to water quality. Identify what testing is currently being done along with methods, protocols, and results achieved. Consider the need for supplemental testing by the Town of Atlantic Beach. Identify sources of water contamination, if any, and evaluate potential solutions. Advise Council on any suggested changes to Town policies, enforcement, monitoring, communication, etc.

The committee will hold monthly meetings with guest speakers in the Public Works Conference Room.

Councilman Navey made a motion *to create and approve* the Recreational Water Committee. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Porter. Vote was unanimous, 5-0.

## **9. TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

- a) Review of 2018 Goals and Objectives
- b) Status Report on Projects

Mr. Walker reviewed the status of current projects:

- Construction of the East Fort Macon Road sidewalk project is nearing completion
- Construction of the boardwalk at the Tom Doe beach access on Henderson Blvd. will be completed before Memorial weekend by public works staff
- Currently working on a beach access project with Doubletree and seeking CAMA grant funding
- Planning for Saturday in the Park, summer events and movies continues
- We are currently advertising for summer park staff
- We will have two summer interns this year. One will be assigned to the Recreational Water Committee and work part time at the park. The second will be working in the planning offices to assist staff
- 2018 AB Beach Music Festival is generating sponsors and planning is going well

Councilman Johnson noted this list was developed based on the vision for Atlantic Beach in ten years, not just 2018 goals.

**10. MAYOR/COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURN**


There being no further action taken or business before Council the meeting stood adjourned. The time was 7:08 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the March 26, 2018 meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council.


TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH

ATTEST:

(seal)

  
Katrina Tyer - Town Clerk



  
A. B. Cooper, III - Mayor