



Minutes
Town of Atlantic Beach, North Carolina
Town Council – Work Session
Monday, February 10, 2020 at 2:00pm



A regularly scheduled work session of the Atlantic Beach Town Council was held Monday, February 10, 2020 at 2:00 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 Johnson; Councilmembers: M.J. Forrest, Danny Navey and Austin Waters

Members Absent: Councilmember Harry Archer

Others Present: David Walker, Town Manager; Katrina Tyer, Town Clerk; Sabrina Simpson, Admin Services Director; Michelle Shreve, Planning Director; Morgan Gilbert, Parks and Rec Director; Marc Schulze, Public Works Director; Mike Simpson, Fire Chief; Mike Shutak, Carteret News Times

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson made a motion *to approve* the agenda as prepared. Seconded by Councilmember Navey. Vote was unanimous, 4-0. Motion carried.

Councilmember Navey made a motion *to excuse* Councilmember Archer due to sickness. Seconded by Councilmember Waters. Vote was unanimous, 4-0. Motion carried.

RECAP OF RECYCLING AND GARBAGE CAN PROGRAM

Norma Yanez, Waste Industries reviewed the current contract between the Town and Waste Industries. Atlantic Beach is able to pay cheaper fees due to being a seasonal town. Waste Industries is trying to move to automated trucks, mainly because it is safer for employees to not get out of the vehicles.

Council agrees more efforts need to be put into educating citizens on the recycling program, especially what items can be recycled.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mayor Cooper has been working on the Strategic Plan since the retreat and reviewed with Council to make sure the focus areas he had listed are correct. Initiatives need to be established and time frames set.

Themes:

- Environment & Appearance = “a built environment that is as inspiring as our natural environment”
- Multiple Constituencies & Families = “kids of all ages”
- Small Town & Economic Development = “where neighborhoods and businesses thrive”
- Open/Professional Leadership = “citizen driven”
- Include references to hospitality and “great place”

Key Focus Areas:

1. Environmental Stewardship
2. Parks, Recreation & Entertainment
3. Quality Redevelopment/Smart Growth
4. Organizational Excellence
5. Town Appearance
6. Local Business Development
7. Regional Thinking

Refined Focus Areas:

1. Environmental Stewardship

2. Recreation & Entertainment
3. Great Government
 - Organizational Excellence
 - Regional Thinking
 - Public Safety Excellence
 - Fiscal Responsibility
4. Smart Growth
5. Place Making
 - Town Appearance
 - Local Business Development

DISCUSSION REGARDING TOWN PARK LIGHTING AND REPLACEMENT OF DEAD TREES

Complaints have been received about the park lights not being on at night. Duke Energy will not allow the lights to be turned on for a few hours at night, they must be on from dusk to dawn or off all together. The Town needs to decide if we want to leave the lights on for people to enjoy the park at night or leave them off. There was discussion about a tariff and how the lights one would affect the adjoining neighborhoods.

The large cedar trees planted on the southern dune are not weathering the salt and wind abuse. It was the consensus to replace the trees with a variety that can withstand the elements.

NOISE ORDINANCE REVISIONS

Chief Harvey has researched updating the noise ordinance for clarification, mostly amplified music and barking dogs. The policy now is for the officers to just talk with and advise bar owners of noise violations, he would like to clarify the policy.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson does not want to discourage business or entertainment. It was the consensus for Mayor Cooper to orchestrate a roundtable meeting with residents, business owners and police staff to assist with establishing the rules.

RECAP OF POLICY FOR DEALING WITH COYOTES

The current policy is for the police department to provide a citizen with a list of licensed trappers for them to contact. This policy has worked well the past few years and Chief Harvey would like to continue to use it. Council did not recommend any changes.

SUMMER LIFEGUARD PROGRAM PLANS

Chief Simpson is proposing to change the beach flag warning system to add additional flags along the beach strand and to use the standard square flag instead of the triangle pendant flags. Everything will be consistent with the other beach towns. He recommends beginning to post the flags as early as Easter this year. There was discussion about extending the flag posting past Labor Day. He proposed beach markers that would be connected with the County 911 for better location and response to calls, suggested posting even numbers east of the Circle and odd numbers west. He would like to ask the ABKMT for the initial startup funding for the flags and signage. Mayor Cooper suggested using mile makers; the current mile markers out there are not large enough. Lifeguards will start on May 2 with 2 roaming ATVs. Full-time lifeguards will start on May 16 for the Beach Music Festival.

SUMMER PARKING PROGRAM OUTLINE (DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION)

The same rates and policy as last year is being proposed. There was discussion on the current one hour parking spaces around the perimeter of West and Atlantic Drive. Council wants to ensure the local businesses are satisfied with any changes. It was the consensus to canvas the local businesses to gather their opinions.

REVIEW OF WEST END DRAINAGE PLANS

Mr. Walker presented the west end drainage plan. It is a five phase project with the first phase being installation of a weir off Forrest Knoll Drive. Council requested data on how many households this plan impacts.

PROPOSED THREE YEAR PROGRAM: LEASING POLICE FLEET

We are considering a proposal from Enterprise for a leasing program for police vehicles. There was discussion on how long vehicles would be kept and the expense and savings associated with leasing. Council will discuss this at a later date.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further action taken or business before Council the meeting stood adjourned. The time was 4:18pm.

These minutes were approved at the February 24, 2020 meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council.

ATTEST:

(seal)

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH


Katrina Tyer - Town Clerk


A. B. Cooper, III - Mayor

