



**Minutes**  
**Town Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Town Boardroom**  
**1010 West Fort Macon Road, Unit 17 and**  
**Electronically Via Zoom**  
**Thursday, September 9, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.**

A regularly scheduled work session of the Atlantic Beach Town Council was held Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room, 1010 West Fort Macon Road, Unit 17, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina and electronically via Zoom.

**Members Present:** Mayor A. B. Cooper, III; Mayor Pro Tem Richard Johnson; Councilmembers: Harry Archer, M.J. Forrest, Danny Navey and Austin Waters

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Walker, Town Manager; Katrina Tyer, Town Clerk; Marc Schulze, Public Works Director; Michelle Shreve, Planning Director; Jeff Harvey, Police Chief; Fred “Joey” Dean, Planning Board Member via Zoom

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. It is with sadness to announce that our former Councilmember John Rivers passed away this morning.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilman Archer made a motion *to approve* the agenda. Seconded by Councilman Forrest. Approved unanimously, 5-0. Motion carried.

### **REVIEW OF PROPOSED NCDOT HWY 58 CROSSOVERS**

Staff has coordinated with NCDOT engineers on the following Crossover/Crosswalk items:

- Charlotte Ave and Fort Macon Road intersection – discussions on what side of the intersection (east or west) to install a crossover and the issues with power poles, utility cabinets, parking spaces, etc. Sidewalks will be required and should go down the block along Charlotte. We can do this as a joint funding contract, DOT would do the survey/design/implementation and the Town has agreed to jointly fund this project.
- Crosswalk with refuge island at Palm Suites and Cedar Lane – DOT did not want to install the refuge island so close to Cedar Lane due to traffic turning into the ABC Store and that being the area where Fort Macon Road narrows from five lanes to two. It has been designed to be west of the ABC Store. The Town has agreed for DOT to move forward with this project.
- Town Park – Crosswalk signaling is up for funding this next round with installation in the Spring if chosen.
- West Fort Macon Road flashing crosswalk warning signs – these have been an issue of complaint and are planned to be removed and the push-button signals installed for the crosswalks in that area.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson asked to ensure all of the lighting and signage at all of the crosswalks throughout Town match.

### **REVIEW OF PROPOSED STORMWATER PROJECTS**

The design plans by The Cullipher Group, PA have been approved. SF Ballou is prepared to start construction at East Atlantic Blvd./Greenville Avenue to East Terminal (\$72,709); West Terminal Blvd./South Charlotte Avenue to Raleigh Avenue (\$51,430); and the 100 Block of East Boardwalk (\$12,630).

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson referenced an issue on Davis Blvd. that is holding water and recently brought to his attention. Mr. Walker noted staff would look into it.

### **REVIEW OF PROPOSED SIDEWALK PROJECTS**

Mayor Cooper reviewed the Bike Plan project maps and information about sharrows (shared+arrows) and signage. Without space for bike lanes, providing informative signage and painting sharrows on the asphalt can inform people share the road

with bicyclists on designated streets. The Bike Plan identifies areas to place them, but we have deviated significantly from this plan as we have become more pedestrian-oriented than bicycle, so we would need to select appropriate locations. There was discussion on possible locations and the use of asphalt versus concrete. We would like to move forward with implementation (even in phases), especially since the Land Use Plan lists this as an action item.

It was the consensus to install a sidewalk on Old Causeway Road because it is a side street and to add multi-use paths where possible on the western north side of Fort Macon Road for sharing bikes, strollers, walkers, etc. It was also discussed to ensure the paths merge smoothly into the sidewalks. Also, the sidewalks should be as far away from the road as possible.

Mayor Cooper will work with Michelle to start a pilot program for sharrows, suggested East Bogue and Pelican Drive.

**SCHEDULE TO RECEIVE DESIGN SCHEME FOR BOARDWALK**

Mayor Cooper discussed with Council the status of the Boardwalk project and requested their input. He has finalized the Design Competition Brief and hopes to release it by the end of September. A committee will review the submissions and determine the finalists for the prize winnings, hopefully by December. After the final drawings are received, the public will have a chance to comment.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Forrest asked Chief Harvey about his recent email regarding the state change in UTV laws and how it effects our beach driving rules.

Chief Harvey responded, effective October 1, UTVs will be allowed on certain streets with certain speeds. He wanted Council's view on allowing UTVs on the beach strand during beach driving season. He is concerned if allowed they will be used for dune driving and joy riding, which is what they are designed for. Our current ordinance does not allow ATVs, but does not address UTVs.

Councilman Forrest reminded Council we amended the ordinance to allow low speed vehicles on town streets. Mayor Pro Tem Johnson does not see much difference in a Jeep and an UTV, they abide by the rules. He feels this is a control and enforcement issue, the accesses need to be monitored perhaps with a license plate camera at each access.

It was the consensus for Chief Harvey to research what type of cameras other Town's on the island use and to prepare an amendment to the beach driving ordinance to tighten it up. Mayor Cooper noted beach driving will be added to the next retreat agenda.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further action taken or business before Council the meeting stood adjourned. The time was 3:39 pm.

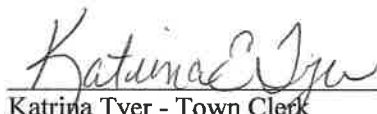
These minutes were approved at the October 25, 2021 meeting of the Atlantic Beach Town Council.

ATTEST:

(seal)

TOWN OF ATLANTIC BEACH

  
A. B. Cooper, III - Mayor

  
Katrina Tyer - Town Clerk

