



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Rick Smith; Commissioners Page Dyer and Pat Kwiatkowski; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Inspections Director Tim Evans; Public Works Supervisor Scott Cunningham; Lieutenant Frank Dilworth; and Town Attorney Rick Green. Commissioner Brian Murdock participated for a portion of the meeting remotely. Commissioner Gerald Brown was unable to attend. The meeting was livestreamed on the Town's Facebook page.

Mayor Holden asked for a moment of silence and then called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Holden announced that Commissioner Murdock and Brown are sick. Commissioner Murdock will participate remotely for a portion of the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to amend the agenda to move item 10, the light ordinance and item 17, paid parking changes up after we have public comments. Mayor Holden suggested listing them as 6a and 6b. Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconded the motion.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve it as amended. The Board voted by roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve the minutes of April 21 (2022), meeting on April 25 (2022), the meeting on May 17 (2022) and the special meeting on May 20 (2022); second by Commissioner Dyer.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said on page 21 moral should be morale.

The Board voted by roll call to approve the minutes presented with the change noted. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Pat Cusack, member of the HB Turtle Patrol, spoke in favor of the proposed lighting ordinance. He provided statistics and details on why it is important that oceanfront lighting be shielded. He provided information on lighting that is safer for turtles.

John Cifelli, President of the HB Turtle Patrol, would like the ordinance to be passed to make it safer for the turtles.

Ashley Royal encouraged the Board to not take action on the agenda to allow a vendor on the beach. He believes once the door is opened, it will be difficult when people come and ask for a similar privilege. Sunset Slush came to the Board many times. He was on the Board in the past and his opinion did not change.

Jeff Trombley said the Board needs to take canal properties into consideration for the lighting ordinance. He talked about his experiences with lighting on the canals. He said lighting is an issue when they try to enjoy their yard. Mr. Trombley said there is no excuse for floodlights.

Marti Arrowood spoke in favor of Sunset Slush's request to operate carts on the strand. They have been actively participating in the Town's events. To add carts on the strand provides a choice to visitors without having to leave the beach. Mrs. Arrowood provided details on why she supports the request.

James Bauer said it doesn't look like there are any available funds left to do anything if there is an emergency. He doesn't agree with Sunset Slush's request. Mr. Bauer said the audio is barely possible to hear. He asked what is going on with pier. He asked if the Town has insurance information and what the pier will cost.

Town Clerk Finnell said the comment submitted in writing was provided to the Board and is available online if people would like to see it.

Mayor Holden asked if video, in addition to audio was working. Town Clerk Finnell confirmed it was.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 22-13, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE HOLDEN BEACH CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 92: NUISANCES (OUTSIDE LIGHTS)

Mayor Pro Tem Smith said the night sky is one of the most beautiful parts of the island. The purpose of amending the ordinance is to reduce the light pollution on Holden Beach, to control the nighttime character of the island and to protect neighboring properties from nuisance glare. It is to protect the nesting sea turtle habitats. Town Clerk Finnell passed out the amended ordinance that fixed the numbering of the ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked the Board to make a motion to approve the adjustments to the lighting ordinance. This won't be enforced right away, there will be a six-month grace period. After discussion, the Board would like to use an effective date of January 1, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Dyer to accept Ordinance 22-13, with the changes listed to be effective January 1, 2023; second by Commissioner Kwiatkowski.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski inquired if the Board would like to address floodlights based on the public comment. The Board discussed if floodlights should stay and didn't make a change at this time.

The Board voted by roll call. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PAID PARKING ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE TOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said based on discussions with the Police Department, there have been a couple of suggestions made for improved signage. The first would be for Ocean Boulevard, more frequently by the bridge and then becoming less frequent as you move away. There is an example of the sign in the packets that reads Parking Prohibited Except in Designated Areas. The second is a sign that says no cars or trucks are allowed to park in LSV spaces. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said there has been lack of clarity on where the Town is prohibiting parking from 2:00 – 5:00 a.m. on the island. She talked about the background of right-of-way parking (ROW). She stated the idea was to let people in the residential areas park in the ROW near their house after the paid parking hours and people would not need to move their cars during the prohibited hours. They did not want them parking in the large Town designated parking areas. After talking to the Police Department, they thought putting a table into the ordinance saying where parking is prohibited during 2:00 – 5:00 a.m. would clear the situation up. She reviewed the proposed ordinance.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith that we improve our signage on the island in the proposed written document; second by Commissioner Dyer.

Town Manager Hewett asked if there is an estimate on the signs and cost. Lieutenant Dilworth explained they don't have the final numbers. Town Manager Hewett stated that based on the budget amendment and costs incurred before, he thinks the cost for signage would be fine. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said she is fine to go by Police Department recommendations on the number of signs. Mayor Holden stated a problem he is hearing about is people are using the HB Chapel's parking lot and other business lots in order to park for free. He is not sure how to address those problems but it will be an issue. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said she thought her understanding was it would require a complaint to be enforced. Lieutenant Dilworth said the current legal backing they have is to tow vehicles in violation at the owner's expense. He suggested talking to Attorney Green if the Board wanted to change the ordinance.

Mayor Holden clarified the vote is on the signage. Jim Varner from Otto Connect said four signs have been vandalized at this point. They have all been fixed and replaced. Commissioner Dyer asked if the price of parking will need to increase if that continues. Mr. Varner said that would be up to the Town.

The Board voted by roll call. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that the Board vote to adopt Ordinance 22-16 as written, which has the addition of a parking prohibited from 2:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m. table in §72.02(8); second by Mayor Pro Tem Smith.

Town Manager Hewett pointed out an issue with prohibiting fishing at 441 Ocean Boulevard West, the pier. He said if we are going to proceed with a commercial operation and not allow parking at night, it will constrain the vendor's ability to make a profit. Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested revisiting that when the pier is open again.

The Board voted by roll call. The motion passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT – LIEUTENANT DILWORTH

- Asked if any questions on the report. Commissioner Dyer asked about the train accident. Lieutenant Dilworth explained that was erroneous. He went over the line items.
- Typical busy summer. Still two people short. Looking to fill the positions.
- Officers are saying there is more compliance with LSVs, with constraints specifically. Had conversations with some of the rental providers. That information is getting out properly. Encouraged people listening that if you are bringing a LSV from out of state, to check the website or call the Police Department.
- Haven't had the need to close the left lane of bridge on Saturdays since Memorial Day weekend. Mayor Pro Tem Smith said he thinks the people who have done it in the past figured it was the best way to do it. Lieutenant Dilworth added there may have been a time change on the trash route and automatic check-in may have helped. They will keep watching it. If a need arises, they will take that step.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith said we want to make sure people understand state law requires seatbelt use in LSVs, along with child restraints. Be mindful, lithium battery operated ones can stop abruptly. He added it is recommended that you shouldn't use an extension cord for LSVs. He provided information on a recent accident in Statesville that resulted in a five-year old's death and critically injured other young people. LSVs are dangerous. He said be patient and give them room. Lieutenant Dilworth reminded people you are required to be a licensed driver. All rules of a motor vehicle apply.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE – CHIEF TODD

Chief Todd went over the statistics he provided to the Board that included information on personnel, calls, response times and training. The new station on Sabbath Home Road is still in the engineering process. They hope to be able to put it out to bid in August if they have enough money to build it with everything going on. Chief Todd said response time on the island is a little higher. They only staff it from May 1st through September, from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. At nighttime, they need to come from Sabbath Home Road.

Mayor Holden asked about the water pressure for the island. Chief Todd said when you get past where it cuts across on the west end, the pressure starts dropping. There is pretty decent pressure on the system. Right now, we are on conservation so they only use it if it is needed. Chief Todd is in favor of a

second water tower. He thinks it would help tremendously, especially on the west end. With all the infrastructure and upgrading in the county, there can be problems. A second water tower would give an extra safety factor if anything happened.

INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT REPORT – INSPECTIONS DIRECTOR EVANS

Town Manager Hewett said this is the first of what we hope is a recurring report to the Board. Inspections Director Evans explained they have been very busy. He went through his slideshow. He said there are over 5,000 pages of rules and regulations that apply to our area. Inspectors are there to make sure you build a safe home. NCDOL is who governs inspections departments in the state. He provided information on plan review, which includes permits, zoning, and CAMA permits. The department acts to mitigate ordinance complaints. He provided details on the reviews performed for the last fiscal year, which totaled 2,714. The state requires every municipality to hire a properly certified inspector or contract with a government entity that has certified inspections. The inspectors are responsible for the enforcement of the NC Building Codes. He provided information on the staff of the department. Inspections Director Evans went over the statistics on inspections which total 4,771. He said the structural valuation increase was \$40 million. The revenue collection was \$652,000.

Inspections Director Evans stated for every certificate of occupancy that was issued this year, when the contractor is finished and the file is closed, the department needs to work with six other agencies to make sure the citizens can get the services they should have. They must maintain files in perpetuity because they are required for follow-up visits from agencies that directly affect the Town's insurance rating. The Inspections Department has done a really good job. They have lowered the Town's CRS rating. They have really good employees who work really hard.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TOWN LANDSCAPING CONTRACT WITH CAROLINA CREATIONS

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson provided a history of the landscaping on the mainland bridge landscaping project. Staff has been working on this since before last September. They have met with DOT onsite. She went over the three options. Option 1 is for service on the island side only. The contract for one year would be \$59,152.58. To keep what they are doing on both sides it would go up to \$67,145.64. If the Board would like to start a new project, which would include 25 palm trees, remove the mulch areas, plant centipede turf grass and increase irrigation it would be \$125,924.14. She included the bid tab from when the project went out to bid in 2020. What is proposed is not included in the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. She went over the additional funds that would be necessary. The delta is recommended to come from fund balance in the General Fund.

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said if we abandon the mainland side, it goes back to what it was before. Mayor Holden said we have the ugliest approach to our bridge of any island in Brunswick County. Mayor Pro Tem Smith agreed but said with the budget constraints he doesn't see how we could go for the full program. He suggested Option 2 would be best approach for this year. Mayor Holden reminded everyone that the Town is the island. The north side is controlled by the county and DOT. We would be spending Town money on county-controlled property/DOT ROW. Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked if have staff reapproached the county for support. Town Manager Hewett answered our

agreement outlines the responsibilities of the county, which they have none. It took a third-party agreement to take the project on. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson explained the Town has no jurisdiction over the signs that people place in the garden. Inspections Director Evans said at the planners meeting he brought up discussing some ETJ responsibilities there. The feedback he received is the commissioners are not conducive to releasing the ETJs to any towns. That made him ask if they would do anything to help with the causeway. He thinks it would be good for the Town to allow him to follow up with the county planner. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said it seems the time to talk about it would be when they do the corridor study. Mayor Pro Tem Smith said Inspections Director Evans' participation would be appreciated. He inquired if the county could help remove signage. Inspections Director Evans said they can contact the county's code enforcement to see what their policies are, but typically agencies don't get involved in other agencies' code enforcement.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve Option 2, to authorize the town manager to make appropriate adjustments with expenses with the General Fund balance and to execute the contract; second by Commissioner Kwiatkowski.

Commissioner Murdock is no longer on the telephone so the Board went back to their normal voting method.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 22-14, THE REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 - 2023

Town Manager Hewett explained Ordinance 22-14 is the budget for the upcoming fiscal year and is before the Board for consideration. It is the result of departmental inputs and commissioner workshops. Inputs and amendments have all been incorporated into the budget. It is ready for adoption unless the Board wants to make further modifications.

Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that we approve Ordinance 22-14, the Budget Ordinance Appropriating Revenues and Authorizing Expenses for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; second by Mayor Pro Tem Smith; approved by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR BIKE LANES ON OCEAN BOULEVARD

Town Manager Hewett explained execution of the agreement with the DOT is required to construct the Ocean Boulevard bike lanes this fall in conjunction with the resurfacing of Ocean Boulevard. The project is estimated at \$1,722,364 of which 42% (\$723,393) is the Town's share. The remaining 58% is funded by the Grand Strand Area Transportation Study. The contract can be executed via prior Board action to appropriate funds. Projects costs will be calculated upon completion. Any excess prepayments are returned by DOT per the cost shares above. Cost overruns are likewise prorated. The Town will be advised upon the bid opening as to the viability of the DOT contract letting. The bid opening date has not been determined at this time.

Mayor Holden reminded property owners that work will be done in the state ROW and not on anyone's private property. The bike lanes are an integral part of the Ocean Boulevard resurfacing design and cannot be excluded from the project if it is to be accomplished within DOT's current schedule.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve the TIP agreement #10000132299 and direct the town manager to execute the same; second by Commissioner Dyer.

Town Manager Hewett agreed that at this time there are no manpower needs and extra costs. He does not know if there will be increases in the project. The bid was revised about 45 days ago. The budget action the Board took reflected the most up-to-date information at that time.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST BY SUNSET SLUSH CLASSIC ITALIAN ICE TO UTILIZE VENDING CARTS ON THE BEACH STRAND

Commissioner Dyer said with the recent addition of food trucks at the pier and paid parking with situations where people don't want to leave the beach and lose their space, she would like to allow Sunset Slush to speak about their business plan and how it works on other islands. There have been many positive comments from people who would like to see this.

The Board agreed a picture slideshow could play in the background while they presented. Drew Sellers introduced his brother, Devon and his mom, Susan. They went over the history of their business. They provided information on pushing carts on the beach, on what other islands allow and how it works. They suggested utilizing a trial period if the Board would like.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked what the revenue for the Town would be. Drew Sellers went over the fees for other towns and said it would be up to the Board to decide. He talked about dates and times allowed in Ocean Isle. Devon Sellers talked about time limits and the hours they usually work. Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked about limited access. Devon Sellers said they would be willing to try. Drew Sellers added they need to use handicap accesses for the carts. They talked about the process if they needed to use the restroom. Drew Sellers talked about trash removal. Their family does own all the Sunset Slushes in Brunswick County. Drew Sellers explained from his experience, there are not many vendors who want to push carts on the beach.

Inspections Director Evans said depending on where it is in the ordinance book will determine the next step. He can work with the attorney on a text amendment. Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested looking at Ocean Isle's ordinance. Inspections Director Evans stated he already looked and he thinks the best part is they are required to have a brick-and-mortar site in the town. What that does is limit the traffic of outside vendors coming in.

Mayor Holden suggested if it's the Board pleasure to move forward, they can give a directive to Inspections Director Evans to bring back a proposed document for consideration at the next meeting. After discussion, Town Manager Hewett stated he understands the Board wants a document prepared and brought back to the next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON STATUS UPDATE FOR WETLAND DELINEATION OF MARSH AND 800 BLOCK LOTS

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said we would like to proceed as allowed to provide parking possibilities on the marsh streets if possible. The 800-block lot is a separate issue. When Town Manager Hewett sent the Board the marsh delineations, his message was the Corps approves the 404-wetland delineation without a site visit and they need to issue a jurisdictional determination. We have been advised we can proceed with site planning, knowing they will not move any flags. The jurisdictional determination is a decision by the Corps on whether the areas are regulated under federal statutes. She asked about them not needing to make a visit. Inspections Director Evans answered he believes it is an indication that they know exactly what is there and that is delineating what is marked. Any regulations or rules that would apply would need to be adhered to. He explained they went through to try and determine where we might possibly have parking. Inspections Director Evans reviewed his display pictures. Everywhere that is yellow is a good opportunity to bulkhead and save the land. Bulkheading does not allow you to park there or use the land, it allows you to protect the land for the future. He provided information on each picture. There is a small area on Greensboro Street that you may be able to park. It is just a handful of places. Sailfish has some on the north end, it is very minor. It has some in the middle and some on the end. Most of the road doesn't have any spots. There is nowhere to park on Swordfish. On Sand Dollar there is some on the north end and some on the south end, a very small amount. There is nothing on Scotch Bonnet. The Town cannot give permission to park on the marsh. He reviewed the measurements available for parking on each street.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith inquired if the Town needed to bulkhead the areas. Inspections Director Evans responded that the Town already has put one bulkhead at the end of Greensboro. The Town may want to bulkhead some of those areas on the far end. He suggested the Town should bulkhead the 800 block and the portion of the 700 block.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski stated bulkheading to save land at the end of some of the streets is one thing; parking at the end of the marsh street doesn't accomplish what the Board hoped to accomplish which was to give people parking spaces that are fairly close to walkways. She has questions on the value of parking at the extreme north end of any of the marsh streets. Commissioner Kwiatkowski asked how many spaces for full size vehicles or LSVs you could get in the front half of the marsh streets. Inspections Director Evans replied he gave width and lengths; he could go back and count to see how many cars/LSVs you could get in the front part. He will get the information to the Board. He will get with Lieutenant Dilworth and the parking vendor to make a determination of what will fit there and what can best be utilized to work with the parking plan. He agreed that until we get CAMA or Corps' approval, we would just be coming up with a plan, we need permission. Residents parking in those areas was discussed.

The Board agreed that they would like Inspections Director Evans to bring back the numbers.

The Board recessed from 7:12 p.m. - 7:17 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 22-15, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 21-13, THE REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 – 2022 (AMENDMENT NO. 18)

Town Manager Hewett explained the budget amendment in the amount of \$102,461 is necessary to comply with the Fiscal Control Act for providing for and recognizing actual paid parking revenues received and the startup expenses incurred for on and off-street parking, in addition to the initial costs at 441 Ocean Boulevard West. Actual parking revenues we have received to date is \$166,749 and the expenses to date are \$37,412.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve Ordinance 22-15, Amending Ordinance 21-13, The Revenues and Appropriations for the Years 2021 – 2022; second by Commissioner Dyer; approved by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE SETTING OF DATE TO HOLD INTERVIEWS FOR VACANCIES ON TOWN BOARDS

The Board agreed to hold interviews on July 19th at 4:45 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BONUS PROPOSED BY THE BOARD

Town Manager Hewett stated at the May 20th meeting, the Board provided guidance on staff compensation for the upcoming budget. The guidance included a proposed bonus in the amount of \$750 to be issued before the end of the current fiscal year. If the Board would like to move forward the suggested motion is approval of staff bonus in the amount of \$750 per person to be issued this fiscal year to all current fulltime employees in good standing with the Town.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith that we move forward with the \$750 bonus per person to be administered before the end of the year; second by Commissioner Dyer.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said back in November, there was a resolution that explained the total. She asked if the Board would have something similar for this. After discussion, Town Manager Hewett agreed he will provide the total to the Board. He confirmed the bonus can be issued from within existing resources.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON UPDATING SECTION 2. ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND UPDATED SALARY RANGES

Town Clerk Finnell said at the May 20th meeting, the Board agreed to use the social security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) to update the salary ranges this year. The current and proposed ranges are included for the Board to compare. The Board also agreed that from a policy standpoint staff would bring something back to the Board. After researching an automatic annual adjustment as discussed,

staff believes salary ranges should only be adjusted in the years that a COLA is approved for existing staff.

Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that we accept the attachment 1 proposed salary ranges as provided; second by Commissioner Dyer; approved by unanimous vote.

After discussing the proposed amendment to the Personnel Policy, the consensus of the Board is to leave the policy as it is written.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REQUEST THAT THE PLANNING & ZONING BOARD EVALUATE AND PROPOSE ANY APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO ORDINANCE 94.03, FRONTAL DUNE POLICY AND REGULATIONS, IN PARTICULAR §94.03(C)(2) REGARDING WALKWAY POLICIES THAT LIMIT CONSTRUCTION SOUTH OF FRONTAL DUNE AS DEFINED IN §94.03(A) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PROPERTY OWNERS WITH LOTS THAT HAVE MORE THAN 300 FEET FROM THE SEAWARD TOE OF THE FRONTAL DUNE TO THE LAST LINE OF STABLE VEGETATION AND ALSO ADVISE THE BOARD ON THE SUITABILITY OF MOVING PORTIONS OF §94.03 TO CHAPTER 157: ZONING CODE

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said she had a resident ask that she look at the 1100 block. There were concerns on how the current ordinance reads for permissible walkways, the restrictions around walkways and whether they were achieving equal opportunity for houses that have to cross multiple dunes to get to the beach. She said the ordinance is not currently in the land use area, but it should be. One of the items would be for the Planning & Zoning Board (P&Z) to recommend it be moved to the appropriate place in the ordinances. In addition, she thinks a P&Z evaluation for changes and suggestions for possible changes on the policy would be beneficial. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said if the Board agrees, they just need a motion for P&Z to evaluate it, propose some improvements to §94.03 and to advise if portions of the section should move to Chapter 157. She suggested giving them until October. Inspections Director Evans agreed this section needs to be moved to land usage. It also limits the ability for people to appeal decisions because of where it is at. By moving it, it gives the opportunity for someone, such as a handicap person to engage it in a different way. Mayor Pro Tem Smith agreed with revisiting this. Inspections Director Evans provided information on the current ordinance. He said there is a lot that needs to be looked at. He said he is only suggesting moving the portion concerning land usage.

Inspections Director Evans agreed October should be enough time. The Board agreed to move forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON GENERAL ITEMS

Ashley Royal said he interfaces with the Inspections Department two – three times a week. He said they are doing a great job in protecting us and making sure we have code enforcement. He is glad to see the maps here for the marsh spots. He would hope that he didn't hear anything that would indicate we would construct a bulkhead to get more paid parking. He doesn't think that is environmentally or economically sound. Mr. Royal talked about bias reactions. He stated when making the decision for peddling, instead of saying why not, he would first ask the question why.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- FEMA Storm Damage Project (CRP2) – Operations have concluded. All of the beach construction activities are complete. The sand is starting to slide down the beach. We made it through the full moon in June. Thankfully, we didn't have any wind or weather on top of the King Tides. The berm as constructed performed well. On the finance side, we are trying to finalize our special obligation bond and close out. As we head into year two of the outstanding special obligation bond, the balance is right at \$15.2 million. What we are experiencing now is our request for reimbursements and FEMA processing the reimbursements to us so we can in turn pay PNC back. We anticipate the final request for the inspection on the project to occur sometime in the end of July. Hoping for a final reimbursement soon thereafter for the special obligation bond. It will be subject to how long it takes FEMA to schedule the final inspection and approve the final payouts.
- Been in contact with the county manager and they will be reimbursing us \$80,000 for the county's portion of the Lockwood Folly Inlet Crossing Navigation Project. That was executed simultaneously with CRP2.
- Seagull Street Paving Status – blacktop should be going down tomorrow or shortly thereafter. The roadwork has been prepped.
- Status on Pier and Block Q – The Request for Qualifications for engineering consulting services were put on the streets and are due back by the end of week. Food trucks have had a couple of slow weeks getting off the ground. Camper spaces are up and running. We have some reservations made. Administrative actions have been finalized and submitted to the Division of Coastal Management for the \$180,000 CAMA grant reimbursement we got for the lot on the west side of the pier. Probably won't receive those funds until after the first of July.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- Have a good series of concerts going so far. Thanked Assistant Town Manager Ferguson. Have the Tams coming up Sunday night. People seem to be enjoying it. Hasn't seen a single glass bottle of beer on the dance floor this year.
- Lieutenant Dilworth reminded everyone that all fireworks except sparklers are prohibited on the island. It is not a ticket; it is a misdemeanor charge. They are really strict and try to enforce it. It is about fire prevention and protecting what we have. Mayor Holden encouraged the Town to look at fireworks possibilities, either for or against, well in advance of next year.
- We are in hurricane season. As the Emergency Management Director, he would say get your plan in place and be prepared. The Town and county will be prepared. Will be having meetings behind closed doors, as well as open doors. Information is readily available for anyone who is seeking advice. Will be working and prepared for hurricanes, as well as other emergencies.
- Encouraged the Town about looking into an emergency access on the west end, beyond the gate. Asked Town Manager Hewett to communicate with property owners down there. Knows we had some communication with a private property owner and the POA down there, but we haven't heard anything recently.
- Island is looking great.
- Last weekend there were only two dogs on the strand when he rode down it. People were nice and removed them as required. There has been a change in service dog regulations. Encouraged

anyone with special service animals to read the current rules and regulations. Also, Town ordinance says dogs need to be on a leash.

- Summertime is here. Will have a good season.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Smith

- Thanked all the folks who came out and attended the meeting this evening. Good for people to come out and voice their opinions. All of their opinions are taken to heart. Good to see people want to know what's going on.
- Thanked staff, Inspections Director Evans, Assistant Town Manager Ferguson, Town Clerk Finnell and Town Manager Hewett and all of their subordinates. They do a great job of keeping this town running. Police do a great job. Feels like this is one of the safest places on the planet. Talked to Sergeant Milligan about LSV tickets given.
- Appreciates the leniency on some of the guests from our paid parking group. We wanted to make sure they were friendly people. This is an important step, but having a good group to look out for us has been a blessing.
- If you want to see fireworks, walk on the beach at dark and see the others or go to an organized display. Maybe in the future we can have something that can be funded by organizations on the island to have an organized, controlled event.
- Working hard to keep Holden Beach Holden Beach.

Commissioner Dyer

- A lot of people think our ordinance for dogs from 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. is to punish people and not let them take their best friends on the beach. Reminded everyone if you can't walk on the beach in your flipflops, your dogs certainly cannot walk on their paw pads. People forget that dogs' feet are burning. Light dogs, dogs without pigment will sunburn. Salt water will dehydrate your pet. It's not to punish people, it is dangerous.
- Thanked first responders. Thinks they are doing a great job with the busy season coming in.
- Everyone is wanting us to get the pier up and running. What the Public Works Department has done is great. It's cleaned up. We are getting there. Appreciates all the work they put into it. Thinks the changes are positive and are helping us to have a friendlier beach.
- Stay safe.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski

- Thanked our outside speakers. They gave some good information for the Board to listen to.
- Thanked the Police Department and Inspections Director Evans for working with her this month.
- Wants to personally address the comments made by one person about the disappointment of not hearing anything about the pier. We did move forward with having a RFQ requested, that the town manager has reported has been put out, so we can have planning for the pier property. We are doing it stepwise, the way we should do it. There will be more information coming as we get somebody hired, an engineering firm that will put together the next steps we need to make for both the pier and Block Q. Bear with us. We are going to do it slowly and right.
- Thanks everyone for coming. Looks forward to seeing you next month.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to adjourn at 7:59 p.m.; second by Commissioner Dyer; approved by unanimous vote.

J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heather Finnell, Town Clerk