

Heather Finnell

From: Annette Smith <nettersmith@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 9:15 AM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: Re: Holden Beach Board of Commissioners' Supplement

If I could submit a public comment:
Annette Smith - owner 212 OBE and 1037 Coquina

I listened to several hours of the interviews and want to thank the commissioners conducting these for their prepared questions and the way they made their unbiased priorities. It took a lot of time and effort but in the end I do believe the recruitment firm will find someone who will work with our Town for the good of the whole community.

On Monday, February 17, 2025 at 08:28:07 AM EST, Heather Finnell <heather@hbtownhall.com> wrote:

Please see the attached supplement for the Board of Commissioners' February 18th meeting. You can also view it online at <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/33823a15-c1dd-4855-8231-e746e7f3f203/downloads/29e46ab1-876a-402e-a254-a996cc03b427/Search%20Summary%20Conclusion.pdf?ver=1739798591232>.

Heather Finnell, CMC, NCCMC

Town Clerk

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Heather Finnell

From: Carlton Pittman <rucpitt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 4:11 PM
To: Alan Holden; Tom Myers; Tracey7.thomas@gmail.com; Page Dyer; Rick Smith; rpaarfus@gmail.com
Cc: Heather Finnell; Christy Ferguson
Subject: Public comment - February 2025 Meeting - Recruitment Services; Fire Station

Employment Recruitment Services

I find it sad and highly annoying that the three commissioners who were SO focused (incorrectly) on perceived budget irregularities that never existed, RAN on fiscal responsibility, held ENDLESS budget meetings attempting to catch the town or town employees in an Ah-Ha, Gotcha moment on town finances - now want to spend a MINIMUM of un-budgeted \$18,000!!! on a headhunting firm. (Note that now it is **\$26,000** due to the recommendations of Commissioners Myers and Thomas.) The hypocrisy is sheer arrogance on the part of you three.

When you fail or refuse to promote from within when there are valid, qualified candidates, you undermine all trust, morale, and logic of town staff in hiring.

Commissioners are a dime a dozen – they come and go like the wind (thankfully). However, the vast majority of town employees are here for the long haul. Failure, or refusal to promote from within undermines the towns' ability to continue with a strong group of department heads and staff leaders.

The depths to which you three continues to sink over town matters never ceases to amaze sadly.

Fire Station

It has been two years since the Tri-County Fire Chief approached the town asking for the fire station on the island to either be renovated or replaced so that it could be staffed year round, and we do not seem to be one day closer to this occurring.

This should be THE NUMBER 1 priority for the town now that renovation of sewer lift station 2 is in flight.

Many times, the fire department are the very first first-responders on scene at almost every incident on the island – vehicle crashes, health emergencies, as well as fires.

There is no greater obligation for elected officials than public safety. As we seem to be no closer to a new fire station, OR changes to benefits and pay for the Holden Beach Police Department that would enable the town to have and retain a fully staffed police department, I would believe all the commissioners are failing all residents as well as everyone who visits the island.

It is time for the board to address public safety as a TOP PRIORITY ASAP, or IMMEDIATELY

Carlton Pittman
144 Tarpon Drive