



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026 – 1:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Special Meeting on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Page Dyer; Commissioners Sylvia Pate, Keith Smith and Tom Myers; Town Manager Bryan Chadwick; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Inspections Director Tim Evans; Finance Director Daniel McRaney; Public Works Director Chris Benton; Lieutenant Frank Dilworth; and Fire Chief Doug Todd.

Mayor Holden called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carlton Pittman said to spend Town money wisely. He would like the Board to figure out how to fund a fire station.

Will Carter said if the Town is going to spend money on the pier we should build a fortified structure. He said get a plan for the structure.

Rick Smith provided feedback on moving forward with the pier.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE AWARD OF BID FOR STREET PAVING (SWORDFISH AND TUNA)

Public Works Director Benton explained two bids were received. The lowest bid was from Highland Paving. Staff recommends including the option for all of Swordfish which will be accomplished through a budget adjustment. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson added if you don't include the option, it would be from Heron Drive to the end of the cul-de-sac. The delta is \$25,000. It can be accomplished through existing resources. The Board discussed how to move forward.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dyer to approve the bid to Highland Paving, including the option for all of Swordfish; second by Commissioner Smith; approved by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR THE BLOCK Q STAGE PROJECT

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said three bids were received. Staff is recommending A.W. Babson. In the invitation to bid, it showed the bid bond was optional, so nobody included it in their bid. It will be approximately \$10,500 which would be added to the cost of the contract. The attorney has been made aware of that.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dyer to approve the contract with A.W. Babson Construction to construct the stage/dance floor at Block Q and add the bid bond; second by Commissioner Smith.

Staff provided reasons for staff's recommendation of A.W. Babson and answered questions from the Board.

The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson reviewed the budget calendar; the goals the Board established; and common themes and priority areas. General Fund standouts include a Board travel and training increase, the stormwater project, three vehicles and a camera system for the Police Department and a backhoe for Public Works. For the Water and Sewer Fund there is one vehicle and a decision on biosolids. The BPART Fund highlights include completing the Block Q Master Plan, completing the stage, upgrading two – three PAR course stations, funding for the Block Q Project once the plan is complete, annual maintenance activities for the beach and funding to the Beach and Inlet Capital Reserve Fund. Canal funds stay shovel ready. We have an anticipated dredge event. Staff is still working with the working group on proposed assessments.

Discussions include salaries, travel, vehicles, dues/subscriptions, street paving and setting up a separate project fund for the stormwater project. Staff will give a recommendation on establishing a separate fund at a future meeting.

In the BPART Fund the Beautification Club, debris removal, Rothschild Davis Park and the splashpad were discussed. Increasing the HB Promotion line to \$50,000 was suggested. Promotions, ADA items, and occupancy guidelines were discussed. Bathrooms, trash cans and the pickup schedule for trash were also discussed.

PIER PROPERTY DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION

Town Manager Chadwick explained that since the pier property was purchased four years ago, there have been a number of recommendations, and changes for what should be done. He introduced Will Fuller and Bill Kincannon from HDR. They provided a recap of their work

with the Town on the pier. If the Board would like to look at the repair option for the pier, they can put that cost back in the scope of work. How to move forward and looking at the scope of work with HDR were discussed. Legal review of the contract between HDR and the Town will be needed. Inspections Director Evans provided information on the construction of a pier and testing piles.

Based on further discussion, the first step to move forward is an underwater study. Staff and legal will need to look at the contract to help determine if the study should be completed under HDR. Once that study is completed, the Board can decide if they would like to proceed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Smith at 3:01 p.m.; second by Commissioner Pate; approved by unanimous vote.

J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heather Finnell, Town Clerk