



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RECONVENED MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina reconvened their Special Meeting recessed on June 7, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Tom Myers; Commissioners Tracey Thomas and Rick Paarfus; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Public Works Director Chris Clemmons; Inspections Director Tim Evans; Fiscal Operations Supervisor Margaret Lancaster; Police Chief Jeremy Dixon; and Lieutenant Frank Dilworth. Commissioners Rick Smith and Page Dyer were unable to attend the meeting.

Mayor Holden called the meeting to order.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Town Manager Hewett reviewed his slideshow. The revisions directed were to reduce the tax rate by one cent, reduce the merit raise from 5% to 1.8%, reduce Block Q stormwater funding by \$150,000 and break out the Ward and Smith line items. The changes have been made and result in the following amounts as surpluses and show as follows: \$120,661 on page 3 in the Governing Body line titled Transfer to the Beach and Inlet Capital Reserve Fund; \$11,421 under Available to Appropriate in Water and Sewer and \$168,681 in the BPART Fund under Available to Appropriate.

The request to add a detective position was discussed.

*Motion by Commissioner Thomas that we remove the detective and any associated costs from the budget for now.*

Commissioner Thomas encouraged Chief Dixon to bring it back to the Board so they can reconsider it if he can justify the position in the future.

*Mayor Pro Tem Myers seconded the motion.*

Mayor Pro Tem Myers explained he is worried about hiring a full-time resource when we don't have enough work. Commissioner Paarfus said he would depend on Chief Dixon to make sure we get good value out of the position. He still supports it. Commissioner Thomas wants to make sure the public understands that we are not removing the position. We are considering adding the position.

*The motion passed by a 2 – 1 vote with Mayor Pro Tem Myers and Commissioner Thomas voting for the motion and Commissioner Paarfus in the negative.*

Town Manager Hewett clarified it is for the detective position only.

Mayor Pro Tem Myers said he is adding up numbers and it looks like we can give back another penny. Using the Available to Appropriate money in the BPART Fund towards giving back the penny was discussed. Town Manager Hewett explained that BPART Funds are specifically by law used for tourism related expenses and beach nourishment. The BPART Fund is a restricted revenue fund. He doesn't think that is a qualifying expense. Town Manager Hewett explained you can keep it as available to appropriate or send it to the Beach and Inlet Capital Reserve Fund.

Town Manager Hewett said the Town received the money back from the Harbor Acres canal dredging in the amount of \$140,000. We will ring that into the books this year, but it will change the balance forward for next year.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Thomas at 3:19 p.m.; second by Commissioner Paarfus; approved by unanimous vote.*

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J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather Finnell, Town Clerk