



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Rick Smith; Commissioners Brian Murdock, Page Dyer and Pat Kwiatkowski; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Inspections Director Tim Evans; and Town Attorney Rick Green.

INTERVIEWS FOR VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Board interviewed Gerald Arnold, Jim Bauer, Richard Griffin, Luke Lodge, Rick McInturf, Sylvia Pate and Keith Smith for the vacancy.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON VACANCY

The vote was by ballot. Mayor Pro Tem Smith and Page Dyer voted for Gerald Arnold and Commissioners Murdock and Kwiatkowski voted for Rick McInturf. Mayor Holden broke the tie.

Mayor Holden announced Gerald Arnold was selected to fill the vacancy.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE CORPS' COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson explained at the meeting last week, Colonel Bennett provided an update on the duration, scope and cost and also a potential funding option. The Wilmington District has supplied a letter which is attachment 1 and it is their preferred choice. They are saying District Headquarters wants to see full acknowledgement of the additional time and cost. Since the meeting, staff coordinated with our representatives at Ward and Smith. They recommended attachment 2, which was sent to the Corps, but the Corps wants attachment 1. She provided feedback on Ward & Smith's comments on moving forward. If the Board would like to pursue the Disaster Relief Act Funding of 2019, they need an approved letter of intent from the Board. They rejected our counter at attachment 2. They would like the Board to pass attachment 1. Commissioner Kwiatkowski asked if it was correct that this in no way obligates us to provide the second-year funding until we understand if we are getting the money. Mayor Pro Tem Smith said that is what he understood. Attorney Green did not have anything to add.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith that we supply the Corps of Engineers with a letter of intent to continue the project in hopes to be able to receive some additional funding; second by Commissioner Murdock.

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson asked for clarification that is with the letter at attachment 1. The Board agreed.

The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR BLOCK Q AND THE PIER PROPERTIES

Town Clerk Finnell collected the ballots. Votes were as follows for the pier: Bowman Murray Hemingway Architects - Mayor Pro Tem Smith and Commissioners Murdock and Kwiatkowski and McGill Associates - Commissioner Dyer. Votes were as follows for Block Q Pinnacle Architecture – Mayor Pro Tem Smith and Commissioners Murdock and Kwiatkowski and McGill Associates – Commissioner Dyer.

Mayor Holden announced Bowman Murray Hemingway Architects was selected for the pier properties and Pinnacle Architecture was selected for Block Q.

Town Manager Hewett said a proposal with a contract would need to come from each firm to move forward. The Board agreed to move forward and Town Manager Hewett will attempt to get the information for the October meeting.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11(A)(6), PERSONNEL AND NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11(A)(1), TO PREVENT THE DISCLOSURE OF PRIVILEGED INFORMATION

Town Clerk Finnell read the reason for Closed Session.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to go into an Executive Session at 7:19 p.m.; second by Commissioner Kwiatkowski; approved by unanimous vote.

OPEN SESSION

The Board went back into Open Session at 8:09 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mayor Pro Tem Smith at 8:09 p.m.; second by Commissioner Dyer; approved by unanimous vote.

ATTEST:

J. Alan Holden, Mayor

Heather Finnell, Town Clerk