

**Town of Cape Carteret
Board of Commissioners Minutes
7:00 PM May 20, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The Cape Carteret Board of Commissioner meeting came to order at 7:00 PM in the Debbie E. Stanley Board of Commissioner Room.

ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA? YES, we need to add under Old Business the lease agreement with Chalk and Gibbs, and the DOT contract for mowing the rights-of-way. We also need to add Student of the Month to the agenda. Commissioner Patterson motioned to approve the agenda as is, seconded by Commissioner Seegers. ***Vote approved 5-0***

STUDENT OF THE MONTH: Zachary Simonette is a 5th grader. His teacher is Ms. Wendy Johnson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Zachary Simonette.

MOMENT OF SILENCE for the victims of Oklahoma and Leo Reece of Old Cape Carteret

ROLL CALL

Mayor Fowler
Commissioners Patterson, Hunt, Seegers, Saunders and King
Carteret News Times and 6 citizens

CONSENT AGENDA: none

CITIZENS GENERAL COMMENTS

Paxon Holz: 547 Neptune Drive: She would like the commissioners to be mindful of the street end parks. Some of the parks seem to be shrinking due to the neighbor's fences and other encroachments. It would be a shame if the citizens didn't have the full use of the sixty feet at the end of each waterfront street that was given to the town for public access.

Adam Hauser: 421 Star Hill Drive: He has a problem with speeders on his street. There are many small children in the area. He asked for help. The Mayor said we will look into that and the Chief was present and heard every word.

Any Board or Committee Updates? none

OLD ITEMS

Crystal Coast Engineering: Commissioner King stated that we had a brief meeting given by them last week. The other engineering firm declined to make an offer to participate. He would like us to enter into a professional services agreement with Crystal Coast Engineering. No expenditure will be spent until it is brought in front of the board. This is similar to having a town attorney and town surveyor. It is someone we can call upon when we need help specifically for storm-water. We would be billed on services performed, net 30. The attorney said the company can interpret the "Low Impact Development Ordinance" we adopted two

years ago.

Commissioner King motioned that the Town of Cape Carteret enter into a professional service agreement with Crystal Coast Engineering to provide engineering services for storm-water remediation issues, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. **Vote approved 5-0**

Sidewalk Change Order: The mayor said Brandon explained this last week. We were to have four culverts put in instead of three along the hike-bike trail. We agreed to pay for the discrepancy at cost in the amount of \$419. Commissioner King motioned to approve \$419 as a possible additional cost for access ramps on the sidewalk project, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. Discussion: Commissioner King said it could be less. **Vote approved 4-1 (No, Seegers)**

Star Hill/Park Ct. drainage pipe: The Mayor said we are going to take care of a project that we should have handled some years ago. We will put drainage piping into a right-of-way to dispose of run-off water to keep one property dry and hopefully, keep two other properties drier, Mr. McLawhorn and Mr. Griffin's. Mr. McLawhorn and Griffin will pay for the piping in their own yards, on the right-of-way, and the town will be responsible for the engineering of the project. Mrs. Shackelford has agreed to reimburse \$2300 that the town gave her five years ago to fix this problem, which was never utilized at that time and has not been since. This is a win-win for the two property owners, mentioned above, and the owners on Park Court. If we don't fix this now the Park Court owners will have problems on their lots.

Commissioner King: The first part will be for Crystal Coast to look at this area. He will have them look at Mr. Griffin's and Mr. McLawhorn's property. This will give those two homeowners a chance to make a call on what they want to do.

Mayor: Money has been appropriated in the new budget for this project.

Commissioner Seegers motioned to proceed on the project, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. **Vote approved 5-0**

Commissioner King told Mr. Curtis that Crystal Coast Engineering will get in contact with him about the contract.

Lease agreement with Chalk and Gibbs: Commissioner Patterson motioned to approve the lease with Chalk and Gibbs, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. Discussion: Commissioner King said Sound Bank will remove the safe and will be responsible for repairing. Chalk and Gibbs will probably keep the drive-up window and the night drop. A panel, by the money machine, may have to be fixed. Those two items were there before Sound Bank. If there are things that need to be changed Chalk and Gibbs would have to do it. The lease is for one year at \$1000 a month and they have the right to sublet with approval of the board.

Vote approved 5-0

DOT Rights-of-way contract: We have been mowing the rights-of-ways along Highway 24 and Taylor Notion for several years. We are seeking reimbursement from the DOT for the work our maintenance crew has been doing on their rights-of-way. The contract is for a reimbursement of \$1176 per year, for four (4) cuttings a year. The contract is straight-forward. The town has to bill DOT every quarter. Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve the contract with DOT for reimbursement, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. **Vote approved 5-0**

NEW ITEMS

WatchCOD.Com: The mayor was contacted by a television production company to do community of distinction show featuring Cape Carteret. The show is 5 to 8 minute segments shown 20 times across the nation. Commissioner King spent some time looking at this. This looks like a Who's-Who's in High School and appears shaky. Commissioner Saunders is not comfortable with this. She feels it is money down the drain. Commissioner Seegers said it reminded him of the companies that would promise to get you all the college grants one needed. It was not true. Commissioner Hunt said it took ten hours to find ten cities. He listed several types of series they produce. Commissioner Saunders made a motion not to proceed on this project, seconded by commissioner Seegers. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Push-bid approval

The mayor said this is for the first 72 hours of a storm. The push is to remove the debris from the roads. Mr. Seegers could not find anything wrong with the lower bidder's company, Rick Bostic. Commissioner King motioned to accept the lower bidder, Rick Bostic, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Hurricane Debris Pick-up contract phase II: The clerk read off the recommendation from Barry Johnson. The winner of the bid was TAG, and the second company approved was TFR. Commissioner Seegers motioned to approve Barry Johnson's recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Term Length for the Mayor:

Commissioner Patterson said we discussed this last week and she would like to see all elected officials have 4-year terms. We do not have a town administrator and the mayor seems to fulfill that position. The mayor is here all the time. If you change everyone to a four-year term you can still have the terms staggered. She asked the attorney for his advice.

Attorney Curtis said he spoke with several towns and Cedar Point suggested an information meeting be set for amending the town charter. Follow that meeting with a special meeting for amending the town charter. Once that is done, to his understanding, the town does not have to comply with the civil rights act of 1964, but he will check on it. If the town changes its charter some towns may need approval from the attorney general's office. He is not sure but will follow up on it.

Mrs. Patterson: You are saying we can do the amendment at the special meeting and that will be the end of it. The attorney agreed.

The board discussed changing all commissioners to four-year terms.

Commissioner King is supportive of the mayor changing to four years but the staggered commissioner terms we have now works well.

Commissioner Seegers said the purpose of this is to eliminate the excessive amount of voting and the expenses occurred at the western center for voting. The mayor said it would eliminate every two years of voting, and would lessen our expenses.

Commissioner Saunders said she was confused, but she stated we would still have to vote every two years and it would not save money.

The **mayor** said he asked the county to move the elections back to Cape Carteret because our residents have to go to two different polling places and it is very confusing. This is silly when we are larger than Cedar Point and Bogue. Can you imagine Morehead City having to go to Beaufort or Newport to vote? We may want to consider changing this in the future, especially

if we are paying for the election. We should have a say as to where it is being held. It might even defer our cost, if we had it in our own building, rather than one we help pay the rent. There are cost savings to be had.

After discussing a date for the meeting, Commissioner Saunders motioned to set Tuesday, May 28th at 6:00 PM for a special informational meeting relating to terms, seconded by Commissioner Patterson. ***Vote approved 5-0***

BUDGET

The mayor said we are down to the final proposed budget and we are ready to set the date for a public hearing.

Commissioner Saunders stated that Mr. Hunt submitted ten or twelve questions on Saturday and she has provided him with the information. We are looking at the budget that was provided to the commissioners on May 14th at 4:33 PM via email.

Commissioner Hunt asked what the total of the subscription and dues were for the town, combined? **Mrs. Saunders** responded, \$14,512.

Commissioner Seegers motioned to proceed with a public hearing to be held on June 10 at 7:00 PM, seconded by Commissioner Patterson. ***Vote approved 5-0***

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town hall will be closed Monday, May 27, 2013 in observance of Memorial Day.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM on a motion by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Hunt.

These are the minutes of May 20, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Zornes, NCCMC
Town Clerk