

Town of Cape Carteret
Board of Commissioners Minutes
7:00 PM September 16, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

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

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Adam "AJ" Matas is a fifth grader at White Oak Elementary. His teacher is Meghan Watts.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by AJ Matas

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Victims of the Naval Yard incident in Washington DC.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Fowler

Commissioners Hunt, King, Patterson, Saunders and Seegers

Attorney Curtis, Carteret News Times, and 10 Citizens

ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA? **Yes, Under Consent Agenda Resolution about loggerhead sea turtles.** Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Commissioner Seegers. ***Vote approved 5-0***

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of June 10 & 17, July 8 & 15, 2013

Minutes of September 9, 2013

ADD: Support Carteret County Resolution about Loggerhead Sea Turtles

Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Any Board or Committee Updates?

Commissioner King: The Welcome Sign is up in front of NC Bottle Water Co. (Culligans)

Commissioner Seegers: Christmas Party: Commissioner Saunders, Clerk Zornes and Mr. Seegers went and tried the menu at Nicky's. The Christmas party will be on Friday, December 6, 2013 at 6 pm. The menu will be a choice of Chicken Parmesan, Shrimp & Grits, Pecan Encrusted Grouper or Ribeye. The cost will include hors-d'oeuvre and nonalcoholic drinks. The cost will be \$19.95 plus tip and tax. Mr. King would like it held in Cape Carteret. Mr. Seegers replied we tried, but we could not work out anything equal to the above.

Mayor:

- Municipal Initiative will meet at 5:30 PM Sept. 17th. Tomorrow's subject will be about the survey we will be sending out with the newsletters.
- ILA: There will be a special meeting at 7:00 pm on Sept. 18th. The subject will be a discussion on the financial rate of the new fire truck they are buying.

CITIZENS TO SPEAK: None

OLD ITEMS

Star Hill & Park Ct. Piping project: Commissioner King: He spoke to one of the bidders that gave an estimate to Mr. McLawhorn. Mr. Griffin said he received a bid of \$3750, included a drop inlet. Mr. King said he made himself clear that he is not in favor of changing out open ditches with underground drainage pipes. We have several hundred houses in this category and it would not be cost productive. But Mr. King said he would agree to have the town pay for the engineering to make sure the piping is correct. Mr. King said Mr. Griffin told him he had an estimate using a t-pipe and grate, but in this age it would not fly. There are several of those t-pipes around town but they will not meet today's standards. Mr. King said the engineer would not seal us using a t-pipe and grate. On the part of the project, including Mrs. Shackelford's land, we are waiting for the easement. The mayor said we should pay for the engineering in front of the two houses of Mr. Griffin and McLawhorn. Commissioner Patterson agreed. Mr. Hunt and Mr. King reviewed and discussed the design of the Star Hill and Park Ct. project again. Mr. McLawhorn and Mr. King disagreed about the price of the underground piping, because of the engineer's price estimate of \$5,500.

Commissioner King made a motion to complete the engineering of all three lots near 73-74 area, seconded by Commissioner Seegers. Discussion: The surveying and engineering of Mr. McLawhorn and Mr. Griffin's will cost \$450 per lot. Mr. King does not have the engineering cost for the Star Hill/Park lots. The engineering may come under Powell Bill funds.

Vote approved 5-0

Yaupon Pipe Project: Commissioner King spoke to the owners of the land and Billy Norris who will be putting in the pipe at Yaupon Street. We have a sketch of the pipe and some photos. The bid from Ricky Taylor is \$4,000. An additional cost for reinforcing the bulkhead may run about \$500, but Mr. King is not sure.

Commissioner King made a motion to award the bid to replace the pipe from the drop inlet on Yaupon to the bulkhead, to Ricky Taylor in the amount of \$4,000, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. Discussion: Mr. Hunt said, once again we are just awarding a bid and not seeking competitive bids? Mr. King said no, we are not seeking other bids. Normally he would but we are under a time constraint. The mayor stated this is under the threshold requiring three bids. ***Vote approved 5-0***

NEW ITEMS

Social Media Policy-addition to the SOP: This was discussed last week and the board had no further questions.

Commissioner Patterson motioned to approve the addition of the social media policy into the Standard Operating Procedure Manual, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Settlement of Taxes Fiscal Year 2012-13: Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve the Settlement of Taxes, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Order of Collection Fiscal Year 2013-14: Commissioner Patterson motioned to approve the Order of Collection, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. ***Vote approved 5-0***

Boat ramp stickers: Commissioner Patterson referred to the clerk. We are just waiting for the design, the cost and delivery date. Mr. King said the purpose of the tag was to be able to see it from the road. The Chief said the officers have to get out and look anyway. The sticker would be posted on the tongue of the trailer. We will do a different color each year.

CITIZENS GENERAL COMMENTS

Paxon Holz: She did not bring her letter from the Daughters of the American Revolution, but she did forward one to the town clerk about ringing the bell at 4:00 tomorrow. The notice stated that all across the United States, people will ring bells at 4:00 on September 17th to celebrate the signing of the Constitution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

CLOSED SESSION: 7:38 PM

Commissioner Saunders motioned to consult with the attorney about the terms of a contract as permitted by GS 143-318.11(a)(5), seconded by Commissioner Seegers. **Vote approved 5-0**

OPEN SESSION: 7:49 PM

On a motion by Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Patterson the board returned to open session. **Vote approved 5-0**

ACTION: Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the \$22,000 and \$3,500 change order for the multi-path as submitted by Mr. King, seconded by Commissioner Patterson.

Vote approved 4-1 (No, Seegers)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Resignation of Mary Linda Spencer: Mayor Fowler said that Mary Linda Spencer turned in her resignation. Her last day of employment is September 30, 2013. When she was hired, the mayor said she had told him she would give a three month notice if she ever left. They have talked and she is willing to stay until October 31st if she can work four days a week, at her hourly rate, and keep her benefits. The mayor does not feel that we can hire someone and train a new employee in such a short notice. He is also concerned that Karen will end up having to both jobs and that will not work. The mayor saw the stress it put on her when Jennifer left with no notice. The mayor is asking for 21 additional days when you consider all the holidays and weekends. The clerk stated that the state retirement system considers full time to anyone that works over 1000 hours a year, which works out to 19 hours a week. No one had any problem about her working four days or giving her benefits. Some of the board had concerns about her leaving so soon. They, too, would like her to stay until the end of the year. The clerk said she thought Mary Linda would stay until the end of November as long as she can work four days a week and keep her benefits. The clerk will ask her and let the BOC know.

Commissioner Saunders motioned that we accept her resignation and approve her working, with benefits, thirty hours a week at her hourly rate up until December 30, 2013, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Discussion: There was more discussion if she does not stay until the end of the year, even if it was only part-time. **Vote approved 5-0**

Ad for Deputy Clerk: The clerk will place an advertisement in the local papers for an Assistant Clerk/Bookkeeper with a salary range of \$27,000-\$33,000. Commissioner Saunders would like the information to be given to the local colleges. The Committee will consist of Commissioner Saunders, Mayor Fowler, the clerk, and Jeanette Curtis. The attorney volunteered his wife as a citizen (no charge to the town) since she is very familiar with the hiring process.

Yard debris: The board discussed the yard debris on the rights-of-way before the pick-up date. The board would like someone to drive by and leave a warning note. The board also talked about wooded vacant lots not being kept up. The rule is that once a lot has been cleared cut then it has to be maintained. We cannot enforce clearing on a wooded lot if it has not been cut. The point at the triangle needs to be cut. The clerk said she could call Paxon and ask her to cut it.

Street End Parks: Commissioner Patterson sent out an email to the board about her findings with the problems at the parks. She asked if this issue should be sent to the planning board. All agreed.

Board Photo: The Mayor asked the board to stay after the meeting so the clerk could take some group shots of the board. In the future, we will take a group photo at the December meeting of each election.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM on a motion by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Saunders. **Vote approved 5-0**

These are the minutes of September 16, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Zornes, NCCMC
Town Clerk