



SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 4, 2019
Surf City Town Hall – 201 Community Center Drive

Council Members Present:

Mayor Douglas C. Medlin
Mayor Pro-Tem William J. Fowler
Donald Helms
Nelva Albury
Teresa Batts
Jeremy Shugarts

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor
- II. INVOCATION – William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Donald R. Helms, Councilman

IV. MAYOR’S REMARKS –

We ask that all in attendance please set your cell phones to silent or vibrate mode. The Council offers the public an opportunities to speak during the meeting. Comments should be limited to three minutes each and must be directly issue-oriented with agenda items for this meeting, or an issue upon which the Council has control.

Citizen speakers will be acknowledged in the order in which they sign up to speak and will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual Council member. Speakers will address the Council from the speaker’s podium at the front of the room and will begin their remarks by stating their name and address. Discussions between Speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed. Public comment is not intended to require the Council to answer any impromptu questions. Speakers are expected to be civil in their language and presentation. Any comments where the primary purpose is to promote business or candidacy shall not be allowed.

In accordance with the Council’s adopted Rules of Procedures, Councilmembers shall reserve responses, if any, for the Council Forum on the agenda.

V. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Helms made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA –

- 1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes- May 3rd, May 7th & May 17th, 2019

2. Advisory Board Re-Appointments
3. Emergency Operations: Hazard Specific/Hurricane
4. Ordinance Amendment Section 4-10. Dunes
5. Parks & Recreation Master Plan
6. Budget Ordinance Amendment – Insurance Proceeds Fire Dept.

****Items under Consent are generally of a routine nature. The Board may take action to approve/disapprove all items in a single vote. Any item may be withheld from a general action, to be discussed and voted upon separately at the discretion of the Council.***

Mr. Helms made a motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING –
7. FY2019-2020 Budget

Public Hearing Open 6:39pm

Mrs. Loftis gave an overview of the proposed budget and stated there were no increases to fees, rates, or taxes.

Phil Durr 1714 N. New River Drive thanked the council for putting money into the capital budget.

Close Public Hearing 6:42 pm

Mrs. Albury made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

8. Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Section 3.4 Definitions, 6.3 Signs Permitted in all Districts & 6.7 Types of Commercial Signs Permitted

Open Public Hearing 6:43pm

Mike Dickson, GIS, discussed the text amendments were approved at the May Planning Board meeting.

There was a question on wall mounted signs, and rather they must be attached to the home.

Sally Edens 9th street spoke on the size of the signage.

Marty Martin N. New River Drive asked about dune signs.

There was a request to table the item from the public.

Sandy Lowry of Saltwater Landing Drive questioned the regulation of residential dwelling signage.

Mr. Herring of Boca Bay Lane requested the item be tabled.

David Byrd 103 Durham Ave asked for the item to be tabled.

Closed Public Hearing 7:00 pm

Mrs. Albury made a motion to table the item until August. Mr. Shugarts seconded the motion and it was carried.

9. Resolution 2019-15: Request for NCDOT to prohibit low speed vehicles on state-maintained roads within Surf City Corporate limits

Open Public Hearing 7:01pm

Chief Ron Shanahan gave background information on low speed vehicles and the proposed prohibition of them on state highways.

Mrs. Albury questioned the resolution.

Mr. Shugarts asked for facts and/or statics.

Chief Shanahan gave the injury facts for North Carolina and stated he had personally contacted 22 coastal communities, 17 did not allow golf carts.

Mr. Helms stated after 31 years of law enforcement he has never investigated a golf cart incident. He spoke on concerns for those off island residents using golf carts.

Mr. Fowler spoke on a previous resolution in 2014 that required all golf carts be street legal on state highways.

Norwood Williams of Now Boys Loop stated his dis-like for the restrictions.

Mark Gregory 109 Twilight Court stated his disregard for the regulation.

Kenny Holley of Now Boys Loop discussed his wish to continue the use of the street legal golf carts.

Reed Roberson 4084 4th St stated his wish was to continue to use of street legal golf carts on state highways.

Daniel Blevins of N. New River Drive discussed the impediment of traffic and the request for more statics.

Roger Morton 179 Cornel Lane thanked the police chief for his work and protection and spoke against allowing golf carts on state highways.

Jeff Thigpen of Now Boys Loop asked the council to keep the regulations as they currently stand.

David Byrd 103 Durham Ave asked for golf carts to pull over when impeding traffic.

Derrick Sholar of Holly Ridge Tire stated as an owner of a golf cart rental business they have never had one accident.

Sue Medlin Smith of Seahorse Ave. questioned if you have to have baby seats on golf carts.

Chief Shanahan answered yes.

Close Public Hearing 7:27pm

Mrs. Albury made a motion to not adopt the resolution. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

VIII. GENERAL ITEMS –

10. Preliminary Site Plan Approval: Surf City Crossing

Mike Dickson stated Evolve Surf City Crossing is seeking approval for an apartment complex. All town departments have signed off and the Planning Board approved the development plan at their May meeting.

Mr. Shugarts made a motion to postpone the site plan approval. Mrs. Batts seconded the motion.

Mr. Shugarts requested a cleaner understanding for the citizens and the ownership of the neighboring properties and traffic impacts.

Mike Dickson illustrated the layout of the properties.

Mrs. Albury stated the developers need to understand the impacts of roadways and entrances.

The Mayor stated the Planning Department is working with the Terraces to gain an additional entrance from Hwy 17 for access.

The motion was carried unanimously.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT– Citizens have an opportunity to address the Council for no more than three minutes per speaker on topics which concern agenda items of this meeting.

Jim Conaway 104 Hop Tree Branch spoke on the safety concerns of Dogwood Lakes regarding vehicular traffic.

Steve Hodgson 111 Cornel Lane spoke on his concerns for the roadways in Dogwood Lakes.

Wes Preston 135 Roughleaf Trail discussed traffic impacts within Dogwood Lakes.

Laura Jaresz 114 Osier Drive discussed the impact on her family and the dangers of the high traffic.

Eric Frederick 109 Bunchberry Court discussed his concerns with the newly created traffic inside Dogwood Lakes.

Richard Vessov 2503 S. Shore Drive thanked the police chief and addressed the council on public comment timing.

Skip Watkins 4014 4th St. questioned the loss of public parking along N. Shore Drive in the right-of-way due to items within the right-of-way.

Daniel Blevins 621 B. N. New River Drive spoke on the stewardship of Surf City that lays in the council's hands.

Ed Wilson 136 Cornel Lane discussed the concerns of the widths of the roads in Dogwood Lakes.

Phil Durr 1714 N. New River Drive thanked the police chief and voiced concerns on public comments at the previous meeting. He also discussed ADA access ramps.

David Byrd 103 Durham Ave apologized for his previous actions. He also spoke on the need for handicap access.

Patty Gilbride 8013 8th St. questioned the consent agenda.

X. COUNCIL FORUM

Mrs. Albury thanked everyone for coming out and their concerns and comments. She asked for everyone to work together.

Mr. Shugarts discussed how it was great to see everyone work together. He asked the planning board to take a closer look into developments as they appear in the future. He thanked Ashley for the balanced budget. He spoke on lifeguards. He stated it was the busiest Memorial Day ever.

Mr. Helms thanked everyone for coming and stated he disagreed with the homeowners in Dogwood Lakes. He stated his neighbors in Dogwood Lakes have small children and they all hang out in the intersection. He too stated he did not want an additional 2300 cars per day, his concerns were with public safety and exiting the neighborhood in a safe manner.

Mrs. Batts thanked everyone for coming and she thanked each department for working so hard post storm. She thanked the council for working together tonight. She stated you must listen to the residents. She reminded everyone of the June 22nd preparedness day. She gave an Emergency Operations update.

Mr. Folwer thanked everyone for coming out and for all the correspondence this week. He stated they are working on right-of-way issues for parking. He stated the planning board hears all zoning matters before they are heard by council. The planning board is the place for public comments and/or concerns with zoning issues so they can be addressed before they get to the council. He stated the consent agenda is set by the clerk and the Mayor or any two council members. These items are normal protocol and all site plans are heard by the planning board beforehand.

Mayor stated the agenda is added to the website the Wednesday before the Tuesday meeting. He discussed the consent agenda items. He stated they council try's their best to let everyone's opinion be heard.

XI. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ashley Loftis gave an update on beach accesses and the addition of porta-johns. Thirty-three of thirty-six accesses are open. NCDOT is going to start cleaning the bridge the third Sunday of the month. At this time the town will be cleaning the bridge on the first week of the month and it will be addressed from there.

XII. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTS

The attorney discussed the consent agenda.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Helms made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.