

MINUTES
PAWLEYS ISLAND COUNCIL MEETING

DATE/PLACE: December 11, 2017
Pawleys Island Chapel

PRESENT: Mayor Jimmy Braswell, Ashley Carter, Gary Green, Rocky Holliday & Sarah Zimmerman

ABSENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 30-4-70(a)(2) LEGAL ADVICE ON PENDING LITIGATION

No action was taken and the discussion was specifically for how we will handle the law suit that has been filed against the Town. **Motion was made and seconded to step down from executive session. All in favor.**

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2018 BUDGET

Ryan Fabbri reviewed the 2018 budget and stated that we will be spending a considerable amount of money this year. The Town's four major funds are restricted by use. The Town Hall fund and the Beach fund, we are proposing to spend more than we will take in. The revenue is pretty much in line with the revenue of 2017. Accommodation tax revenue was increased by 7%. 75% of what we spent for repairs post Irma is projected to be received in 2018. We have \$33,619 budgeted for a new police vehicle and \$11,500 for the equipment associated with the new vehicle. \$7,800 to replace the tasers for our 5 full-time officers which comes with a 4 year warranty. This budget includes \$12,000 to inspect the islands entire storm drain system but does not include the cost to clear the lines out which we will need DOT to do. We have \$40,000 for construction of a 200+ foot walkway at the 3rd Street beach access. Also, includes \$600,000 for engineering costs associated with the beach renourishment project and \$250,000 for an estimated engineering and construction cost for general maintenance and repairs for all the islands groins and \$600,000 for the construction of the new town hall based on the funding expectation set by the previous council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Emilie Carey asked if the Town is planning to purchase more signs to replace some of the lost signs. She asked Council to reconsider raising Ryan's salary. She asked Council to look at what Huntington Beach State Park has done with recycling rubber and with walkways that can be rolled out and then rolled back in as it protects the dunes and is less expensive. She would like all the north end beach accesses repaired and maintained and feels that another access should be put in where the north inlet is and in the middle of the island. We also need raise Myrtle Avenue and install bulkheads to keep the creek back.

Henry Thomas stated that having a fiscal year makes a lot of sense to him as it avoids the awkward situation with the election and the new people coming and we could have this meeting in June or July. He stated that he didn't see any money being used for accesses in the historic section, 3rd Avenue and the inlet area.

Mayor Braswell closed the public hearing.

REGULAR SESSION:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Henry Thomas apologized to Ryan Fabbri for circulating a petition which created numerous people confronting him questioning this petition for which Ryan was not privy to. He then apologized to Town Council regarding the petition.

APPROVAL OF THE 10/23/17 AND THE 10/23/17 MINUTES

Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve the 10/23/17 minutes. Ashley Carter seconded. All in favor.

Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve the 11/13/17 minutes. Ashley Carter seconded. All in favor.

SWEAR IN ROCKY HOLLIDAY AS COUNCIL MEMBER

Judge Walters swore in Rocky Holliday as reelected council member for the next 2 years.

APPROVE CHRISTMAS BONUS

- a. Full Time Employees \$300 net
- b. Part Time Employees \$110 net

Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve Christmas Bonuses to full time employees for \$300 net and for part time employees \$110 net. Ashley Carter seconded. All in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a. In appreciation to Mike Adams for 18 years of service on the Town or Pawleys Island's Council, all as Mayor Pro Tem. Sarah Zimmerman, as the current Mayor Pro Tem, read the resolution.

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES:

- a. Jimmy Braswell – Resigned (Term ends 12/09/19) Jimmy Braswell resigned from the Planning Commission as he became the new Mayor of the Town of Pawleys Island.

Mayor Jimmy Braswell made a motion to Council that Robert Moser be appointed to fill the vacancy in the Planning Commission for the term to end on 12/9/19. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.

NEW TOWN HALL UPDATE

- a. Project Update - Ryan Fabbri stated we sent an invitation to bid to 10 licensed general contractors that were hand selected. The end of November we had a mandatory pre-bid meeting with 4 of them – BEC, Coastal Structures, Pinnacle and Harrington. They are to turn in their bids by 4:00 p.m. on December 20th. Council will make the decision to hire one of the four at the next Council meeting and hopefully start construction mid-January at the latest.
- b. Geotechnical Testing of Project Site (\$3,000 Budget Estimate from Terracon) – Ryan Fabbri stated that David Graham suggested that we do a geotechnical test of the soil in the proposed area of the new Town Hall site because it is a commercial project. This would be done just as a precautionary measure and suggested that Terracon do it for \$3,000. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to spend \$3,000 to have the soil tested in the site where the new Town Hall is to be built. Jimmy Braswell seconded. All in favor.**

- c. Fundraising Update – Guerry Green stated that we have commitments daily coming in. We are almost there. We have received approximately \$270,000 so far in actual money and pledges of \$600,000. We have also sold about 50+ bricks so far. The dead line for brick sales has not been set at this point.

PRT RENOURISHMENT FUNDING & PROJECT STATUS – ROCKY HOLLIDAY

Ryan Fabbri stated that he, Rocky Holliday and Bill Otis met to see where extra parking could be established, then had Coastal Science put all that together and came up with 80.46% to be funded by PRT vs the original percentage of just 65%. – this is 80.46% of just $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total cost of the project. We plan to put the job out to bid the first week in January with the bids due on February 2nd. Then we will know what this project could potentially cost. Jimmy Braswell stated that he spoke with Coastal Engineering and they said that if we do this project with just the minimum, the last house at the south-end, which now at high tide has no beach, that last house would have 100 feet of beach. It is not clear when the permit will be ready. The permit will be good for 5 years.

GROIN REPAIR WORK

- a. Include \$250,000 in 2018 budget for repair work – Jimmy Braswell stated that CSE recommends that we do the groin repair work before the renourishment project. Ryan Fabbri stated that the Town had \$250,000 budgeted in 2014 to do the groin repair work but then we were hit with 3 hurricanes, 3 years in a row so this repair work was put on the back burner. This would be under a maintenance and repair permit which doesn't take a long time to get. Rocky Holliday stated that if we get the groins repaired we will see immediate returns in terms of the beach starting to build back up again. Ryan Fabbri stated that the groin permit is eligible under the PRT program which the same percentages of the renourishment project should apply to the groin repair.
- b. Put repair work out for bid – Ryan Fabbri stated that the best way to structure the bid is with an hourly labor rate and have a walk through to have the contractors give us an idea of what the cost would be. The \$250K estimate came from CSE. CSE will help us through the bid process but it will be a local contractor.
- c. **Sign CSE agreement for work – Rocky Holliday made a motion to move forward with an agreement with CSE for the groin repair engineering and support work and to put the contract out to bid. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.**

POLICE REPORT

Chief Fanning reviewed the November 2017 police report. (See Attached)

BUILDING REPORT

Ryan Fabbri stated that most of the permits are for electrical service upgrades and feels confident that we will have everyone converted at the north end by February then the poles will come down. Mayor Braswell contacted a bunch of people he knows at the north end to get their service upgraded. The conversions can start at the south end in February and hopefully those poles can come down for Memorial Day weekend.

DISCUSSION ABOUT FORMING AD HOC COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON ROADS & FLOODING

Mayor Braswell stated that we have had numerous problems with flooding and street maintenance, so he would like to discuss forming a committee to focus on our roads, to push the State to repair them as our roads are owned by the State. They could also discuss what the Town can do to mitigate the amount of flooding even after a heavy rain.

We have drains that do not work. There are areas of roads, during King Tides, that get flooded and the water is there for days. Council supports creating this committee. There are many property owners who would be good on this committee and that they don't necessarily need to be Council members. Council will have names of people who could serve on this committee for the next council meeting. Ryan Fabbri suggested that anyone interested should contact him.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ryan Fabbri stated that the revenues are higher than budgeted and the expenditures are lower than budgeted.

- a. Budget Amendments – Ryan Fabbri stated that he would like to add \$101,600 in Grants/Beach Fund because we received more money than expected from FEMA and the State. The Town Hall Donations line item needs to be created with an amount of \$300,000 as we have already \$260,000. The Town Hall Brick Sales line item needs to be created with an amount of \$30,000. Administrative Salaries needs and additional \$6,200 for a total of \$108,600. Administration/Hlth Ins. needs an additional \$5,300 for a total of \$14,300. Beach Management/Terminal Groin needs to be reduced by \$45,000 to bring that line item to 0. Town Hall/Design needs to be reduced by \$10,000 to bring the line item down to \$30,000. Town Hall/Fundraising line item needs to be created with an amount of \$3,000.

Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the December 2017 Budget Amendments (see attached). Ashley Carter seconded. All in favor.

DISCUSSION AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2017-23. AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PAWLEYS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2018 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018

Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve second reading of the 2018 budget. Ashley Carter seconded. Guerry Green stated that the Town was fortunate to have always operated in the past with a large accumulated surplus however that surplus was earmarked for beach renourishment. He felt with all the expenses that are on the table for this year with the beach renourishment project and having to build a new Town Hall that it is important to have a conservative budget and that we need to prioritize. He felt that this is not the year to purchase a new police car and that we should defer that purchase another year. Chief Fanning stated that as their cars hit the 5-year mark, with all the salt water and the overall use of 10 to 20 hrs. per day, they start to deteriorate. They start requiring more and more maintenance and more money to fix them. The oldest car has 118,000 miles on it and is 6 years old. Rocky Holliday stated that he agrees with Guerry in that this is a new day with new needs and we should rethink the way things have been done in the past and how we can be more conservative about spending until we can rebuild these funds. Mayor Braswell also agreed that we should wait until possibly the end of the year to buy a new vehicle. **Guerry Green made a motion to strike the purchase of a new car and the equipment for the new car from the 2018 budget. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**

Mayor Braswell stated that he has been using the 3rd Street beach access since 1987 and feels there is not a problem with it. Pawleys Island Realty has never had a complaint about using that beach access. The bushes are trimmed when needed and new gravel has been applied to the parking area. **Mayor Braswell made a motion to remove the \$40,000 for a new beach access walkway at 3rd Street access. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.**

After much discussion it was decided that the first week in October would be a good time for Council to have a workshop to plan the next year's budget. **Mayor Braswell made a motion to approve the 2018 budget subject to the 2 amendments. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.**

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

- a. Renew MOU with Georgetown Chamber as Town's designated marketing organization
Ryan Fabbri stated that the MOU is to renew the agreement with the Georgetown Chamber as the Town's designated marketing organization for \$500. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the MOU with the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
- b. FEMA Update for Hurricane Irma Reimbursement – All in on track to be reimbursed by FEMA for 75% of our cost.
- c. UG Wire Project Update – previously discussed.
- d. CSE 2016-17 Annual Beach Monitoring Report – previously discussed.
- e. CSE Post Irma Beach Survey – previously discussed.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Braswell stated that he has already seen some sand coming back on the beach. The north end has some major erosion going on. CSE has been out to check it as some people were worry that it was due to the beach scraping but CSE stated that has nothing to do with the erosion. Over time that area will start to build back.

Mayor Braswell made a motion to adjourn. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.

APPROVED

DATE

ATTEST

DATE