

**MINUTES**  
**PAWLEYS ISLAND COUNCIL MEETING**

DATE/PLACE: February 18, 2020  
Pawleys Island Town Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Brian Henry, Guerry Green, Rocky Holliday & Sarah Zimmerman

ABSENT: Ashley Carter

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robert Moser stated that since we have had a change in the leash law, we have had a number of reported dog on dog attacks and dog on people attacks but we have also had a number of unreported attacks. He had a personal experience when he and his wife were walking their 2 dogs on the beach and a pit bull ran up to them, barked and growled at them while it circled them then a second pit bull ran to them and immediately attacked one of Mr. Moser's dogs all the while the other dog continued to circle and growl at them. The pit bull had their dog by the throat throwing it up in the air. Thankfully there were no punctures as the Moser's dog had a collar on but the only way Mr. Moser could get the dog loose was to physically hit the dog with his fist as hard as he could. He reiterated that it was a very scary situation. The owner of the pit bulls and her boyfriend were drinking and of no help. Another gentleman helped to keep the other dog away from Mr. Moser's wife. Mr. Moser feels that the current leash law is hard to enforce and it really benefits the general public by allowing our beach to be basically like a dog park so he asked the Town to look into seeing if the County could allocate money for us to have an area for a dog park so our beaches could be safer. He also feels that this is a liability for the Town and it concerns him of what could have happened if there were small children or smaller dogs on the beach at that time. He also asked the Town to seriously look at repairing the groin at the north-end of the island as it continues to deteriorate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. 12/9/2019 Regular Meeting
- B. 12/16/19 Special Meeting
- C. 1/6/2020 Regular Meeting

**Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve the 12/9/2019, 12/16/2019 and the 1/6/2020 meeting minutes. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

- A. George Raftelis, Old Town Hall Committee: Requesting the use of the Hurricane Dorian Insurance Proceeds – It has been a year since the committee started the project of the OTH. They have landscaped, painted the building and hung some baskets with planted flowers. They are planning on doing some modest improvements to the interior by painting, some leveling of the floor, raising the electrical outlets up to avoid any potential damage by future flooding. Seaspray Homes would do these improvements. Currently they have the funds for these improvements but are asking for money from the Town so they could have a reserve for future restorations. They are also thinking of having a mural painted on the south side of the building where the benches are placed. They estimate the total cost to be approximately \$10,000. They currently have a reserve of around \$2,500. The committee is asking the Town to release the insurance funds received for the Hurricane Dorian damage to the OTH.

Ryan Fabbri stated that the total insurance proceeds received was \$16,000 then subtracted all miscellaneous expenses related to the property with \$8,745 remaining. Vita Miller stated there is a local multi-media art alliance with approximately 60 members. She felt that the OTH would be a perfect venue for these artists. Art sales would be online with possibly a portion of the sale to go to the OTH – details have not been ironed out yet. **Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve releasing the remaining insurance proceeds to the OTH of \$8,745. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**

#### REPORTS/UPDATES:

- A. Beach Renourishment Project Update – Steve Trantum from Coastal Science and Engineering stated the sediment quality is good and Marinex has been good to work with. They do a good job working around the dune structures. The sub-line has just been moved to a little south of the South Causeway so the beach is now opened south of that. The project will start to move faster now as this area is not as badly eroded as the south-end of the island and requires less sand. Marinex has agreed to go as far north of the pier as they can which should be about 1,500 feet from the pier.
- B. Sand Fence & Sea Oats – Brie Ferguson (University of SC) – Ryan Fabbri stated that Coastal Science broke down different scenarios with a maximum scenario and a minimum scenario. Steve Trantum stated that the minimum scenario would be, on the south-end, planting sea oats with the recommended spacing for planting, which is 18” on center on the 25’ width of the slope of the dune. North of there, where there is an existing dune, we would put sand fencing and then for every sand fenced section we’d put about 20 plants. In the dune area we would give each homeowner the option of purchasing additional plants which would cost approximately \$500 per lot. The maximum scenario would be to do all that plus install sand fencing along the new dune as well. Steve does not think that is necessary but some people like sand fencing. Ryan Fabbri stated that we budgeted \$80,000 and the Army Corps paid ½ of that.
- C. Police Report – Chief Fanning reviewed the 1/2020 police report. (See Attached)
- D. Building Report – Ryan Fabbri stated that there was a lot of replacing/repairing decks and walkways.
- E. Financial Report
  - I. Approve Payment to Marinex Construction \$3,648,330.62. **Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve payment to Marinex Construction for \$3,648,330.62. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**
  - II. Approve Payment to Coastal Science & Engineering for \$27,879.29. **Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve payment to Coastal Science & Engineering for \$27,879.29. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**

#### BUSINESS

- A. Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees
  - I. Reappoint Sassy Henry to Accommodations Tax Committee for a two-year term which will expire on February 18, 2022. **Guerry Green made a motion to approve Sassy Henry to the Accommodation Tax Committee for a two-year term to expire on February 18, 2022. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
  - II. Appoint Ken Leach to Planning Commission for a three-year term which will expire on February 18, 2023. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve the appointment of Ken Leach to a three-year term to the Planning Commission. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**

- III. Appoint Mike Adams to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term to expire on February 18, 2023 – **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Mike Adams to the Zoning Board of Appeals to expire on February 18, 2023. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**
- IV. Appoint Matt Ellis to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term to expire on February 18, 2023 – **Rocky Holliday made a motion to appoint Matt Ellis to the Zoning Board of Appeals to expire on February 18, 2023. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.**
- B. Resolution #2020-01, authorizing the Town Administrator to apply for a grant from FEMA for Town Hall generator. Ryan Fabbri stated that there are 2 hazard mitigation grants and it becomes available by FEMA for hazard mitigation every time there is a disaster event. He applied for the grant after Hurricane Matthew but was denied because he omitted one step. He would like to apply for this grant under Hurricane Dorian. Under this grant, FEMA pays 75% of the cost and the Town pays 25%. **Guerry Green made a motion to approve authorizing the Town Administrator to apply for a FEMA grant for a Town Hall generator. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
- C. Resolution #2020-02, authorizing the Town Administrator to apply for a grant from FEMA for a mitigation reconstruction project. Ryan Fabbri stated that in addition to towns, communities, etc. applying for a FEMA mitigation grants for reconstruction projects, individual property owners can apply as well by it has to be done through their local government. This is for a property owner that has a severe repetitive loss property and to help with the cost of a complete demolition and reconstruction of a home. Also, the insurance cost will be considerably less once the new house is constructed according to FEMA guidelines. Guerry Green stated that he felt the wording in Section 3 should be worded as “The Town Administrator assures the Town of Pawleys Island will comply with rules set by this funding programs.” **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve authorizing the Town Administrator to apply for a grant from FEMA for a property owner changing the wording from The Town Council to The Town Administrator. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
- D. Resolution #2020-03, appropriating an additional \$2,117,765 for the fiscal year FY2020 from the Beach Fund for FY2019 budgeted beach renourishment activities that were not completed in the FY2019 budget year. Ryan Fabbri stated that when he prepared the budget, he had no idea how much of the renourishment project would be done by the end of the year so this is the amount to carry over to 2020. It doesn’t increase the cost; it just takes the unused amount to the current year. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve appropriating an additional \$2,117,765 to the 2020 budget for beach renourishment activities. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
- E. Approve Accommodations Tax Committee’s proposed 2020 Marketing Budget - Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve the Accommodations Tax Committee’s proposal 2020 Marketing Budget. Guerry Green seconded. All in favor.
- F. Approve Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Pawleys Island Police Department and the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office. Chief Fanning stated that this is just a copy of the prior Mutual Aid Agreement with the County Sheriff’s office when Lane Crib was sheriff. This is a renewal for our council to approve and sign as we have a new sheriff in Georgetown County. **Guerry Green made a motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Pawleys Island Police Department and the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**

- G. Consideration of an expenditure not to exceed \$30,500 for rebuilding public beach access walkovers at Hazard Street and Pritchard Street. Ryan Fabbri stated the renourishment project has been completed at the Hazard and Pritchard Street beach areas but the dune that has been created is far higher than anticipated and dwarfs the existing walkways. Estimates have been received by SeaSpray but we are waiting for 2 other contractors to submit theirs. The \$30,500 is the quote from SeaSpray but if the other contractors come in lower, we will go with them. Hazard Street walkway will be stairs over the dune and the Pritchard will be a ramp. This expense will come out of the beach fund. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to approve rebuilding the public beach access walkovers at Hazard and Pritchard Streets not to exceed \$30,500. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**
- H. Discussion regarding U.S. Army Corp Project/Sand Fence & Dune Plantings – Ryan Fabbri stated that this Army Corp Project only covers the south-end of the island up to just north of Hazard Street. They will do fencing and planting in this area and then we could possibly piggy-back with the contractor for other parts of the island. In order for this to go forward we would need to get all of the 113 easements. We now have 98 that are already recorded, 5 were not signed and 8 were kicked back for errors that were found in the easement. If we could get all the easements the Corp said that they could have the sand fencing up by Memorial Day weekend but the Sea Oats wouldn't be planted until November. Ryan stated that he is sure there would need to be condemnation of at least 2 properties in order to get the easements we need to get moving on this but Council needs to agree to this. Property owners facing condemnation of their property will have 30 to 60 days to accept or reject the offer and this will need to go to circuit court. Town Administrator will work on getting these remaining easements then take it to Council with the results of how many easements are remaining so they can make a decision as to whether condemnation will be done. Steve Tranum stated that if we don't make a decision soon, we will have to wait until Fall to plant. Guerry Green stated that he feels that it would be better to tell these people that if they don't sign their easements that the Town is going to pursue a condemnation process on their property and hopefully this will help them to comply. Council agreed to continue getting the remaining easements. Ryan Fabbri stated that we have \$80,000 allotted for sea oats and Sand Fencing; \$40,000 of which we received from the government and if we don't spend it all we would have to return to the government. Steve Tranum stated that approximately 70% of the cost is for the sand fencing and the rest is sea oats. He felt the we could do \$40,000 of just sea oats at the north-end of the island. Council agreed.
- I. Discussion regarding Strategic Planning Meeting/Property Owner Survey- Mayor Henry stated that meeting is scheduled for 3/21/2020. He asked if Council and the Town Administrator would be willing to have dinner at George Raftelis home as a kick-off for the weekend on 3/20/2020. Location has not been established for the 3/21 meeting but the time will be between 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The workshop has to be a public meeting. Mayor Henry will let Council know.
- Another issue is the payment for the facilitator of \$7,500 and Mayor Henry recommends/suggests that the Town pays for the survey but to offer the opportunity for people to donate money to offset that expense. Sarah Zimmerman stated that this needs to be more transparent and feels that having the Town spend \$7,500 for this meeting is wrong when 2 of our employees took a salary cut. **Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve the funding for the event, the survey and the strategic planning. Brian Henry seconded. Rocky Holliday and Brian Henry in favor. Sarah Zimmerman not in favor.**

Mayor Henry stated that the survey had been sent to Town Council twice for review and feedback. And as a result, the survey had been updated accordingly. He then stated that we needed a vote to approve the survey. **Rocky Holliday made a motion to approve the survey. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.**

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

None

ADJOURNMENT

**Rocky Holliday made a motion to adjourn. Sarah Zimmerman seconded. All in favor.**

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**APPROVED**

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**DATE**

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**ATTEST**

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