



# TOWN OF PAWLEYS ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Town Hall – Conference Room | 323 Myrtle Ave | Pawleys Island SC 29585  
2-22-2022 – 5:00 pm

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Brian Henry, Sarah Zimmerman, Guerry Green, Rocky Holliday, Ashley Carter

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ryan Fabbri (Town Administrator), Mike Fanning (Chief of Police), Ross Durant (Town Attorney), Preston Janco (Town Clerk)

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Henry called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

### - Tom Mauldin

Tom expressed that he loves the Island and has been here for so many years. He stated that he is impressed with the issues being addressed by Town Council and congratulated Mayor Henry and Ryan Fabbri for their hard work. He would like to get more involved specifically on the road situation on Pawleys Island. Tom expressed interest in helping the Town find a way to raise the roads to circumvent the road from flooding out during high tides. Tom added that this issue will keep getting worse as climate change and sea level rise worsens. He would like to use his skill set to work together as team and set goals and priorities for fixing road flooding issues.

### - Mary Nash

Mary stated that she has lived on the Island for the past 10 years and has been visiting for at least 70 years. She expressed the need to do something about 336 Myrtle Ave due to its declining nature and how much of an eyesore it is. She wants something proactively done about the property. Mary asked Council to truly consider Betsy Altman's firework display because of the hard work and gratitude put forth.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. 1-18-2022 Regular Meeting

Mayor Henry Called for a motion to approve the 1-18-2022 Meeting Minutes. Guerry Green motioned to approve. Rocky Holliday seconded the motion. All approved.

## 4. REPORTS AND UPDATES

### A. POLICE REPORT

Chief Fanning stated that it has been a quiet January other than two burglaries that were committed on the Island. The one at the south end on Myrtle Ave appears to be a targeted crime. Chief Fanning added that the officers were able to locate the car driven by the suspected criminals, however, the car had stolen plates and could not be traced

back to the actual driver. Chief Fanning stated that at the other burglary site there was a bike stolen. Other calls for service in January consisted of weather-related issues such as broken water lines. Chief Fanning added an additional piece to the police report which is a 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Traffic Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement which is just a document that agrees that the surrounding local government police forces will help one another when its needed. It's the same one from previous years. Mayor Henry asked for a motion to approve him to sign the mutual aid agreement. Rocky Holliday motioned to approve. Ashley Carter seconded the motion. All approved.

#### B. BUILDING REPORT

Ryan stated that there was nothing out of the ordinary with the building report.

#### C. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ryan stated that it is difficult to get a read on the first financial report on the budget due to not much money being spent or coming in yet. He added that the audit has begun, and it will hopefully be done by the June Council Meeting.

### 5. BUSINESS

#### A. REQUEST PERMISSION TO HOLD FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN PAWLEYS ISLAND CREEK OVER LABOR DAY WEEKEND – BETSY ALTMAN / PAWLEYS ISLAND REALTY

Mayor Henry discussed the January meeting presentation on allowing Pawleys Island Realty to light off fireworks. Mayor Henry asked Betsy to speak a little more on the event. Betsy Altman added that an informal survey was sent out to property owners in which 92% of those who responded were in favor of the event. Other people had other suggestions such as having ice cream and snacks being passed out at the event. Betsy added that she will respect Council's decision but the whole goal of this event is to express Pawleys Island Realty's gratitude towards the property owners. Betsy also stated that she was able to get a jurisdictional map of Pawleys Island which shows she could be out of Pawleys Island's jurisdiction which would allow her to do it with Georgetown County's approval. Mayor Henry asked Ryan if a vote by Council would only be viewed as a blessing due to the event possibly taking place outside of the Town. Ryan said yes. Betsy stated that she does not see any issues in getting the County to approve the event. Betsy just wants to be neighborly and bring the community together for an event that is expressing gratitude only. Mayor Henry added that he received emails from three people stating their disapproval of the event. Sarah and Ashley both state that they are in favor of the event. Ashley likes that PI Realty stepped up to the plate to show gratitude in this way. Sarah stated that she loved the presentation and believe an event like this would be great. Mayor Henry expressed the connection that Council has with PI Realty, so any decision made is not personal. Rocky stated that it is a very generous offer, however, Murrells Inlet stopped their firework shows due to the environmental impact on the creek. Rocky stated that he does not want to creek to

suffer environmentally from a fireworks event. He expressed that he wants the Town to be good stewards of the creek, that is his only issue. Guerry also expressed the generosity of the event and that he connected with PI Realty so it is not personal, however, he is concerned with the environmental impact as well along with the precedent it could set for other businesses wanting to do firework shows. Mayor Henry agreed with Rocky and Guerry. Mayor Henry stated that he has many concerns, and the health of the creek is his main concern. There is worry of fallout from the fireworks. Mayor Henry also stated that setting a precedent is worrying like Guerry said. Betsy stated that she does not want to make this difficult for the Town and that maybe in the future the Town could sponsor an event like this. Mayor Henry stated that Betsy might be onto something and right with that idea, but its Town Council's responsibility to watch out for the Island and an event like this could have environmental impacts and draw in huge crowds of people that would put stress on the police force. Everyone loves fireworks, however, having fireworks display in the creek is worrying due to the creek health. Mayor Henry also stated that if the town were to try and discuss sponsoring a fireworks event, he would vote against it if it ever came to a vote. Mayor Henry added that this is not personal and maybe something more long lasting could be considered. Ashley Carter expressed confusion with the idea of setting a precedent and that the Town's opinion does not matter if it's out of the Town's jurisdiction. Betsy Altman would like a vote or a show of hands of who is in favor and who is not. Sarah Zimmerman and Ashley Carter are in favor. Mayor Henry, Guerry Green, and Rocky Holliday are not in favor.

**B. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

- I. APPOINT BETSY BAILEY TO THE EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 22, 2024.
- II. APPOINT SALLY HAWN TO THE EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 22, 2024
- III. APPOINT KATHI CUBBAGE TO THE EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Mayor Henry stated that the purpose of adding three additional people to the Events Committee was to have more locals involved and to have more help for the additional events that Pawleys Island will host. Rocky Holliday added that these seem to be great additions to the committee. Mayor Henry called for a motion to appoint Betsy Bailey, Sally Hawn, and Kathi Cubbage to the Events Committee. Rocky Holliday motioned to approve. Guerry Green seconded the motion. All approved.

**C. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INSTALLTION OF ADDITIONAL SECURITY CAMERAS AT NEW LOCATIONS**

Mayor Henry stated that Council agreed that if there was any reduction in coverage there will need to be options looked at to fill that lost coverage. Security Cameras are

one of those options. Ryan stated that the table (See attached table) shows the recurring and initial costs of adding two additional security cameras. Rocky asked if it was the same cost as the others. Chief Fanning stated that it's the same cost with the same company. He also included that the areas being looked at the most for adding cameras are the bird's nest, south causeway, and the corner of Third St and Atlantic Ave. The one at the bird's nest would hopefully all the roads in that area. Guerry asked if these cameras consisted of the license plate readers as well. Mike added that no it was just the security cameras not the license plate readers. Chief Fanning stated that the only way to see the video from the police cars is to pull it up on the officer's cell phones. Sarah asked if a live feed could be viewed from the phones? Chief Fanning said yes. Chief Fanning suggests that one be put at the bird's nest and the other can either go at the South Causeway or the corner of Third and Atlantic. However, Investigator Fairfield views the South Causeway as a better position. Mayor Henry and Rocky stated that they like this idea. Mayor Henry asked if it was a quick process and if there would be any hardships in installing the cameras. Chief Fanning added that it would only take a month or so and that it would be a painless process. Mayor Henry asked for a motion to approve installing the additional two security cameras at the South Causeway and at the Bird's nest. Rocky Holliday motioned to approve. Guerry Green seconded the motion. All approved. Guerry Green asked for Chief Fanning's opinion on Ring Doorbells and if they would be beneficial if all the houses had them. Chief Fanning stated that any products with that technology would be recommended by him. Rocky asked Ryan if it would be possible for the Town to do a group buy of Ring doorbells for a cheaper price. Ryan stated that the Town could cover the initial cost, however, there is a subscription fees for these security technologies so the property owners would have to be convinced to pay for the subscription fee. However, the Town could offer help through a grant which could offset the costs for property owners.

#### D. APPROVE ACCOMODATIONS TAX COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED 2022 MARKETING BUDGET

Ryan Fabbri stated that this was a copy of the approved A-Tax budget which was unanimously approved. The only deviation is the total revenue since the A-Tax revenue was way up compared to estimates. However, the committee has two years to spend the additional funds which they will discuss in the next A-tax committee. Rocky asked if they need that much money? Ryan stated that the state mandates 30% of state A-tax revenue be spent on tourism. Guerry asked if they can add any suggestions. Ryan said they could. Sarah added the marketing adds have significantly approved and that she has no issue with the money being spent on the better advertising. Mayor Henry asked for a motion to approve the marketing budget. Guerry Green motioned to approve. Rocky Holliday seconded the motion. All approved.

#### E. UPDATE ON U.S. ARMY CORP PROJECT / SAND FENCH & DUNE PLANTINGS

Ryan stated that he sent out an update in January to property owners that the sand fencing project will begin on February 15<sup>th</sup>, however, that has been pushed back two weeks. The project will consist of laying down sand fencing first and then the dune plantings will take place afterwards. Guerry asked Ryan if he could get in touch with the contractor and relay the information over to him because Guerry would like more plantings in front of his house.

**F. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSAL FROM COASTAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FOR CREEK DREDGING STUDY.**

Guerry stated that this project should be a community effort such as bringing in Litchfield and Prince George. Guerry would like a better understanding of the last creek dredging project that took place. Sarah asked if South Litchfield has even discussed the creek. Rocky added that there is interest and Mayor Henry added that he had lunch with the POA president a couple months ago and he expressed that there was a lot of interest in creek dredging. Mayor Henry stated that he would like to table this until the next meeting.

**G. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-01: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET.**

Mayor Henry stated that this has been discussed at great lengths for the past couple on months. Ryan added that it's the same as last month other than the addition of \$35,000 for the storm drain project and Ordinance 2022-01 will need to be amended to add \$11,500 for security cameras as well. Mayor Henry asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-01 with the amended addition of adding \$11,500 for security cameras. Guerry Green motioned to approve. Rocky Holliday seconded the motion. All approved.

**6. COMMENTS**

Rocky discussed the projects that SCDOT is taking on such as paving the roads. He had a meeting with a DOT official who went over who the contract was awarded to and when exactly the project will take place. The contract that has been awarded will consist of Phase 1 of repaving while the Phase 2 portion does not have a contractor yet. Rocky added that the project will consist of a light scrubbing and then the pavement will be added. The scrubbing will hopefully get rid of the crazy bumps on the roads. The road will be elevated 1.5 inches which will hopefully help with some road flooding. The project has until now all the way to May 2024 to be completed. Rocky expressed interest in exploring Tom Mauldin's ideas on raising the road. Chief Fanning added that the road has been marked by DOT recently which suggests the patchwork should be taking place soon. Mayor Henry added that DOT does what DOT does and that there needs to be thoughtful consideration on raising the road. Rocky stated that recently the Town undertook a storm drain project, and that the Town is open to any recommendations to combat flooding.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Henry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Guerry Green motioned to adjourn. Ashley Carter seconded the motion. All approved.



APPROVED

3/14/22

DATE



ATTEST

3/14/22

DATE