



# TOWN OF PAWLEYS ISLAND

## TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Town Hall – Conference Room | 323 Myrtle Ave | Pawleys Island SC 29585  
12-12-2022 – 5:00 pm

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

**ABSENT:** Ashley Carter

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dan Newquist (Town Administrator), Mike Fanning (Chief of Police), Daniel O'Hara (Town Clerk)

**ADDITIONAL PRESENT:** Ross Durant (Town Attorney) Stacey Moree (Town Auditor)

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Henry called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Bert Mills: Mr. Mills introduced his wife Carmen Mills stating that they are aspiring residents on the Island. Mr. Mills stated that they have owned a couple of houses for about eighteen (18) years and own a creek lot, mentioning that they suffered a little damage during Hurricane Ian. Mr. Mills stated that he would like to speak about the Sea Level Adaptation Plan. Mr. Mills thanked the Town Council for sending out the draft plan and also thanked them for the Labor Day event. Mr. Mills wanted to state that he and Carmen are not opposed to the mitigation plan. Mr. Mills mentioned that the Sea Level Adaption Plan mentioned elevating the roads on the Island. Mr. Mills mentioned a personal experience with a previous home that elevated their roads and caused runoff onto his property. Mr. Mills states that when he reads road elevation and marsh elevation it makes him wonder about runoff and how it will affect everyone. Mr. Mills moved to his next point and stated that when he reads acquisition of properties, he stated that commendation comes to mind. Mr. Mills stated that he believes that he thinks that everyone will want to know what the Town Council is thinking there. Mr. Mills continued to mention regulations about what property owners can do with their land. Mr. Mills requested that as we look for actions and implementation where these things are going to happen to create a committee to discuss the impacts of some of the action items. Mr. Mills stated that we need a lot more information on how it will affect them.
  - i. Rocky Holliday mentioned that no decisions had been made on solutions. Rocky stated that the Town hired a consultant to assist the Town with her knowledge of working with other communities who are faced with the same problems. Rocky stated that the Universe is open, in terms of what the Town selects to help fix the problem. Rocky stated that the last thing the Town Council wants to do is to make something worse. Rocky stated

Chief Fanning continued to explain that you should not exchange personal information or photos over the internet. Chief Fanning mentioned that there have been a lot of residents concerned about speeding on Atlantic Ave following a recent accident involving a dog. Chief Fanning noted that this month they have issued a total of five speeding violations three (3) speeding tickets. Chief Fanning stated that the department would continue targeted enforcement on the island.

#### **B. BUILDING REPORT**

- a. Daniel Newquist explained that the report contains active permits received from the County, then the permits received during the previous month. Included on the last page is a tally of all the permits that have been received during the year and the total fees collected. Daniel Newquist mentioned that at the recent ARB meeting, the board approved two new homes. Daniel noted that there would be a review of the SAFEbulit contract and the transition process with the County later in the meeting in item 6D.

#### **C. FINANCIAL REPORT**

- a. Daniel Newquist explained that so far in the year in comparison to last year, the Town has received a higher amount of A-tax dollars in 2022 than in 2021. Daniel Newquist noted that the Town is sending checks to the Chamber of Commerce for 30% of allocated State Accommodation tax funds and the expenditure line item would significantly increase by the next meeting since payment has been delayed during the second half of the year. Daniel Newquist mentioned that underground wire payments year to date are lower than anticipated and explained that staff would monitor it as the year ends. This led to a discussion on how it will affect the 2023 budget and how to ensure the Town closes out these active accounts.
- b. Mayor Henry asked Stacey Moree to provide her report on the Town's 2021 financial audit. Stacey Moree went over the executive summary report with Town Council. Stacey Moree noted that the Town is in a good financial position. Stacey Moree informed Town Council that the Town has one year of general funds operating in reserve funds. And that the benchmark for most governments is thirty (30) to ninety (90) days.

### **6. BUSINESS**

#### **A. First Reading - 2023 Town Budget**

1. Mayor Henry noted that the Town Council did not vote on the first reading at the previous meeting, and it would need to be revoted on today. Sarah Zimmerman noted that in years past there had been a budget workshop scheduled as part of the approval process. Mayor Henry mentioned that it generally occurs between the first and the second reading. Sarah Zimmerman asked what the expected salary increase for the Police Department. Mayor Henry stated that the Town budgeted a 6% increase, and the cost-of-living

- a. Daniel Newquist stated that FEMA has informed him that the Town is eligible for reimbursement for work that the Town is legally responsible for. Anything that is not within the Town's jurisdiction would require an agreement with the responsible entity. For the debris in the navigable waterway of the creek that would be the State of South Carolina. For the debris on the west side of the North Causeway, that would be Georgetown County.

Daniel Newquist mentioned that he made contact with four contractors to remove the debris from the creek and CWay Marine Construction was the only responsive contractor. C-Way's cost estimate for the work is \$17,000. Daniel Newquist noted that the OCRM debris removal emergency order expires on December 31<sup>st</sup>, but that he intends to request an extension allow for more time to complete the work. **No votes or decisions were made.**

### III. Sand Fencing/ Dune Vegetation

- a. Daniel Newquist mentioned that he is making progress on initiating a voluntary cost-share project to restore the sand fencing and dune vegetation lost during Hurricane Ian. Dan asked that interested property owners contact Town Hall and once the details of the project are finalized then the Town would send out notifications to property owners on that contact list. Mayor Henry suggested that the Town send out contact information of experienced contractors for individual properties who desire to begin their sand fencing and dune vegetation work now.

### C. Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan – Resolution

- i. Mayor Henry stated that this plan will prepare the Town for shovel-ready projects to receive grant money. Mayor Henry thanked everyone in the community for their support and input into this report. Mayor Henry explained that the Town will need to adopt this document to move forward with pursuing money for projects. **Mayor Henry asked for a motion. Rocky Holliday motioned to approve the resolution. Guerry Green seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

### D. Georgetown County Building Dept Transition Agreement / SAFEBuilt Contract

- i. Mayor Henry stated that this has been in the making for a while and that through dedicated work from staff and involvement from the Planning Commission it is about to become a reality. Daniel Newquist stated that he will need approval from the Town Council on a transition of building department services from the County to the Town. Dan also reviewed a draft contract agreement with SAFEBuilt that will need approval. Daniel Newquist confirmed that SAFEbuilt is the vendor that the Planning Commission recommended. Daniel Newquist stated that he is planning to meet with Georgetown County

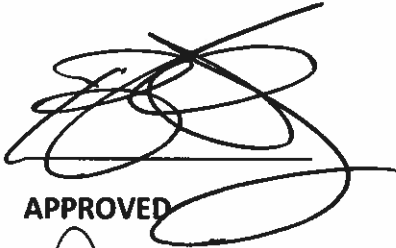
1. Mayor Henry stated that there was no need for a vote since it follows the Town ordinance.

**6. COMMENTS**

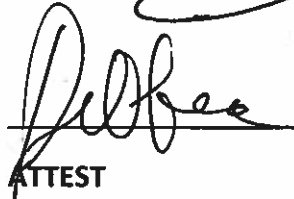
- a. Mayor Henry stated that there will be a prayer service in the nature park on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm. Mayor Henry also asked if it would be easier for Town Council to use electronic files during Town Council meetings.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Henry asked for a motion for adjournment. Rocky Holliday started a motion for adjournment. Sarah Zimmerman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**



APPROVED



ATTEST

1/19/23

DATE

1/19/23

DATE