



TOWN OF PAWLEYS ISLAND

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Town Hall – Conference Room | 323 Myrtle Ave | Pawleys Island SC 29585

11/10/2025 – 5:00 PM

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

STAFF PRESENT: Daniel Newquist, Corey Higdon, and Chief Fanning

ADDITIONAL PRESENT:

ABSENT: Ashley Carter

1) CALL TO ORDER / OPENING REMARKS

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

2) PUBLIC COMMENTS

- No public comments were presented.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 10-13-2025

- **Mayor Henry requested a motion to approve or amend the 10-13-2025 Town Council minutes. Mr. Holliday motioned to approve the minutes. Mrs. Zimmerman seconded the motion.** No further discussion. **All voted in favor.**

4) REPORTS AND UPDATES

a) Police Report

Chief Fanning explained that October was a slow and uneventful month for the Police Department, with no incidents to further elaborate on.

b) Building Report

Mr. Higdon presented the building report for October, stating that 9 new permits were issued during the month. He explained that permit volume is continuing to increase as the Town moves further into its shoulder season. Mr. Higdon further elaborated on a permit for a new single-family home that was issued for 300-C Myrtle Avenue, which is located adjacent to Town Hall. He noted that the remaining permits issued were all smaller projects. Lastly, he noted that one more permit for a major project is expected to be issued prior to the end of the year, with the permit for a new single-family home at 106 Atlantic Avenue expecting to receive approval in the coming weeks.

c) Financial Report

Mr. Newquist highlighted the Town's local and state accommodations tax collections for 2025, noting collections are nearing the budgeted projections for the year. He added that he expects the total collections for both state and local to exceed the budgeted projections. He also noted that Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) proceeds have decreased slightly from previous years. Mr. Newquist updated that legal fees for 2025 should remain under the budgeted expenses. Lastly, he explained that the Town exceeded the budgeted Beach Access

Security expenses for the Police Department, with repairs and upgrades needed on the security cameras throughout the island.

5) BUSINESS

a) A-Tax Committee Appointment

Mayor Henry noted that there is an open spot on the Accommodations Tax Committee. He explained that Bruce Taylor, the owner of the Pelican Inn, has expressed interest in joining the committee. Mayor Henry commended Mr. Taylor for his commitment to the island as a long-standing member of the community.

Mayor Henry requested a motion to appoint Bruce Taylor to the A-Tax Committee. Mr. Holliday motioned to appoint Mr. Taylor to the A-Tax Committee. Mr. Green seconded the motion. No further discussion. **All voted in favor.**

b) Historic Preservation Consultant Services RFP Review

Mayor Henry explained that historic preservation is a priority for the Town. He further explained that an inventory of historic properties on the island is crucial for enhancing preservation regulations. Mayor Henry highlighted that the Town recently sent out an RFP for a historic preservation consultant. Mr. Newquist highlighted that 8 firms responded to the RFP, giving the Town several great options for a preservation consultant. He expanded that the Planning Commission ultimately decided that Thomason & Associates stood out amongst the options. Mr. Newquist explained that the Planning Commission made this choice due to the consultant's work in the region and experience with coastal communities. He added that his contact with Beaufort, NC gave a great recommendation for Thomason & Associates.

Mr. Holliday questioned how much was budgeted for the workshop, to which Mr. Newquist clarified that \$5,000 was budgeted and the consultant is within budget at \$4,900. Mayor Henry commended the Planning Commission for their elaborate selection process, noting that each member had a score card and list of criteria to determine which consultant was the best fit. He added that the commission worked in a timely manner and were efficient in moving forward with the historic preservation initiative. Lastly, he stated how having a professional on board can help tremendously. Mrs. Zimmerman questioned when the consultant will begin his work, to which Mr. Newquist explained the workshop will be in early December, with a post-workshop report expected to be prepared in January.

Mayor Henry requested a motion to enter into a contract with Thomason & Associates. Mrs. Zimmerman motioned to enter into a contract with Thomason & Associates. Mr. Holliday seconded the motion. No further discussion. **All voted in favor.**

c) First Reading- Ordinance 2025-02 2026 Annual Budget

Mr. Newquist prefaced the first reading of the 2026 budget by stating how the budget discussion in the October Council Meeting helped tremendously with building the 2026 budget. He began the budget reading by highlighting changes to the budgeted revenues for 2026. The first significant change was the addition of funds from the first Capital Projects Sale Tax (CPST) disbursement, which will disburse \$286,000 for the North Jetty improvement project. Mr. Newquist added that there is a corresponding expense in the public works category for this project. He also highlighted that he slightly increased the state and local insurance budgeted proceeds.

In terms of expenditures, Mr. Newquist first explained the addition of the emergency response reserve fund, which was requested by Mr. Green in the October budget discussion. He explained that the Town's auditor confirmed that the Town can allocate funds for rainy days, to which the Town currently has \$745,000 in funds that are unassigned. Mr. Holliday questioned if these funds are part of the beach fund, to which Mr. Newquist clarified that they are not and rather they reflect the Town's excess revenues over expenditures over time.

Moving on, Chief Fanning explained the budget changes to the Police Department's budget. He noted that a new police vehicle is needed in the coming year, with the likely option being a Ford F-150 truck. Otherwise, the only other need for the PD is updated tasers, as the current tasers are outdated. Mr. Green referenced a previous discussion topic from a past Town Council meeting regarding an increase to the golf cart permit price. Mr. Holliday suggested charging businesses that rent several golf carts to visitors more than residents for permits, but Council ultimately decided to keep the price consistent across all buyers. Mr. Green suggested increasing the price from \$25 to \$50, which was agreed upon by Council.

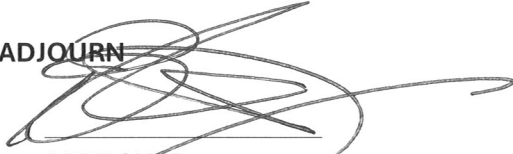
Mr. Newquist explained several changes to the public works section of the budget, emphasizing the increase in expenses for the North Jetty project. The stormwater maintenance budget item was increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000 due to anticipated improvements to drainage infrastructure across the island. Mrs. Zimmerman questioned if the Town is budgeting for the purchase of additional Big Belly Trash Receptacles, to which Mr. Newquist noted that the current proposed budget does not reflect any additional purchases. He expanded that the Big Belly receptacles have helped greatly in keeping trash/waste contained. Mrs. Zimmerman recommended the addition of new receptacles near the boat ramps, which Mr. Newquist agreed but added that the cans near the boat ramps would need to be elevated to account for King Tide scenarios. Lastly, Mayor Henry recommended increasing the trash budget to \$30,000.

Mayor Henry requested a motion to approve or deny the first reading of the 2026 budget with amendments to increase the trash budget to \$30,000 and increase the golf cart permit price to \$50. Mr. Holliday motioned to approve the first reading of the budget with the amendments. Mr. Green seconded the motion. No further discussion. **All voted in favor.**

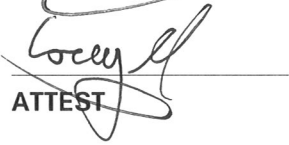
6) COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Mayor Henry thanked Mr. Newquist for finding an intern through Coastal Carolina's RISE program to assist in Town operations in the coming months. Mr. Newquist noted that the intern will start January 20th and has expressed a desire to continue her internship through the summer months.

7) ADJOURN



APPROVED



ATTEST

12-8-25
DATE

12-8-2025
DATE