

CAROLINA BEACH

Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - 6:30 PM

Council Chambers, 1121 N. Lake Park Boulevard, Carolina Beach, NC



MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER WITH INVOCATION GIVEN BY PASTOR SHAWN BLACKWELDER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mayor Pierce called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, followed by the invocation by Pastor Shawn Blackwelder of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Mayor LeAnn Pierce

Mayor Pro Tem Jay Healy

Council Member Lynn Barbee

Council Member JoDan Garza

Council Member Steve Shuttleworth

ALSO PRESENT

Town Manager Bruce Oakley

Assistant Town Manager Ed Parvin

Town Clerk Kim Ward

Town Attorney Noel Fox

Mayor Pierce recognized the following people in the audience: State Rep. Charlie Miller, Chance Lambeth from U.S. Rep. David Rouzer's office, Kure Beach Mayor Craig Bloszinsky, Belville Mayor Mike Allen, former Council Member Sarah Friede, former Mayor and current Council Member-Elect Joe Benson, and former Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Pat Efird, who is also a recipient of The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

ACTION: Motion to adopt the agenda

Motion made by Mayor Pierce

Voting Yea: Mayor Pierce, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Barbee, Council Member Garza, Council Member Shuttleworth

Motion passed unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Set a public hearing for January 11, 2022, for a Conditional Zoning District to consider a multi-family project consisting of 8 townhome units located at 905 Basin Road in the MB-1 zoning district
Applicant: Laurel Companies LLC.

2. Set a public hearing for January 11, 2022, for a Conditional Zoning District to consider a multi-family project consisting of 9 townhome units located at 406, 408, 410 Canal Drive in the T-1 zoning district
Applicant: Tank Construction Supplies LLC
3. Set a public hearing for January 11, 2022, to consider a voluntary annexation for a 20,853-square-foot tract located on 601 Augusta Ave into the Town of Carolina Beach municipal boundaries
Applicant: Center City Development
4. Approval of meeting minutes from October 26 and November 9, 19, and 22

Council Member Garza said regarding consent agenda item 3, which sets a public hearing to consider a voluntary annexation for 601 Augusta Avenue into the Town's municipal boundaries, he thinks this is a no-brainer and the answer should be no. He said he's not going to be in office when the new Council votes on this, but he wanted to say publicly he is not in favor of it.

ACTION: Motion to adopt the consent agenda

Motion made by Mayor Pierce

Voting Yea: Mayor Pierce, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Barbee, Council Member Garza, Council Member Shuttleworth

Motion passed unanimously

OUTGOING COUNCIL ADJOURNS

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS

5. Mayor Pierce will recognize outgoing Council Members Steve Shuttleworth and JoDan Garza

State Rep. Charlie Miller presented Council with a check for \$4,150,000 representing items for the Town from the General Assembly. He said this includes \$2 million for the lake, \$900,000 for capital improvements, \$1 million to help with the Freeman Park purchase, and \$250,000 for turn lanes.

Mayor Pierce presented Council Member Garza with a plaque as he prepared to leave office after 4 years. Council Member Garza made closing comments.

Mayor Pierce presented Council Member Shuttleworth with a plaque as he prepared to leave office after 10 years. Council Member Shuttleworth made closing comments.

RECOGNITION OF MAYOR PIERCE

6. Mayor-Elect Barbee and Council Members will recognize Mayor Pierce

Council Member Shuttleworth presented Mayor Pierce with a plaque as she prepared to leave office after 8 years. Mayor Pierce made closing comments.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR-ELECT BARBEE ADMINISTERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLIE MILLER

OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBER-ELECT JOE BENSON ADMINISTERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLIE MILLER

OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBER-ELECT MIKE HOFFER ADMINISTERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLIE MILLER

NEW COUNCIL IS SEATED AT THE DAIS

MAYOR BARBEE CALLS THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Barbee called the meeting back to order at 7:04 PM. New Council Members made comments.

DISCUSSION ON THE APPOINTMENT TO THE VACANT COUNCIL SEAT

7. Discussion of Vacant Council Seat

Mayor Barbee said because his previous seat as a Council Member is now open, Council will need to fill it with an appointment.

Town Attorney Noel Fox gave details about the selection process.

Council Member Benson said he wanted to choose from the 3 other candidates who recently ran for Council: Matt Dunn, Vince Losito, and Deb LeCompte. He said it was a no-brainer for him that Ms. LeCompte should fill the seat.

Council Member Hoffer said Ms. LeCompte has the necessary character, qualifications, and passion to serve.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy said the public has spoken when they previously voted for Ms. LeCompte, who was the third-place candidate at that time. He said she has paid her dues by serving on multiple committees and otherwise being highly involved in the community, so she's earned the right.

Mayor Barbee said although he is not an advocate of automatically selecting the third-place candidate, he thinks no one works harder in this Town than Ms. LeCompte. He said she dedicates a tremendous amount of time, which he thinks is the most valuable asset along with good judgment and hard work.

ACTION: Motion that Debra LeCompte, if she is willing to accept the position, fill the remaining 2 years of Mayor Barbee's Council Member term

Motion made by Council Member Benson

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer

Motion passed 4-0

Rep. Miller administered the oath of office for newly appointed Council Member LeCompte.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

8. Election of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Barbee said Council chooses this position.

ACTION: Motion that Mayor Pro Tem Healy stay in the position as Mayor Pro Tem

Motion made by Council Member Benson

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer,
Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

Mayor Pro Tem Healy said he would be honored and thanked Council.

APPOINTMENTS TO TOWN AND OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

9. Committee Appointments

Mayor Barbee read the following proposed appointments to Town and outside committees:

- Cape Fear Council of Governments: Mayor Barbee
- Carolina/Kure Beach Regional Sewer Authority: Council Member LeCompte/Council Member Benson
- CBP3: Mayor Barbee/Council Member Benson
- Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce: Mayor Barbee
- Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point (MOTSU) Liaison: Mayor Pro Tem Healy/Council Member Benson
- North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association: Mayor Pro Tem Healy
- New Hanover County Tourism Development Authority: Mayor Barbee
- New Hanover County Transportation Advisory: Mayor Barbee
- Wilmington/New Hanover Port, Waterway & Beach Commission: Mayor Pro Tem Healy/Council Member LeCompte
- Bike/Ped: Council Member Hoffer
- Beautification: Council Member Hoffer
- Centennial: Council Member LeCompte
- Marketing Advisory: Mayor Pro Tem Healy
- Operations Advisory: Mayor Benson
- Parks and Rec: Mayor Pro Tem Healy
- Police Advisory: Council Member LeCompte

ACTION: Motion to accept the committee assignments

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer,
Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH WARD AND SMITH

Mr. Oakley said the Town has been under contract with Ward and Smith, in particular former U.S. Rep. Mike McIntyre and The Ferguson Group, for help with legislative efforts in Raleigh and Washington. He said the contract ends at the end of December, so he is requesting that Council extend the contract

through February until the Town can negotiate and decide exactly what the new Council wants from this arrangement.

ACTION: Motion to approve the contract extension with Ward and Smith as presented by the Town Manager

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Shuttleworth of 711 Carolina Beach Avenue North offered congratulations to the new Council.

ADJOURNMENT - RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN THE ATRIUM

Mayor Barbee adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.