



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Special Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Ken Kyser; Commissioners Sandy Miller, Sheila Young, Dennis Harrington and Gina Martin; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Police Chief Wally Layne; Building Official Tim Evans; Shoreline Protection and Recreation Manager Christy Ferguson; Public Works Director Chris Clemmons; and Fiscal Operations Clerks Margaret Lancaster and Mandy Lockner. Present from the public were Sue Kyser, Lewis and Dolly Mitchell; Lou Cutajar and Vicki Myers.

Mayor Holden called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016**

Dolly Mitchell expressed her concern that Time Warner Channel 8 is no longer up and running. She feels the more the Town can keep tourists and residents advised, the better off we are.

Lou Cutajar asked for clarification on Commissioner Martin's motion from the last meeting. Commissioner Martin stated she proposed a penny towards the street and \$0.007 towards employees. Mr. Cutajar is pleased that the Board has taken the first steps to addressing streets and lift stations.

Lewis Mitchell noticed on page 5 under Maintenance & Repair Streets there is only \$10,000. He doesn't think \$10,000 will cover the needs. Town Manager Hewett explained that is the pothole line item, but there is another penny in another line item for paving repairs.

Vicki Myers stated she has a concern that the General Fund is not high enough and she thinks that is something to look at in the future. She stated if the Town had a storm we would be in jeopardy.

The Board closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 15-06, THE REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016**

Commissioner Young suggested that the Board clarify that when the Board talks about streets and roads that doesn't include Ocean Boulevard since it isn't ours to repair.

*Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kyser to approve Ordinance 15-06, the Revenues and Appropriations Ordinance; second by Commissioner Miller.*

Commissioner Young stated she wants to go on record saying that she is disappointed that the Board didn't set parameters before the message was developed. She thinks it would have been more productive. She is glad that the budget includes things like fire department repairs and port-a-johns. She is disappointed that the Board didn't specify how certain below

median salaries were to be adjusted. She stated the tax rate is increasing from \$0.127 to \$0.15 per hundred. She stated she cannot support the budget.

Commissioner Harrington stated when he first received the budget he felt the Board could overcome \$68,000 without raising the rate. Entering this process, he was optimistic that the Town could be one of the communities who could enter into this year's budget without adding to the ad valorem tax. The Board went from \$0.127 to \$0.133, then jumped to \$0.15. He stated he is not opposed to adding money for streets. He proposed that for the last three years. He is opposed to adding \$85,000 to the salaries of the employees without any facts or analysis. He is opposed to the budget as it stands. He is convinced the Board should have initiated a study concerning salary.

The motion passed by a 3 - 2 vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Kyser and Commissioners Miller and Martin voting for the motion and Commissioners Young and Harrington voting in the negative.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kyser to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.; second by Commissioner Miller; approved by unanimous vote.*

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J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather Finnell, Town Clerk