



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Gerald Brown; Commissioners Woody Tyner, Brian Murdock, Mike Sullivan and Pat Kwiatkowski; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Inspections Director Tim Evans; Police Chief Jeremy Dixon; and Town Attorney Jennifer Carpenter. Mayor J. Alan Holden was unable to attend the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown explained Mayor Holden was under the weather.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION**

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that we swap agenda item 10 into 8 and 8 into 10.*

Commissioner Kwiatkowski explained the order. Commissioner Tyner said he had several residents that asked him to add a discussion on the dog park. He thinks it would be better to wait for next month. He will take responsibility for putting discussion and action on the dog park on the next agenda.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to approve the agenda with changes; second by Commissioner Tyner; approved by unanimous vote.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion by Commissioner Tyner to approve all three sets of minutes (Special Meeting of January 17, 2020, Special Meeting of January 21, 2020 and Regular Meeting of January 21, 2020); second by Commissioner Sullivan; approved by unanimous vote.*

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

David Plumridge spoke regarding the speed limit on Ocean Boulevard. He provided the Board with his talking points (hereby incorporated into the minutes). He reviewed the information Chief Dixon and Inspections Director Evans reported at the January meeting. Mr. Plumridge talked about the HBPOA survey that was conducted.

## **POLICE REPORT – CHIEF JEREMY DIXON**

- Everything looks good for February.
- Lock your doors, if you see something suspicious call the PD.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE FOR MAXIMUM HOUSE SIZE CONSTRUCTION**

Inspections Director Evans provided background on the issue. He reviewed the ordinance and what it does. It graduates the setbacks and the stormwater up to the size of the lots. It makes a maximum house size of 6,000 square feet. He doesn't know how many complaints there have been since the noise ordinance was put in place and the Town realized it was a behavioral issue. There is an error on page 48. They wrote a statutory law that doesn't allow towns to set minimum house size so there is a minimum house size that needs to be removed. Commissioner Sullivan asked about Section E. Inspections Director Evans said it should read however if a structure to be relocated can meet CAMA ocean side setback rules (per CAMA guidelines for new construction) and *meet remain-required setbacks* then no further relief can be given. He explained what an X zone is. Commissioner Sullivan asked if the proposed new parking restrictions would limit or prevent the types of building with the three homes that were built two years ago. Inspections Director Evans explained by increasing this it basically stops them from being able to encroach as much as they are. There was some language that talked about additional possible regulations. It was being proposed to limit it even more, but he doesn't think it got any traction. Attorney Carpenter confirmed she did review the ordinance. Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested putting this on the next agenda to give the public time to look at this again.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to set a public hearing at the March BOCM for the ordinance amending our Code of Ordinances, the Zoning Code, Chapter 157; second by Commissioner Sullivan; approved by unanimous vote.*

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION ON REMOVING THE DESIGNATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FROM TOWN ORDINANCES**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said the Board was told by the last attorney that we are the only municipality she knows of who has this executive secretary designation. Some of the duties that are detailed in the ordinance seem to be inconsistent with how we are supposed to do business according to the School of Government and the legal and regulatory requirements of how municipal government works. She explained the problems she saw with the ordinance. Commissioner Kwiatkowski stated the

way an agenda should be created is any commissioner should send their item to the clerk and the clerk will include the item on the agenda. She added special meetings are called by the mayor, mayor pro tem or two commissioners. She doesn't see the executive secretary position is necessary. She stated it should be removed from ordinance 30.05. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said if the Board wants to have a secretary for certain items the Board can do that.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested the Board would put forward at the next meeting that this section is removed from the ordinance for public comment and Board consideration. Commissioner Sullivan pointed out that Commissioner Kwiatkowski is the executive secretary and is not doing this because she doesn't want to do the work. You can see from the agenda she has a ton of work, but she is proposing this because she thinks it a better way to run the meetings and the Board and he agrees. The Board agreed to put it on next month's agenda.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE SUGGESTED RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski explained she received a few suggested changes from Commissioners Sullivan and Tyner. Commissioner Kwiatkowski reviewed the following changes:

On Page 26 of the packet - since we just decided we won't have an executive secretary, will strike reference to the Board of Commissioners' executive secretary in Rule 8(c). Anything referring to the executive secretary will be removed. The last sentence will become the mayor pro tem will serve at the Board's pleasure.

Page 28 – Commissioner Tyner pointed out that in Draft Agenda (a)(2) Commissioner Kwiatkowski wrote along with any or all supporting documents. For consistency will strike *or all*. On (b)(2) Adoption of Agenda, the word *agree* is missing.

Page 29, Rule 15 – everywhere else where supplying information for the agenda is discussed it says, *town clerk, not clerk/manager*. Town Manager Hewett said he is fine with it just reading *clerk* for consistency. Commissioner Kwiatkowski will take manager out.

Page 31, Rule 22 - It needs to say second required. Commissioner Kwiatkowski had a discussion with Commissioner Sullivan regarding debate. Commissioner Sullivan prefers we do limit debates on substantive motions to two go arounds. The same would be for discussion on a procedural motion.

Page 33 at the very bottom – Commission Sullivan suggested that the Board strike *until there has been 10 minutes of debate* and make it *until every member has an opportunity to speak once*.

Page 37, Rule 31(a) – The sentence *subject to waiver by express resolution of the BOC the following regulations shall apply and be enforced* should proceed the points because it has impact on each of the points. Commissioner Sullivan caught this.

Page 40 – Commissioners Kwiatkowski and Sullivan agree that it doesn't make sense that you would have someone come to the meeting and approve the agenda and then during the meeting you would decide to not allow them to speak. They believe the sentence *alternatively the BOC, by majority vote may strike, defer to another meeting, change the order, change the order of presentation, limit the subject matter* should be removed. Under the sentence beginning *subsequently during the meeting*, it shouldn't say *defer or table*.

Commissioner Sullivan asked if on Page 38, (k) it should read *each* speaker, instead of *all* speakers. Commissioner Kwiatkowski answered the Board is supposed to allow everyone to speak before they address back. It was decided it should be *any* speaker.

Town Manager Hewett said on page 37, paragraph (c) he thinks *THB* is extraneous there.

Attorney Carpenter said on Page 37, Rule (b) and (c) the last sentence of both of those paragraphs address limiting the content of what is being addressed during public speaking. Similarly, with (h) and (m). She would caution the Board on trying to limit what people are saying when they are making public comments. She would probably strike those sections that address what can or cannot be said during the public comment period. The Board discussed Attorney Carpenter's suggestions and would like her to prepare her proposed amendments.

*Motion by Commissioner Sullivan to table it to the next meeting; second by Commissioner Murdock; approved by unanimous vote.*

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said she will prepare the request to the attorney to address this.

## **DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO SPEED LIMIT ON OCEAN BOULEVARD**

Commissioner Sullivan said Mr. Plumridge gave a good synopsis of the information from the last meeting. He doesn't have much to add, except to say it is a hot topic of conversation as people are divided on whether the Town should maintain the speed at 45 or lower it to 35. His point of view is he is more interested in knowing what the people who live on the island think about it. The folks who live here need to put up with that speed limit every day. He asked that people email him with their position and the reason why they are for or against it. Commissioner Sullivan said he thinks next month they should vote on it one way or the other. Commissioner Kwiatkowski has been privy to some of the emails that have been flying back and forth. She said in her opinion what is important about this is the marked crosswalks. She lives on the west end so she is one of the people impacted by the extra minutes. She can live with the extra minutes. The golf carts are nice, but to her that is not the point of this. Commissioner Kwiatkowski stated the point is the benefit of having marked crosswalks. Commissioner Murdock said he has been asked by quite a few people to not budge because it has been like this for a long time. He thinks the repercussions of some of this are greater than getting there a little bit faster. He works on the island and loves it when the speed limit changes. He stated he is seeing people stay

longer and we need to keep them safe. Commissioner Murdock wants to listen to everyone's opinion and the Board needs input. He said if we save one person it is going to be worth it. He said he thinks we can all consider living with it. The crosswalks are the main deal. We need people to visit and rent houses. It is not over Labor Day weekend anymore. He stated he will do what most of the people want to do, but he asked people to consider it. Commissioner Tyner said he wants to hear from a lot of people on what they think about the subject so he sent out an email to about 100 people. He said it was a survey and he listed items like the speed limit and dog park. He presented the facts and asked what people thought. Commissioner Tyner said as of today he has 53 responses. On the speed limit it was 21 in favor of changing it, 24 opposed and 8 with no preference. What people did comment on was golf carts. There are underage kids driving. They are not using seatbelts and are not following the laws. He said a lot of folks said the first accident would be when a golf cart gets hit, not somebody crossing the street. He said he thinks we need to think more about golf carts. The feedback he got was basically 50/50. Chief Dixon said he is getting a lot of that too. Commissioner Murdock said when you are on a canal and you need to lug all of that stuff to the ocean, there are people that would fight you tooth and nail for golf carts. He said there is a lot of give and take. Commissioner Tyner said they were complaining about how the golf carts were being used.

The Board agreed to table the item until the next meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (PRAB) FOR A RECOMMENDATION OF POSSIBLE USES FOR 796 OCEAN BOULEVARD WEST PROPERTY**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski explained her form. She said when the Town purchased 796 with the idea that it was going to help with noise buffering for lift station 3 there were a number of items discussed in executive session for potential uses. She suggested that before PRAB looks at the list, they brainstorm their own ideas. She would like to request that PRAB be commissioned to come up with a recommendation.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to ask PRAB; second by Commissioner Sullivan.*

Commissioner Murdock said he is contractor. He knows the house is residential and would need to be rezoned. Commissioner Murdock stated he has looked at it and it is in rough shape. He would like Inspections Director Evans to look at it first before we waste PRAB's time. He said there is definitely a lot of extra money being spent on the pump station for sound deadening. He said until the station is up and running we don't know if there will be a problem. Now that it will be in the air, everyone is under the opinion it will be louder. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said raising it does make it louder. Station 4 has a benefit because on the west end the houses are further apart and the station is much more removed from the nearest property. She added there were decibel levels that were measured going sideways. Commissioner Murdock said this one is different. There are acoustical panels and no windows facing the house. He is not convinced it will be as bad of an issue as we are thinking it is. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said Inspections Director Evans did go in it. He can't make a recommendation of what may be required without knowing what the use is. Her proposal is to get

some ideas of what people would like to see it used for and then have an examination of whether it is feasible. Commissioner Murdock said he wishes there was a plan in place before it was purchased. He said it is not too expensive to get it out of the way and put a parking lot in. He said whatever the Town does will cost money to do it and to keep it up. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said when the Town bought it we had the evaluation that removing the buffer would mean the next house down would have a potential decibel exceedance.

Commissioner Sullivan said the reason the house was purchased was because after speaking to the engineer the cost to put in all of the sound barriers was very high. He gave the Board the impression that it would be less to purchase the house than to do the full soundproofing that was required. He thinks Inspections Director Evans should tell the Board if this falls into a category where we are only allowed to do X amount of improvement. Then when we know the limitations, we should tell PRAB that we are able to expend X number of dollars, tell us what you would do with that amount of money. He thinks the Board should narrow the parameters. Commissioner Tyner asked if there were any discussions on what the Town would do if you couldn't do anything to the house. Commissioner Sullivan explained there are certain things you can do, so the question would be what people prefer of those things. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said as she recalled from last month, Inspections Director Evans felt uncomfortable given an estimate. That if that was going to be done, it needs to be done by someone independent. Commissioner Sullivan said we know you cannot revise it over 50% so he wants to know if the property falls within the restriction.

Commissioner Tyner said he agrees that the Board needs to have someone look and see if there are some ideas that the Town can economically use the house for. He said the Board needs to think about the fact that anything they do will cost money to keep it up and maintain it. He said one option needs to be it won't be used. He said he agrees that Inspections Director Evans should look at it to see what can be spent; let the committee, along with staff come up with ideas and come up with a cost; incorporate what it would cost to maintain it; and make a decision. Mayor Pro Tem Brown said anything you do will need to come up to code on the commercial side. He said that blows it out of the water. He doesn't want to see the Town spend a lot of money on a piece of junk. He said any way you go we are already in the hole with it. He said the Board needs to look real close at this because he really doesn't want to spend money on this. Mayor Pro Tem Brown said it is easy to spend tax dollars, but if he looked at it for him to buy, he would have never bought it. He said he would look at the cost of a sound wall before he would buy a house to make a sound wall. The Board further discussed how to proceed.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said the motion was to ask PRAB to come up with recommendations of potential uses by next September. She stated Commissioner Sullivan suggested that Inspections Director Evans should give a clear answer whether this is a structure that has a limitation on how much money you can put into it, in other words, pre-firm. She said if that is what the Board would like to do that is a new motion.

*Commissioner Kwiatkowski withdrew her motion.*

*Motion by Commissioner Sullivan that we have the building inspector advise us on whether or not the property is restricted on the amount of improvements we can do to this and after we get that information, then we can revisit the idea of sending this to PRAB and what the parameters will be for what we do send to PRAB; second by Commissioner Tyner; approved by a 4 – 1 vote with Commissioners Tyner, Murdock, Sullivan and Kwiatkowski voting for the motion and Mayor Pro Tem Brown voting in the negative.*

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST TO THE INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD (IBPB) FOR A SUITABLE DOCUMENT ON PROTECTING OUR DUNES FOR OWNERS AND VISITORS AND RECOMMENDATION OF BEST WAYS TO DISSEMINATE THE INFORMATION**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said at the last couple of IBPB meetings there has been discussion about the dune signs being in and putting up the stay off the dune signs. As a member of the public she mentioned that a lot of the problem to her is that visitors and sometimes non-resident owners might not realize what protecting the dunes means. She suggested that there be a one pager to provide education of why to stay off the dunes and what we are trying to protect. She knows there are other areas that have these types of things. Commissioner Kwiatkowski said it seems to her that the IBPB would be the proper place to produce a one pager about what it means to protect our dunes and to give recommendations on the best ways to get the message out. She added there seems to be people on the IBPB that think it makes sense to do this. She reviewed her proposal.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to propose that the Board make this formal request to the IBPB to produce a document by May of 2020 so we have something for the season; second by Commissioner Sullivan; approved by unanimous vote.*

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DECISION ON SOLICITATION FOR AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 – 2020 AUDIT**

Commissioner Tyner said the Audit Committee has a meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The Audit Committee ordinance states that part of the responsibilities of the Audit Committee is to recommend to the Board the selection of the independent external audit firm to conduct the annual external audit. It is the Board's decision as to who the firm is. He believes as the audit chair that the Town should solicit bids for new audit services for the audit coming up. He thinks the Board needs to make sure we are getting the services competitively priced. He has some concerns that the Town is paying more than we need to. Commissioner Tyner said he spoke with Town Manager Hewett about this and he is in agreement that it should be put out to bid. He said we can get it out for bid on February 14<sup>th</sup> and have it back February 28<sup>th</sup>. They will have a special Audit Committee meeting March 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> to review the proposals and to make a recommendation for the Board's March meeting. The reason we are pushing this is we have learned there are fewer firms that want to do municipal audits.

*Motion by Commissioner Tyner that the Board directs the town manager to solicit bids for audit services for the 2019 - 2020 audit. Solicitation for bids should be distributed on February 14<sup>th</sup> and responses should be due by February 28<sup>th</sup>.*

He explained the directive form is on the next page.

*The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kwiatkowski.*

Town Manager Hewett stated by moving the selection process up to March it gives the staff more time in order to get ready for the audit so it can be completed by October 31<sup>st</sup>. He was privy to a briefing at the Managers' Winter Conference conducted by Sharon Edmundson of the LGC. There are still over 200 local governments in North Carolina that are tardy on their 18/19 audit because of some of the shortfalls of audit firms' availability. That will only become more exasperated as time goes on.

*The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR A RECOMMENDATION OF THE AUDIT FIRM TO PERFORM THE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said the Board gets recommendations from the Audit Committee, but the recommendations are generally we pick this firm. There has not been much explanation of how that was arrived at.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that we request that the Audit Committee provide a brief description of the process they followed in making their selection, as well as the selection recommendation to the Board for the audit firm at the March meeting.*

Commissioner Tyner said he is okay with it. He comes from an environment when you look at vendors and you put together a score card, with criteria. It is on the February 14<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said her motion was to get both the process description and the selection recommendation from the Audit Committee in March.

*The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murdock and approved by unanimous vote.*

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING THE BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE CREATION OF THE 2020/2021 BUDGET**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski said she thinks the Board needs to get started with calendars. She said the Board needs to agree how many meetings and needs to work with the clerk and manager to get the meetings scheduled at the appropriate times. She reminded the Board that they were also going to use

the first meeting to finalize their objectives. She suggested scheduling four meetings, with the idea that the first one is largely about the objectives. Town Manager Hewett said he thinks the schedule will be dictated by the Board's availability. He suggested the Board give Town Clerk Finnell their schedules through June. The Board agreed.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO BEGIN THE TOWN MANAGER APPRAISAL PROCESS IN A CLOSED SESSION AT THE END OF THE FIRST BUDGET MEETING**

Commissioner Kwiatkowski explained this saves the Board from calling a special meeting to start the process. She said the Board has not been very good at getting the appraisal of the manager and the subsequent objectives done early in the year. She would like to see the Board do the process properly. It typically takes three discussions to cover the appraisal and finish with objectives.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to agree to this so that we don't have to call a special session to do appraisal step 1, second by Commissioner Sullivan. The Board all agreed.*

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND TOM WOMBLE**

Town Clerk Finnell explained Mr. Womble has requested to encroach upon Hillside Drive, which is under the dunes for the purpose of constructing a walkway to cross the dunes and gain access to the beach. He needs to have an encroachment agreement in place before he can apply for the building permit. The proposed agreement is the standard one that the Town has done in the past. Town Manager Hewett added it is a common practice that the Town follows for property owners that are in these same circumstances. Commissioner Sullivan spoke with Inspections Director Evans and he had no problem with this.

*Motion by Commissioner Sullivan to approve the encroachment agreement as presented; second by Commissioner Tyner; approved by unanimous vote.*

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Submitted the Town's position regarding inlet hazard areas to the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Additionally, Fran Way from ATM has provided a technical memorandum and Inspections Director Evans and Development Services Officer Wooten are attending the CRC meeting tomorrow with specific instructions to reiterate our position as previously communicated.
- Have a vacant budget and fiscal analyst position that we have advertised for.
- Lift Station 3 Upgrade Schedule – should finalize the contract documents this week, with a pre-construction conference on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The Notice to Proceed will be March 16<sup>th</sup>, with construction starting March 23<sup>rd</sup> and an anticipated substantial completion date of December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- FEMA - received final Irene reimbursement in the amount of \$177,438. Still waiting on final payment for Matthew, which is about \$130,000. Have received approval for Florence and Michael.

Signed the project worksheets and returned them to the state, along with our first month's report on each of those storms as required. Will be bringing budget amendments to the Board next month so we will be able to accurately house our anticipated expenses and be able to sequester our revenues in the right location in anticipation of a follow-on single audit. All grants that exceed \$750,000 are subject to a separate single audit. Conducted a project familiarization office visit with personnel from the Local Government Commission last week to anticipate being able to acquire short-term financing, basically a bridge loan. Received positive feedback as to how to go about that. Met with the regional Department of Public Safety staff so that if we need additional assistance it is readily available. Guess on estimated project start date is winter 2021. This is a huge undertaking. It will take time. There is lots of open water between now and then and many variables involved to include the addition of Dorian into the mix. We are talking \$24 million for Florence and Michael. Dorian has been quantified at an additional \$15 million so we are in the \$40 million range. We are uncertain if we can bundle Florence and Michael with Dorian.

- Sand Search – had to source a second surveyor. Anticipate it being accomplished by the end of February, weather permitting, with the subsequent permit revisions to be submitted to the regulatory agencies by the end of April.
- Canal Dredging Project – performed second ditching at Scotch Bonnet site (dog park). It is still wet and not ready. It is working, but will take a while.
- Lockwood Folly Inlet Crossing Maintenance Project – as of Monday they were near Dunescape's entrance. Moved west a little passed 305 OBE. Anticipate demobilization to occur some time this week. After that occurs sand fence and vegetation will go in. There is a partnership arrangement with the HB Renourishment Association who will pick up a portion of the sand fence cost.
- Town's 51<sup>st</sup> birthday party will be held this Friday at noon. Will close the time capsule from our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Cosponsoring a 5k race with the Brunswick County Arts Council on March 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a participatory mural opportunity at the bathrooms at Bridgeview Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked if the dredge pipe is working properly at the dredge site at the end of Heron Landing. Town Manager Hewett replied he will look at it.

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Brown

- Great to see the Scouts tonight, glad to have them in attendance. Please come back and join us any time. Good to see a nice crowd. Keep coming.
- Mayor Holden came by today. He is pretty sick.
- Keep coming and bring the issues that are important. The dog park is something we heard a lot of concern with. Working on it. Had a piece of property that was offered to us, but we would have to raise the taxes. Looking at other things; haven't found the right match yet. Be patient.
- Thanked Chief Dixon for the good work he is doing.

#### Commissioner Tyner

- Thanked everyone for showing up. Good to see a bigger crowd. Appreciates the Scouts coming out. Doing this to get a merit badge. Told their Scout Master that he did it too years ago.
- To those he sent an email asking for feedback - one of things he said during his campaign is he would solicit feedback. We need to know where you stand on some of these items. Sent out about 100 emails, received about 53 responses. Appreciates all of the feedback.
- Five went to government school in Wilmington two weeks ago. It was a good education.

#### Commissioner Murdock

- Thanked everybody for coming out. You guys are the reason we are sitting up here. If you don't communicate, the Board probably won't do the right thing or at least won't have the input that he feels is needed.
- Recognized the Scout group.
- Good to see everybody, keep coming.

#### Commissioner Sullivan

- Thanked everyone for coming. Keep cards and letters coming so we know what you would prefer us to do.
- Thanked the Scouts. Was a Scout. A community with a strong Scout Troop is a good community. Leads to good people, good citizens. They are not the type of people Chief Dixon needs to worry about. Thanked the leaders for volunteering their time. Without the leaders volunteering their time, there would be no troop. Thank you for coming and showing your interest.
- Commended Town Manager Hewett and Inspections Director Evans. If you haven't had a chance to see the response in opposition to the proposed inlet hazard areas, they did a terrific job on it. They addressed any number of issues, pointing out why this proposal is faulty in so many ways. Asked Town Manager Hewett to place that on the website. It should be put up soon. As strong as that is and as well written as it is, it is important for individuals to send in their reasons for opposition so that they get a lot of different ideas and realize that a lot of people are opposed to it. Asked people to take the time to do that. You have until March 3<sup>rd</sup> with the new date.
- Thanked everyone for being here.

#### Commissioner Kwiatkowski

- Thanked everyone for coming.
- In addition to the dog park comments, there have been a lot of comments coming in of dogs running free on the beach and people not cleaning up after their pets. This time of the year it is our residents that are predominately here and we are the people who are proudest of our island. Asked people to please be cognizant that some people are nervous around dogs. If you have them on the beach, have them under control so they don't scare other people. Wherever you are, please clean up after your dog. It is a courtesy to everybody else.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON GENERAL ITEMS**

Lewis Mitchell said the Christmas trees on the beach are really doing the job.

Ashley Royal is here representing the Chapel as chair representing the Trustees. The Chapel is involved in a major renovation. He thanked the Town for allowing them to use the meeting area. He offered their facility should the need arise.

Irvin Woods said the Board seem to be very aware of what people are telling them and it looks like a good board to him. He stated regarding the east end the dredging project is underway. They are putting sand on the beach and are doing a wonderful job. He doesn't know the Town's cost per cubic yard of sand, but historically, the sand on the east end is pennies on the dollar compared to the big projects on the rest of the beach. He said it is cheap sand and it is also opening up navigation. Mr. Woods said it is one beach, one island, one community. The inlet hazard area is now half a beach problem.

Ammie Archer suggested that instead of signs with just a fine for the dunes, the Town could add a quick statement that says what you are doing when you cross the dunes.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11(A)(1) TO APPROVE MINUTES AND 143-318(A)(3) TO CONSULT WITH THE ATTORNEY**

Mayor Pro Tem Brown read the reasons for Executive Session.

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski at 8:51 p.m. to go into Executive Session pursuant to the reasons listed here; second by Commissioner Sullivan; approved by unanimous vote.*

## **OPEN SESSION**

*Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to come out of Executive Session at 9:42 p.m.; second by Commissioner Murdock; approved by unanimous vote.*

Commissioner Kwiatkowski announced the Board accepted the minutes and they will remain sealed for the foreseeable future.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn at 9:43 p.m. by Commissioner Tyner; second by Commissioner Kwiatkowski; approved by unanimous vote.*

ATTEST:

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J. Alan Holden, Mayor

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Heather Finnell, Town Clerk