

**Town Council
Re-Convened Regular Meeting
March 4, 2016**

Council Members Present:

A.D. (Zander) Guy Jr., Mayor
Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor Pro-Tem
Nelva Albury
Michael Curley
Donald Helms
W.J. (Buddy) Fowler

Town of Surf City Staff:

Larry Bergman- Town Manager
Ashley Loftis- Finance Director
Stephanie Hobbs- Town Clerk
Todd Rademacher- Planning Director
Samantha Bradshaw- Human Resources

Members of Public Present:

A. Call to Order

Mayor called the meeting to order 10:00am

B. Invocation

Mr. Fowler gave the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Budget Process Update

Mr. Bergman stated that department heads have been submitting their requested items for the 2016-2017 budgets. We are also starting to get a closer outlook for the upcoming year as well for revenue.

Mrs. Loftis stated we are working with Pender County as well to get the new tax numerous as well. The Onslow values are in and they are pretty similar as the previous year. I have inclination that sales tax should have a slight rise by looking at trends and data from the NC League.

E. Legislative Items

1. Onslow County Town Line

Mr. Bergman stated he has done some research and talked to the county and it has been done before, at Iredell County and Mecklenburg County. The law basically states the county lines are what they are unless changed

by state law. Both counties would have to be in agreement, either way this opens up discussions with both counties.

Council came to the consensus to move forward.

2. Voting & Municipal Service Districts

Mr. Bergman stated this would put districts into place for elected officials who would hold office. The districts would have to be representative on the number of people are in each district. Not on the number of home but on the number of registered voters. As a council you would have to agree on the districts. The law also says you could not have more than half elected officials at-large. With municipal service districts it would allow taxing based on the needs or wants of that specific area. By law you can created certain districts for certain purposes. These districts would allow for a slight difference in taxing options.

The Council came to a consensus to let the items rest at this time.

3. Onslow and Pender County Sales Tax Distribution Requests

Mr. Bergman stated we have been looking to reach out to the counties in regards to the distribution of sales tax to which would benefit us the most. The beach towns create lots of sales tax and should benefit. The decision by the county has to make the decision by April 1st on how the money is distributed. Advalurem would be the most beneficial to small beach towns.

Mr. Helms made a motion to send a resolution to Onslow County for their continued use of the advalurem tax method for sales tax distribution. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

G. Town Hall

Mr. Bergman stated that as a whole the building has water issues, siding, terminate damage, and the space. One of the biggest issues here is that the building is not ADA equipped. The property across the street was purchased for the new town hall property. We are at the point to start planning for town hall replacement. At this time we could look into having an annex location, to accommodate those on the mainland. The towns architect seems to think the property across the street is a better option at this time.

Mrs. Albury expressed her opinion for a town hall on the island

Mr. Helms expressed his opinion for a town hall on the mainland.

Mr. Fowler stated expressed his opinion for a town hall for concern for the importance of service for the citizens and the safety of the employees and records during the event of a storm.

Mr. Medlin expressed his opinion that the town hall should be on the island.

Mr. Curley stated he agreed with both parties. There should be something of some nature on the mainland to see how it works compared to the island. He stated that having offices both places might work best and offer better services to all citizens.

Mr. Bergman made a recommendation to utilize the property the town already owns, but to offer services on the mainland as well.

The council came to the consensus to give the manager the authority to go ahead with LS3P in constructing a new town hall.

H. Property Acquisition Opportunity

Mr. Bergman stated that Mr. David Ward has come to the town in regards to potentially selling his property where the old Ward Real Estate is. It is three lots all combined together. It is in the central part of town for parking. Its location gives way to access to the water and the business district. He is asking one million one hundred thousand dollars and it contains one building and four lots. The money could come from the accommodations tax fund since this lot would be for parking. It would not come from the General Fund, nor would we have to borrow money, which should not effect us with the LGC. This project would also give us more value with the Army Corps for the federal beach nourishment project.

Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the purchase the Ward property. Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

I. DOT Bridge Land Acquisition Offer

Mr. Bergman stated that DOT has three parcels that they need, one for easement and two they will acquire. Both lots they want to purchase are wet and not buildable, the easement lot is by the Bumble Market and Eagles beach store for temporary use. The total amount in the offer to purchase is \$32,770.00.

Mr. Medlin made a motion to accept the resolution for the offer to purchase with NCDOT. Mr. Albury seconded the motion and it was carried.

K. Adjournment

Mr. Helms made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Albury seconded the motion and it was carried.

A.D. (Zander) Guy Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Stephanie Edwards Hobbs, Town Clerk

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