**Town Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**January 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:**

Trey Carter- Town Attorney

Larry Bergman- Town Manager

Ashley Loftis- Finance Director

Stephanie Hobbs- Town Clerk

Todd Rademacher- Planning Director

Randall Worthington- Public Works

David Price- Public Works

Barry Newsome- Welcome Center

Kristie Grubb- Parks & Recreation Director

Ron Shanahan- Interim Police Chief

Phil Voorhees- Police Sergeant

**Members of Public Present:**

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor called the meeting to order 7:00pm.

**B. Invocation**

Mr. Fowler gave the invocation.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Certificate of Appreciation**

14th Annual Dolphin Dip

1. **Swearing In Ceremony**

Ashley Loftis- Finance Director

Donna L. Reece – Deputy Town Clerk

1. **Beautification & Appearance**

Home of the Month- Thomas and Janice Patterson at 124 Saltwater Landing Dr.

Business of Month- DaVita Dialysis at 22807 Hwy 17

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Carter recommended approval of the December 1st regular meeting minutes. Mrs. Albury made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion, and it was carried.

1. **Public Hearing**

Open at 7:14pm

* Text Amendment- Subdivision Regulations, Article VI. *Water and Sewerage Systems*

Mr. Bergman stated that this is a staff initiated amendment. This would improve the water quality in places such as cul-de-sacs. This would aid in identifying on water flow at the development stage. Both the fire and water department are in approval of this amendment.

Closed at 7:15pm

Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the text amendment as presented. Mr. Helms seconded the motion, and it was carried.

1. **Consent Agenda**
2. Motorola Lease Resolution

Mr. Medlin made a motion to approve the Motorola Lease Resolution as presented. Mr. Helms seconded the motion, and it was carried.

1. Popular Branch Section II-A Final Plat Approval

Mr. Medlin made a motion to approve the Popular Branch Final Plat. Mr. Helms seconded the motion, and it was carried.

1. Surplus Resolution

Mr. Medlin made a motion to approve the Surplus Resolution. Mr. Helms seconded the motion, and it was carried.

1. **New Business**
2. **Public Forum**

Ervin Martin 1825 N. New River Drive stated he was thankful for the council, manager, and staff for the quick fix of 5th St beach access. He also asked who was responsible for the canals and ditches along the canals.

The Mayor stated we have previously taken it upon ourselves to clean out the canals after hurricane Fran.

Mr. Martin stated it is the ditches that are clogged up and they pond up, and the mosquitos are bad and then the water settles in the yards. He also asked that the town look at the town line because there is a natural berm building slightly offshore. This berm will serve as protection for the island. He requested that the town not push sand on that end of town and let Mother Nature do her job.

Lori Wolfe 194 S. Kingfisher Lane asked for an update on the stormwater issue on Kingfisher Lane.

The Mayor stated Mr. Bergman will make an update under his notes.

1. **Council Forum**

Mr. Curley stated he thanked everyone for his or her input and for coming out tonight. The town manager has been working diligently on the Army Corps on the federal beach project. We are hoping to have the Partnership Agreement signed as soon as possible. There would be hopes that funding would be automatic, as stated by our previous lobbyist. We have high hopes and very proud of all of Larry’s hard work.

Mr. Medlin stated he thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He asked for best wishes for everyone in the New Year.

Mrs. Albury stated she thanked everyone for coming out and their opinions. She thanked Donna for her hard work and dedication over the years for her service. She welcomed Ashley aboard.

Mr. Fowler stated it is nice to see everyone out tonight. It is also nice to have family be a part of our city. The community center is busting and always warm, he hoped everyone would come out and take part.

Mr. Helms stated he thanked everyone for their comments and coming out. He thanked all the town employees for their hard work on the Christmas events.

Mayor stated he congratulated Mrs. Reece and Mrs. Lofits for their hard work and their time in the days to come. He thanked their families for coming out and their support. The police department has been very active in the community by participating in community events. Major Voorhees and Interim Chief Shanahan have worked diligently and our assault numbers are done since the police have been out in the community. Mrs. Barbara Matthews sent by mail a request to keep working on the zip code issue. The town under the leadership of Mr. Bergman has been keeping this a topic at hand. We encourage everyone to contact Congressman Rouzer on how we do have a need for our own zip code.

1. **Managers Reports**

Mr. Bergman gave the following update:

1. Army Corps of Engineers Project Partnership Agreement (PPA)

I met with the Army Corps project manager, Pam Castens to discuss starting our Project Partnership Agreement for our shoreline protection project. Our portion of the costs related to this will be $9,000. The PPA for our project will be coordinated with North Topsail Beach and their Manager is also involved in the process. This gets us to the next milestone and places us in good position for funding by being more “ready” in the eyes of the Army Corps of Engineers.

1. FEMA Flood Insurance Rating Maps (FIRMs) Update

The Community Development Department has been working with state and federal officials on the new, proposed flood maps and related changes. Several areas are adversely impacted and if we and/or property owners do nothing, their flood insurance will go up significantly which could impact future tax base growth in these areas, in particular in some mainland areas closest to the waterways. Steve Padgett is the point person on this project and he has made an official request to the State to have these areas looked at again and reconsidered and we are awaiting some response. We were encouraged to go this route to avoid having to spend funds. If we don’t get relief, we have some estimates and a proposal to have a more formal appeal made with supporting survey and engineering data provided by a contractor. I wanted you to be aware of this possibility. If we don’t get relief, I would propose moving forward with such a plan and seek partnerships with property owners and Pender County to not only save property owners the insurance costs, but to preserve the value of property and future development opportunities.

1. Tide Water Landing Draining and Road Maintenance Update

As you recall we have been trying to assist with some severe drainage problems in Tidewater Landing. We held some meetings with the HOA and hired an engineer to evaluate the problems and conducted some survey work, at Town expense. The developer never completed the storm water system work and therefore the state storm water permit has not been “certified”. While that is technically more of an issue to the developer and HOA, the more immediate and future concern of the Town relates to protecting the Town streets which we did apparently “accept” some time back. I would need to get some more competitive quotes ideally, but we did get a quote to install and upgrade pipes under the road and do some related ditch work nearby the pipes that provides some relief to the neighborhood and protects the street infrastructure. We as a town don’t really have a storm water program per se like Wilmington for example, and I want to emphasize that this work does not solve all of the individual of neighborhood / HOA drainage issues. I would like your input, but, my recommendation would be to complete the drainage pipe work and then provide engineering plans and documents to the HOA if they wish to complete the other work and seek permit certification from the State on their own for the Storm Water Permitted System.

1. Beach Bulldozing Update

Work is progressing well and we are getting a lot of good feedback. Currently at approximately 1200 South Shore area and moving north. Staff are regularly monitoring the work and getting information to Town Hall staff to provide updates to callers, etc.

1. Offer to Purchase 1516 North Shore Drive for $10,000

In a previous meeting I mentioned that a property owner at 1515 North Shore is interested in purchasing a town owned lot at 1516 North Shore. They have offered $10,000 as a start to the “negotiated offer and upset bid” process we would need to follow in selling this property. The lot is not buildable and we have public accesses nearby already. The Tax Value is about $28,000 and there is not much comparable data for recent sales. I can continue negotiating with them and/or start the process by advertising the bid and formalizing the process with Town Council at a future meeting.

1. **Town Attorney Reports**

Mr. Carter stated he had no reports at this time.

1. **Adjournment**

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

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

Attest:

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Stephanie Edwards Hobbs, Town Clerk