

**TOWN OF OCEAN ISLE BEACH  
THREE WEST THIRD STREET  
OCEAN ISLE BEACH, NC 28469**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
February 9, 2016  
MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Debbie Smith  
Commissioner Betty Williamson  
Daisy Ivey, Town Administrator  
Casey Reeves, Town Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Dean Walters  
Commissioner Wayne Rowell  
Mike Isenberg, Town Attorney

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Commissioner D.B. Grantham  
Commissioner Bob Williams

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Approximately 30 Property Owners and Guests  
Clay Matthews – Paramounte Engineering, Inc.  
Brian Slattery – Brunswick Beacon

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order with everyone repeating the Lord's Prayer and pledging allegiance to the flag.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION BY MAYOR**

Mayor Smith recognized the Ocean Isle Beach Fire Department for 40 years of outstanding service and presented a summary of the numerous accomplishments of the Department and its past and present members.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included approval of minutes of January 12, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting. The consent agenda was unanimously approved upon a motion of Commissioner Williamson with a second by Commissioner Rowell.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved upon a motion of Commissioner Rowell with a second by Commissioner Williamson with an amendment to the Executive Session Agenda to include the Discussion of Personnel issue as per G.S. 143.318.11 (6). The vote to accept the amended agenda was unanimous.

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### **REPORTS BY MAYOR**

Mayor Smith stated that it is very important for the public to contact the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners and attend their March 7th meeting in order to express the importance of a park in our area and garner their commitment to its total buildout. Mayor Smith announced that she would be in attendance for the Coastal Resources Commission meeting in Atlantic Beach on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and invited the public to attend.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

1. Administration – Mrs. Ivey presented the financial dashboard indicating an increase in cash and investments over the same period last year with a notable revenue percentage of 65% in Franchise and Utility tax. Mrs. Ivey indicated that as of January 2016 we were at a tax collection rate of 91.55%. Currently there is approximately \$261,000 outstanding for 2015 taxes and \$1,983 for the years 2012-2014. Mrs. Ivey also noted that Accommodation tax showed an increase of 16.49% last month overall and VRBO showed an increase of 12.31%. Mrs. Ivey reported that the Town received information from the Army Corps of Engineers that 50 additional easements will need to be obtained in conjunction with the Terminal Groin project and that the Town is currently working to fulfill this requirement. Mrs. Ivey stated that the five (5) communities which comprise the SDI-5 project have suggested edits to the draft Biological Opinion Executive Summary and this letter was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers on Monday, February 8. Mrs. Ivey concluded with a reminder to the public that the final presentation of the plan for the Ocean Isle Beach Park will be held at Town Hall on March 1, 2016 at 5pm.
2. Police Department – Chief Ken Bellamy stated the department was down 2% for a total of 1,085 calls. Chief Bellamy commented that arrests were up 100% incidents requiring investigation were up 128% due to a series of breaking and enterings on February 5<sup>th</sup> affecting 7 homes on the island. Of the 16 breaking and entering cases, Detective Heycock has taken out warrants on 15 of the 16 offenders. Chief Bellamy remarked that citations were also down 66% and warning citations had decreased by 31%. Chief Bellamy stated that the Police Department completed 120 hours of training during the past month. Mayor Smith complimented the Police Department on a job well done in regards to the recent breaking and enterings.
3. Fire Department – Chief Yoho reported during the month of January the Department completed 600 hours of training and 32 inspections were performed. Chief Yoho stated the Department received a total of 39 calls which was the same call volume as January 2015.

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4. Public Utilities – Mr. Justin Whiteside reported that the Department is diligently working on combating the flooding issues resulting from above average rainfall amounts and have installed new catch basins and an outfall pipe on Wilmington Street. Additional storm water projects are scheduled to begin pending conducive weather conditions and required easements. Mr. Whiteside commented that new landscaping fabric has been installed along the Causeway and new exit stairs have been installed at the Museum of Coastal Carolina increasing occupancy level for events.
5. Planning and Zoning – Mr. Justin Whiteside reported that the Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by the State and is currently awaiting FEMA approval.
6. Building Inspections – Mr. Dycus reported two (2) new single-family residential homes in the ETJ and a total of 104 permits with a construction valuation of \$1,290,093.00 were issued during the month of January 2016. Mr. Dycus announced the opening of a new commercial business, the Curious Mermaid Boutique, in the Oceanside Landing shopping center at 120 Causeway Drive.

**COMMENTS**

Frances Mayhew – 24 Dare Street – Mrs. Mayhew requested that the Town investigate solutions for the ponding issues on Lagrange and Oakridge Street.

Ike Williamson – Speaking on behalf of Property Owners at 143 & 145 Ocean Isle West – Mr. Ike Williamson (bulldozing contractor) commented that he is no longer able to reach the properties at 143 and 145 Ocean Isle West with his dump truck to deliver the sand requested by Property Owners to cover their existing sandbags and encouraged the Board Members to approve this request.

Jerry Passmore – New Resident/Ocean Cove – Mr. Passmore commended the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for having a well-managed municipality.

Being no further comment was heard, Mayor Smith declared the Public Comments Section closed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Smith stated the first item of old business was the discussion regarding July 3, 2016 Fireworks Event and Use of Pier. Mayor Smith stated the Williamson Family has requested certain stipulations be approved regarding permission to use the Pier to conduct the 2016 Fireworks Event. Mayor Smith listed the stipulations as:  
(1) Estimated reimbursement cost of \$1,750.00 for Williamsons to purchase event insurance and (2) Payment in the amount of \$3,500.00 to cover loss of revenue for closure of Pier during the event. Mrs. Ivey continued that East Cost Pyrotechnics has

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indicated the Town must execute contract by February 29<sup>th</sup> in order to assure a July 3<sup>rd</sup> show date and stated the cost of the event as \$14,000.00 with a 50% deposit due by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Commissioner Rowell noted that the cost of the 2015 Fireworks event was approximately \$18,000.00 for a comparable show. Commissioner Rowell made a motion to approve the event including the additional stipulations. The motion received a second from Commissioner Williamson and the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Smith stated the first item of new business was the Discussion and Review of a beach bulldozing request for 143 and 145 Ocean Isle West Blvd. Commissioner Rowell asked if this request to cover the existing sandbags by bulldozing sand from the shoreline in front of their property was based on protection of property or for aesthetics. Mr. Whiteside replied the existing sandbags were in place to provide protection. Mayor Smith commented that it was too early in the season to determine if sand would naturally cover the sandbags during the spring months and recommended the Property Owners install sand-fencing and plant additional vegetation as an alternative to bulldozing at this time. Commissioner Williamson echoed the Mayor's comments that it was too early in the season to determine if bulldozing was the appropriate course of action. Commissioner Rowell made a motion to deny the request at this time and received a second from Commissioner Williamson. The vote was unanimous.
2. Mayor Smith stated the next item of new business was the Discussion and Approval of a resolution to direct the Town Clerk to investigate petition requesting annexation of property. Mayor Smith explained that the annexation request from Mr. Jamie Milliken was voluntary and would not change the current zoning of said parcel. Mayor Smith explained that no action was being requested of the Board at this time other than approval to direct the Town Clerk to investigate the validity of the request and report her findings back to the Board. A motion to direct the Town Clerk to investigate the petition was made by Commissioner Rowell and seconded by Commissioner Williamson. The vote was unanimous.
3. Mayor Smith stated the next item of new business was the Discussion and Approval of the Sea Turtle Festival to be held July 13, 2016 at the Ocean Isle Beach Community Center from 10am-1pm. Mayor Smith noted that the Ocean Isle Beach Sea Turtle Protection Organization was requesting a waiver of permit fee due to non-profit status. Mayor Pro Tem Walters made a motion to approve the activity. The motion received a second from Commissioner Williamson. The vote was unanimous.
4. Mayor Smith stated the next item of new business was the Discussion and Approval of the Turtle Talk Lecture Series to be held on Tuesdays (May 31-August 30) at the Ocean Isle Beach Community Center from 7pm-8pm. Mayor Smith noted that the

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Ocean Isle Beach Sea Turtle Protection Organization was requesting a waiver of permit fee due to non-profit status. Mayor Pro Tem Walters made a motion to approve the activity. The motion received a second from Commissioner Rowell. The vote was unanimous.

5. Mayor Smith stated the next item of new business was the Discussion and Approval of the 2016 Wine Fest to be held April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> at the Museum of Coastal Carolina from 5:30pm-10pm. Mayor Smith clarified that Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> would be an Art Show and Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> would be the Wine Festival. Mayor Smith commented the Ocean Isle Museum Foundation was requesting a waiver of permit fee due to non-profit status and use of the vacant lot beside the museum for parking. Mayor Pro Tem Walters made a motion to approve the activity. The motion received a second from Commissioner Rowell. The vote was unanimous.
6. Mayor Smith stated the next item of new business was the Discussion and Approval of the 2016 Family Day to be held March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Museum of Coastal Carolina from 10am-2pm. Mayor Smith commented the Ocean Isle Museum Foundation was requesting a waiver of permit fee due to non-profit status and use of the vacant lot beside the museum for parking. Mayor Pro Tem Walters made a motion to approve the activity. The motion received a second from Commissioner Rowell. The vote was unanimous.
7. Mayor Smith introduced the final item of new business as the Discussion and Review of Preliminary Master Land Use Plan – Phase 3, Section 2 of Waterway Cove. Mr. Clay Matthews of Paramounte Engineering, Inc. explained the revised design of Waterway Cove by stating that the proposed modification will increase the size of the lots and reduce the overall number of proposed lots from 205 to 154, a reduction of 51 lots. Mr. Whiteside recommended the Board forward the preliminary Master Land Use Plan to the Planning Board for review. Mayor Pro Tem Walters made a motion to forward the Plan to the Planning Board for review and received a second from Commissioner Rowell. The vote was unanimous.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board recessed to executive session upon approval of a motion by Commissioner Rowell, seconded by Commissioner Williamson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Smith stated an Executive Session was necessary in order to approve minutes of the January 12, 2016 Executive Session as per G.S. 143-318.11 (1), to consult with the Town Attorney regarding pending legal issues (Jackson/Hill Aviation) as per GS 143-318.11 (3), to discuss Condemnation Mediation per GS 143.318.11 (3) with the Town's attorney, discussion and acquisition of Parcel #244LG015 per G.S. 143-318.11 (5), discussion of lease of property described as Parcel #257DH00407 as per G.S. 143-318.11(5), and discussion of personnel issue as per G.S. 143.318.11 (6).

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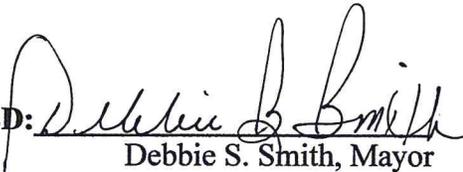
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The Board returned to regular session upon a motion of Commissioner Williamson with a second by Commissioner Rowell. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Smith stated during executive session the Board unanimously adopted the minutes of the January 12, 2016 Executive Session upon a motion of Mayor Pro Tem Walters with a second by Commissioner Rowell. Mayor Smith stated during Executive Session the Board discussed legal matters with Town's Attorney involving Jackson/Hill Aviation as well as the condemnation proceedings, the possible acquisition and lease of property as described as Parcel #244LG015 and #257DH00407, and discussion of personnel matter.

**ADJOURN**

Being no additional business was heard, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion of Commissioner Rowell with a second by Commissioner Williamson. The vote was unanimous.

**DATED:** 3/8/16

**SIGNED:**   
Debbie S. Smith, Mayor



**ATTEST:**   
Casey E. Reeves, Town Clerk