Proclamation of a State of Emergency
October 6, 2016 – 11:00am

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. Chapters 160A, 166A and 14 authorize municipalities to declare the existence of a State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, by ordinance the Town of Ocean Isle Beach has heretofore authorized the Mayor to proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency and to declare orders for evacuation, curfew and various other restrictions and prohibitions; and

WHEREAS, an approaching hurricane known as MATTHEW, threatens to imminently create conditions in which it is difficult for public officials to maintain public safety or to adequately protect lives, safety or property and that the same poses imminent risk to the life, safety, health and welfare of the people within the Town of Ocean Isle Beach.;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in the Mayor by ordinance of the Town of Ocean Isle Beach, the undersigned Mayor of the Town of Ocean Isle Beach does hereby proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency and further hereby imposes the following orders, prohibitions and restrictions:

1. Evacuation. Due to the current track and various models forecasted for Matthew all persons located within the Town of Ocean Isle Beach are hereby encouraged to **voluntarily evacuate**. During a State of Emergency all persons remaining on the island will be restricted to their private property due to the potential for injury from storm-related utilities and possible infrastructure damage. The Town will maintain basic services (EMS, Fire, Police) to the extent reasonably possible during a hurricane, however, there is no guarantee that services will be provided at normal levels and thus individuals with known medical or other physical needs should leave the island upon notice of the declaration of a voluntary evacuation.

2. In the event that the tract of Hurricane Matthew shifts or conditions intensify then a mandatory evacuation may be required.

3. Bridge - The Odell Williamson Bridge will be closed to traffic should sustained wind speeds reach 50mph or greater. Bridge would be reopened when conditions subside and passage is deemed safe by Chief of Police.

4. Decals - No decals will be issued following a declared state of emergency.

This the 6th day of October, 2016, at eleven (11) o'clock, a.m.

TOWN OF OCEAN ISLE BEACH

(SEAL)

Debbie S. Smith

Mayor

ATTEST:

Casey L. Reeves

Town Clerk