



Town of Beaufort, NC
701 Front St. - P.O. Box 390 - Beaufort, N.C. 28516
252-728-2141 - 252-728-3982 fax - www.beaufortnc.org

Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
6:00 PM Monday, July 08, 2024
Train Depot, 614 Broad Street

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Harker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited all to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Elizabeth Lewis, Town Clerk, called the roll.

PRESENT:

Mayor Harker
Mayor Pro Tem Cooper
Commissioner Gillikin
Commissioner LoPiccolo
Commissioner Oliver
Commissioner Spiegler

ABSENT: None

Agenda Approval

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Charters of Freedom Display

Mayor Harker shared information regarding a display borrowed from Carteret County, which highlights several amendments to the United States Constitution. The permanent replica of the Charters of Freedom is located in front of the courthouse in Beaufort.

Items of Consent

1. Meeting Minutes- June 10th

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the Items of Consent.

The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

1. Case # 24-10 - Towns at Live Oak Site Plan

Michelle Eitner, Town Planner, shared the updated site plan for Case #24-10. She confirmed that the solid waste collection method of dumpsters was deemed most appropriate. She noted the site plan had been updated to include additional parking spaces; each of the 135 units will have individual landscaping in the front yard to include a tree. She explained that sidewalks and walking trails now offer additional connection from the secondary entrance at Food Lion. She shared the restrictive covenants had been updated to address new parking driveways, prohibit street parking, and restrict short term rentals to a minimum of 30 days.

Commissioner Spiegler spoke of her concerns regarding the lack of sidewalks in the interior.

Dale Britt, developer of the project, spoke on the updated site plan. He shared that he misspoke at the last meeting in terms of the interior sidewalks. He explained the width of the streets cause an issue with the setbacks, making it unpractical to have sidewalks among the interior area. He also shared drainage concerns associated with increasing the impervious surface to include sidewalks.

Commissioner LoPiccolo asked what the speed limit would be in the entrance road to the development.

Chief Burdette shared unless otherwise posted, it would be 35 mph.

Mr. Britt shared the road coming in would be a Town maintained road.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the Towns at Live Oak Site Plan subject to the current submissions offered and to include a 20 mph interior speed limit on the private streets.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Sewer Allocation Request - The Towns at Live Oak

Sam Bell, Assistant Town Engineer, shared the sewer allocation request went along with the previous development, The Towns at Live Oak. He explained the applicant was requesting 24,300 gallons per day (gpd) of sewer treatment capacity to be allocated to the residential subdivision. He noted it was a Priority Level 1 project and the capacity being requested was for 135 residential units with 3 bedrooms.

Commissioner Gillikin made a motion to approve the sewer allocation at The Towns at Live Oak.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Capital Reserve Fund Amendment #19- 1809 Live Oak St.

Christi Wood, Finance Director, explained the request was associated with the same project that had been discussed at 1809 Live Oak Street in which the Town made prior commitments to fulfill water and sewer line extensions. She noted the budget amendment request a transfer of \$400,000 from the capital reserve fund that is designated for utility projects to the capital project that is already set up for 1809 Live Oak Street for water and sewer line extension. She shared that the paving for that road is covered under a separate capital project that is set up with funds allocated under the street project.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the proposed budget amendment.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. 233 Leonda Drive- Certificate of Sufficiency

Ms. Lewis presented the below Certificate of Sufficiency regarding voluntary annexation of 233 Leonda Drive.

To the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Beaufort of Carteret County, North Carolina:

I, Elizabeth Lewis, Town of Beaufort Clerk, do hereby certify that I have investigated the attached petition and hereby make the following findings:

a) The petition for Voluntary Annexation of 233 Leonda Drive, 0.341 acres, contains an adequate boundary of requested area to be annexed, via the survey map.

b) The area described in the petition is contiguous to the Town of Beaufort's primary corporate limits, as defined by G.S. 160A-31.

c) The petition is signed by the owner of the referenced parcel above and includes the addresses of all owners of real property lying in the area described therein.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to set a public hearing for the August 12th Regular Meeting, on the question of annexation of 233 Leonda Drive.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Kyle McLaughlin: 511 Turner Street, Beaufort NC

This is in response to the speed limit on Turner Street, which is 35. I believe I reached out to everybody on the Board already, to express how unsafe the situation is in our community. I have a 10 month old that has just started walking and the traffic comes around the corner on Turner Street so fast there is no way anybody could stop from hitting the child in the road. I have walked through the community and have 40 signatures on a petition; everyone around us feels like it is a dangerous situation. So, I would really like to see that brought up for a motion to vote to lower it. I am not sure what the process would be, but certainly would like to see the speed limit lowered to 25 mph.

Mayor Harker shared the Board planned to take up the issue at the next meeting, July 22nd and instructed Mr. McLaughlin to provide a copy of the petition to the Town Clerk for reference.

Barney McLaughlin: 509 Turner Street, Beaufort NC

Mr. McLaughlin shared minutes from 2018, where he suggested the topic had already been voted upon by a prior Board to reduce the speed limit on Turner Street. He explained the way people would speed off the bridge and into his residential area, coming downhill into Town. He suggested he had talked to multiple people who wanted to see the speed limit lower and could not see a reason why it should not be reduced. He provided a recent example where people were trying to use the crosswalk but the cars were moving too fast and would not stop. He noted the process was confusing for a citizen and he thought it had already been voted upon.

New Business

1. FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1

Mr. Clark shared the proposed budget amendment request the appropriation of pcard reward dollars in the amount of \$65,000, as well as the General Fund- Fund Balance of \$123,300 for, the unfit of Town Hall to create additional office space within the space previously utilized by the National Park Service: \$125,000; Town Manager Consultant:

\$25,000; and Personnel Salary Adjustments: \$38,300. She noted the total increase as \$188,300.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor/Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Spiegler thanked those who spoke during public comment.

Commissioner Oliver thanked the Fire Department and Police Department for their help with the July 4th Fireworks.

Commissioner Cooper also thanked Town staff for their work during the July 4th celebrations.

Commissioner Gillikin also noted the great success of the July 4th holiday through the parade and fireworks celebration.

Commissioner LoPiccolo reiterated the July 4th comments and thanked the Beaufort Business Association.

Mayor Harker thanked Town staff for their hard work.

Manager Report

Mr. Clark provided a monthly manager's report, as provided on the Town's website:

www.beaufortnc.org/boardofcommissioners/page/managers-report

Notable areas highlighted by Mr. Clark include the High-Rate Infiltration Basin; USDA Funded Projects; FY23 Streets Rehabilitation Projects; and Community Rating System (CRS). He encouraged the Board and public to utilize the Town's project page for updates regarding construction around Town. He also shared the importance of following the Town website calendar that shows upcoming events and meetings.

Closed Session

1. Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) and NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4)

Commissioner LoPiccolo made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) and NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (4).

The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sharon E. Harker, Mayor

Elizabeth Lewis, Town Clerk