



## **Town of Beaufort, NC**

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### **Town of Beaufort Board of Commissioners Regular Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM Monday, December 09, 2019 - Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort, NC 28516 Minutes**

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#### **Call to Order**

Mayor Newton called the meeting to order and asked all those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Roll Call**

Town Clerk Davis called roll and declared a quorum present. Commissioner Hollinshed was absent due to a previous commitment.

#### **PRESENT**

Mayor Everette Newton  
Commissioner Sharon Harker  
Commissioner Charles McDonald  
Commissioner Ann Carter  
Commissioner John Hagle

#### **ABSENT**

Commissioner Marianna Hollinshed

#### **Agenda Approval**

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Hagle.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Harker, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Hagle

#### **Presentations**

1. Resolution Recognizing Carteret County School Superintendent Matt Bottoms for His Retirement on December 31, 2019

Mayor Newton read a resolution recognizing Carteret County Schools Superintendent Mat Bottoms.

**Resolution Recognizing Carteret County School  
Superintendent Mat Bottoms**

**WHEREAS**, Mat Bottoms has excelled as a teacher, principal, and superintendent of public schools in Carteret County; and

**WHEREAS**, he has, for decades, poured his heart and soul into these demanding jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, he has guided students to great success in academics, athletics, music, and many other pursuits; and

**WHEREAS**, he has been a key leader in the enormous success of our school system; and

**WHEREAS**, Superintendent Bottoms demonstrated his superior leadership during numerous crises to include the aftermath of Hurricanes Florence and Dorian; and

**WHEREAS**, he has been on the front lines of identifying the significant needs of students, faculty, staff, and their families after the storms; and

**WHEREAS**, after fifteen million dollars of damage to Carteret County schools, he led the effort to get our students, faculty, and staff back to work in only 15 days; and

**WHEREAS**, to this day, he and his team of professionals continue to help every student have an opportunity to succeed

Now, **THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT** affirms our gratitude to Superintendent Mat Bottoms as he enters retirement, and we formally recognize Mat's extraordinary impact on the health and prosperity of our town and Carteret County.

**ADOPTED**, this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

2. Presentation of Grant Funding from Duke Energy

Millie Chalk presented a check in the amount of \$4500 for grant funding received from Duke Energy for the purchase of satellite phones for use in emergency situations. Chief Tony Ray and Chief Paul Burdette accepted the check.

**Calendar**

Town Clerk Davis reviewed the calendar of events from December and January.

**Public Comment**

Jessica Murphy spoke about closing her restaurant and encouraged everyone to buy local and eat local.

## **Manager Report**

Town Manager Day indicated the application process with the USDA was moving forward for the street improvement and utility improvement programs. He also indicated there would be a presentation to the BDA regarding improvements to the landscaping along the 100 block of Turner Street.

## **Items of Consent**

A motion was made to approve the Items of Consent.

Motion made by Commissioner Hagle.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Harker, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Hagle

1. Draft Minutes of the October 28, 2019 Work Session
2. Amend FY 19 Audit Contract
3. Board of Commissioner 2020 Meeting Dates

## **Items for Discussion and Consideration**

1. FY 20 Budget Amendment #3

Mayor Newton indicated the budget amendment was for the recovery of an abandoned vessel in Taylor's Creek. Town Manager Day indicated the town has an ordinance to manage how our harbor is maintained. A rescue occurred during Hurricane Dorian with the vessel being temporarily docked at the Boathouse. Afterward the boat was moved and anchored temporarily nearby. During that time the vessel was damaged by someone and it sunk. The cost was around \$13K.

Commissioner Harker asked if there was something that could have been looked at a bit differently. Town Manager Day indicated all those involved with the process will review the process to see what could have been done differently. Commissioner Hagle was also in agreement consideration needed to be given so this will not be a re-occurrence.

Town Attorney Arey Grady indicated the owner of the vessel has now been charged with a felony.

A motion was made to approve the budget amendment.

Motion made by Commissioner Hagle.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Harker, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Hagle

2. Speed on Ann Street

Mayor Newton thanked the Public Works Director Mark Eakes and his team for getting signage up in the area. Town Manager Day indicated speed in town was gaining more attention with additional reporting occurring. He indicated additional signage would be added where needed. Commissioner Hagle indicated additional enforcement should occur.

Town Manager Day indicated another option could be speed bumps. Commissioner Carter indicated she had heard from citizens about the inappropriateness of speed bumps and how detrimental they were to neighborhoods. Commissioner Hagle indicated he felt speed bumps should be the last option.

## **Commission / Board Comments**

Commissioner Carter congratulated fellow commissioners on re-election.

Commissioner Harker indicated she was extremely thankful to be elected for an additional four years and was looking forward to working hard for the citizens. She thanked everyone for coming out tonight for their support. She thanked the staff for helping her since she came onto the board and supporting her during her growth and understanding. Commissioner Harker also thanked the citizens for their vote of confidence and support. In closing she indicated this was the ending of a decade with another one beginning in 2020 and she looked forward to working through growth of the town through promotion of what worked and getting rid of what was not beneficial.

Commissioner McDonald said Merry Christmas to everyone and indicated he would continue to do his very best in all issues that come before the board. He indicated there were times when a hard decision had to be made which were not easy. He indicated the right thing is what is right for the majority of the citizens. He thanked everyone for their support.

Commissioner Hagle thanked the citizens for the vote of confidence and looked forward to another four-year term. He indicated he enjoyed doing this type of work. He stated the board members did not always agree but consideration was given to all viewpoints and then decisions made on issues. He indicated the group had the common goal of what was best for the town and citizens. He thanked the staff for all of their hard work. Commissioner Hagle indicated next year would be a year of changes and the town had a great five-year plan adopted through the budget this year. Commissioner Hagle stated he was concerned about walkers and bikers not using safety devices in order to be seen better by drivers. He also commented on a little DAB of safety for the holidays and all year long. D--Don't Drink and Drive, A--Attentive to Driving, B--Buckle Up.

Mayor Newton closed by saying it was an honor to serve a second term as Mayor. He indicated there was a great energy in town during each of the seasons. He stated he appreciated what the businesses, owners and citizens have done in town. Recently we have been listed as a top destination in the month of February by Travel and Leisure magazine. He reminded everyone there are still a lot of people in need and encouraged people to focus on those in need. He indicated 2020 will be the year of infrastructure and parks.

## **Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Motion made by Commissioner Hagle.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Harker, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Hagle

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Mayor Everette S. (Rett) Newton

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Michele Davis, Town Clerk