



Town of Beaufort, NC
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Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
6:00 PM Monday, March 11, 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.

Elizabeth Lewis, Town Clerk, called the roll.

PRESENT:

Mayor Sharon Harker
Mayor Pro Tem Melvin Cooper
Commissioner Paula Gillikin
Commissioner John LoPiccolo
Commissioner Bucky Oliver
Commissioner Sarah Spiegler

ABSENT: None

Roll Call

Agenda Approval

Commissioner Oliver requested the agenda be amended to remove the Periwinkle Event Request from Items of Consent and for it to be placed under New Business.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested amendment.

The motion carried unanimously.

Recognition of Outgoing Volunteer Board Members

Mayor Harker recognized Aaron Willis and Ralph Merrill for their service on the Planning Board; Barry Evans for his service on the Board of Adjustment; and John Flowers for his service on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Items of Consent

1. Meeting Minutes- January 30-31, 2024 & February 12, 2024
2. FY 2024-2026 Audit Agreement & FY 2024 Audit Contract Approval

3. NC Main Street and Rural Planning Center- MOU & Resolution
4. Solid Waste Fee - CPI Increase

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Presentations

1. Mayor William Lewis of Havelock, ACT Program

Mayor Lewis provided information regarding the Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT) program. As president of ACT, he discussed economic impacts related to Cherry Point and surrounding areas; this information was also provided in a handout. He thanked the Town of Beaufort for being a member of ACT and advocated for their continued support in the coming years.

Public Hearing

1. Case # 24-04 - Beaufort Village Condos Rezone R-8 to TCA

Commissioner Gillikin made a motion to open the Public Hearing.

The motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Eitner, Town Planner, shared this was a request from Kate Allen with Mary Cheatham King Real Estate, agent for property owner Leon Capital Ventures LLC, to rezone the two parcels of Beaufort Village Condominiums on Lennoxville Road from Residential Medium Density District (R-8) to Townhomes, Condominiums, Apartments District (TCA). She explained the application materials were included in the agenda packet for reference, along with staff's report and maps. She noted the parcels on the corner of Leonda and Lennoxville host the existing Beaufort Village Condominiums; twenty-four units were built in 1977 and the four newer units along Lennoxville were built in 2007. The properties are currently legally nonconforming under R-8 zoning but would be rendered conforming if rezoned to TCA. She also noted the request to be the first rezoning under the newly certified CAMA Land Use Plan and deemed it consistent with the Plan. She shared the Planning Board met on February 19, 2024, to review the request and unanimously recommended approval.

Commissioner Spiegler asked if there was any way to know what the applicant plans to do once it is rezoned.

Ms. Eitner said the Town was unaware of any future plans but did share the applicant was present to answer questions.

Kate Allen, Mary Cheatham King Real Estate, shared because it was a nonconforming situation, being able to obtain financing presented a challenge, as well as being constrained by the 50% improvement rule on the property.

Commissioner Oliver said there is a limited number of differences in which the TCA provides, one being that it allows 12 units per acre.

Ms. Allen confirmed that based on the plat that was included in the application packet, the total area in question was 2.67 acres; when considering maximum density at 12 units per acre, a total of 32 units would be allowed under TCA. She noted there were 28 units currently on the ground.

Commissioner Oliver noted there were a number of other usages listed under TCA and asked if the owner had considered any other uses for the property.

Ms. Allen shared it was her understanding the condos would still be used as rental units. She made note the owner was the same for all the units and explained they were individually deeded and could be sold that way if the owner desired to do so.

Commissioner Oliver confirmed the units could be sold individually both in the R-8 zone and TCA. He expressed concern about possibly losing the swimming pool because it is not a permitted use under TCA, as well as the units being sold and used for VRBOs.

Ms. Allen pointed out if the rezoning request was approved and the owner wished to build additional units, he would be required to come before the Board for site plan approval.

Commissioner Cooper expressed similar concerns about future vacation rentals.

Commissioner Gillikin pointed out it was strictly a rezoning request, and TCA was consistent with the new CAMA Land Use Plan. She suggested the property coming into a conforming state was not a bad idea.

Commissioner LoPiccolo said that he believed the location of the property did fit a TCA zoning district. He expressed concerns regarding additional development in the area.

Mayor Harker asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak on the topic.

Ed Seelaus, 108 Charles Street in Beaufort, spoke on behalf of himself and his neighborhood which is located directly behind Beaufort Village. He noted if the request was strictly an adjustment in the code, he would not have a problem with that. His shared a similar request came before the prior Board, and it was unanimously denied several years ago. He expressed concerns about the location of his neighborhood, as it is sandwiched in between Beau Coast and Beaufort Village, noting the built up of surrounding properties has caused flooding issues. He commended the Town's Public Works Department for cleaning ditches which has helped to mitigate some of the flooding issues. He suggested the area in question did not need to experience additional growth.

Robert Harper, 1020 Broad Street in Beaufort, spoke against the rezoning request and suggested many more condos could be built if in TCA. He noted condos could be built over the swimming pool area. He discussed other potential uses allowed under the TCA and noted it would open a whole world of possibilities other than the current rental units. He expressed the need for affordable housing in Beaufort and discussed the correlation between that demand and short term rentals. He pointed out the Board was not legally bound to rezone the property. He encouraged the Board to do what was best for Beaufort.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Oliver reviewed and considered several statements of reasonableness as listed in the meeting packet:

- (i) the size, physical conditions, and other attributes of the area proposed to be rezoned
- (ii) the benefits and detriments to the landowners, the neighbors, and the surrounding community
- (iii) the relationship between the current actual and permissible development on the tract and adjoining areas and the development that would be permissible under the proposed amendment
- (iv) why the action taken is in the public interest; and
- (v) any changed conditions warranting the amendment.

Commissioner Oliver suggested four of the five points to consider failed in his opinion.

Commissioner Gillikin pointed out the condos could be sold individually under the R-8 and TCA districts. She asked that the Board focus on the fact they could not predict what the owner's intentions were for the property and noted they would be required to go through the Planning process should additional units be constructed.

Commissioner LoPiccolo expressed concerns regarding the potential of additional units. He also questioned what was in it for Beaufort.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to deny the rezoning request as presented in Case #24-04.

Voting Yea: Commissioner LoPiccolo, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Oliver, Commissioner Spiegler

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gillikin

The motion carried on a (4-1) vote.

New Business

1. Award of Construction Contracts, USDA-Funded Utilities Improvements Project

Greg Meshaw, Town Engineer, explained staff was requesting the Board award three construction contracts for the USDA-Funded Utilities Improvements Projects. He provided a timeline of the project and explained the bid process. He referenced the bid tabulation attached in the meeting packet as well as the engineering consultant's transmittal letter. As noted, the submitted bids exceeded the available funding. He explained the contractors and the Town completed negotiations to arrive at mutually acceptable amounts on which the contracts could be awarded; the amounts negotiated for Contracts 1, 2 and 3 are as follows: \$9,063,517.50, \$6,050,184.00, and \$2,643,398.00.

Mr. Meshaw noted the contract amounts along with a listing of the changes to the scope of work resulting from the negotiations were memorialized in the "Memorandum of Negotiation" prepared for each contract and executed by the contractors and Town, also attached in the meeting packet. He shared Town staff recommends award of a construction Contract 1 to the TA Loving and Contracts 2 and 3 to Sunland Builders.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to award Contract #1 to T.A. Loving Company for the Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation, according to the attached Memorandum of Negotiation and subject to approvals from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Local Government Commission.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to award Contract #2 to Sunland Builders Inc. for the Water Distribution System Improvements, according to the attached Memorandum of Negotiation and subject to approvals from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Local Government Commission.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gillikin made a motion to award Contract #3 to Sunland Builders Inc. for the Stormwater Drainage System Improvements, according to the attached Memorandum of Negotiation and subject to approvals from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Local Government Commission.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Note Resolutions, USDA-Funded Utilities Improvements Project

Mr. Meshaw explained the procedure for financing the USDA- Funded Utilities Improvements Project requires the Town issue Water and Sewer System Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes as well as a Stormwater System Revenue Bond Anticipation Note prior to construction of the project. Mr. Meshaw requested the Board adopt three note resolutions associated with the project. The resolutions each contain information as to who is buying the note, its maturity date, the interest rate, and the times

at which principal and interest are paid; a summary for each note being addressed by the resolutions are as follows:

Sewer System Revenue Anticipation Note (\$7,036,000)

PNC Bank, National Association
March 25, 2026, maturity date
4.24% tax-exempt fixed rate

Principal and interest due at maturity

Water System Revenue Anticipation Note (\$8,031,000)

PNC Bank, National Association
January 28, 2026, maturity date

4.24% tax-exempt fixed rate

Principal and interest due at maturity

Stormwater System Revenue Anticipation Note (\$3,007,000)

Truist Commercial Equity, Inc.
July 30, 2025, maturity date
4.08% tax-exempt fixed rate

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to adopt the resolution entitled,

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A \$3,007,000 STORMWATER SYSTEM REVENUE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE, SERIES 2024 OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA.

The motion carried unanimously, with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Gillikin made a motion to adopt the resolution entitled,

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A \$7,036,000 WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE, SERIES 2024B OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA.

The motion carried unanimously, with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to adopt the resolution entitled,

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A \$8,031,000 WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE, SERIES 2024A OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA.

The motion carried unanimously, with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

3. Bond Order Resolutions, USDA-Funded Utilities Project

Mr. Meshaw explained as the final step of the process, two Bond Order Resolutions needed to be adopted for the USDA-Funded Utilities Project. He noted a second motion was required for each.

Commissioner Gillikin made a motion to adopt the resolution entitled,

BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF STORMWATER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO MAKE CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STORMWATER SYSTEM OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE USE OF THE STORMWATER SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION

OF CERTAIN SPECIAL FUNDS; PLEDGING TO THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE REVENUE BONDS CERTAIN REVENUES OF THE STORMWATER SYSTEM; SETTING FORTH THE RIGHTS AND REMEDIES OF OWNERS; AND SETTING FORTH THE DETAILS OF CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS.

Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously, with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to adopt the resolution entitled,

BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO MAKE CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE USE OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF CERTAIN SPECIAL FUNDS; PLEDGING TO THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE REVENUE BONDS CERTAIN REVENUES OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM; SETTING FORTH THE RIGHTS AND REMEDIES OF OWNERS; AND SETTING FORTH THE DETAILS OF CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS.

Commissioner Oliver seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously, with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

4. Case # 23-13 - Maritime Education Center Site Plan

Ms. Eitner the item was a request by Joe Boyd of WithersRavenel, agent for Maritime Heritage Foundation. She noted the request was for review and approval of a proposed site plan to construct a new Maritime Museum Education Center and associated site improvements at 293 West Beaufort Road Extension. She made note of the application materials included in the agenda packet for reference, along with the staff's report and maps. She provided additional information included in the site plan and noted it was state-owned property; the Town of Beaufort does have zoning jurisdiction over the property, but building permits and inspections will not be conducted by the Town.

Commissioner Spiegler asked Ms. Eitner to speak to the size of the buffers that would be along the adjacent residential properties.

Ms. Eitner said they would be 10 ft wide, Type A buffers.

Commissioner LoPiccolo asked if Bonehenge was part of the entire plan or if it was separate.

Ms. Eitner noted it was part of the three effected parcels, because Bonehenge's parking is on the property.

Commissioner Spiegler asked if the applicant considered issues regarding flooding and sea level rise during the planning process.

Joe Boyd, with WithersRavenel, explained the plan would be reviewed by the State Construction Office. He noted the property is located within the 100-year flood plain and they planned to raise the site and footprint, which meets the new design standards set forth by the Governor's office. He shared they are leaving as much open space and vegetation as possible, which also includes walking trails and wooded areas. He spoke about buffering, noting they had put extra effort into that component.

Ms. Eitner shared the Town was working with NCDOT to formalize an existing footpath that connects under the bridge and behind the dry stack storage to connect to Turner Street;

this would ensure pedestrian safety, as people could access the property via a walking path and without crossing the bypass traffic.

Commissioner Cooper had a few questions regarding the utility designs.

Commissioner LoPiccolo asked if Mr. Boyd could speak to a timeframe on construction.

Mr. Boyd predicted a year to eighteen months for construction, with a hopeful start date of Summer 2024.

Commissioner LoPiccolo asked about the grading on the lot, such as the height it would be at the lowest and highest points, as well as the maximum building height.

Mr. Boyd referenced page 244 of the meeting packet to provide further explanation.

Commissioner Gillikin suggested Mr. Boyd contact the researchers at NOAA regarding the marsh monitoring system to the west of the docks.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to approve Case #23-13, the Maritime Education Center Site Plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. Case # 24-01 - M&H Storage Site Plan

Ms. Eitner provided the following background on Case #24-01:

Commissioner Spiegler noted night lighting should be considered in the future.

Commissioner Oliver confirmed both access easements were in place, and the buildings would be sprinkled. He referenced page 282 of the meeting packet, and questioned whether the stormwater easement to the north of the property was adequate.

Ms. Eitner said she would refer to the Assistant Town Engineer to answer any stormwater related questions, as he reviewed the plans. She suggested the applicant would be able to answer those questions as well.

Commissioner Oliver asked if there was an idea of what the buildings would look like, or any information related to elevation.

Ms. Eitner explained the applicant brought hard copies of what the elevations would look like, even though it was not required as part of the site plan approval.

Commissioner Cooper asked for clarity on the timeline of the project.

Ms. Eitner reviewed these details as the item had been to the Planning Board several times.

Commissioner LoPiccolo suggested the buffering be high to help block the light source on the building.

Sam Bell, Assistant Town Engineer, addressed the stormwater easement questions, noting he was confident the easement to the north of the property could handle the overflow.

Ron Cullipher of The Cullipher Group shared there was not any street lighting proposed, it was more of security lighting that was lower. He suggested the proposed fencing and vegetation would counteract noise and light pollution, protecting the nearby communities.

Commissioner Spiegler asked how they planned to work with the Town in a stormwater effort.

Mr. Cullipher shared they had a big stormwater pond and believed they could accommodate the Town whenever they were ready to develop the adjoining property.

Mr. Clark commented that the Town did not have any designs or site plans at this time, but thanked Mr. Cullipher for his willingness to work with the Town in the future.

Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Cullipher if he was willing to incorporate the elevation plans as part of the application packet to ensure complete understanding of their intentions.

Mr. Cullipher said yes.

Commissioner Cooper asked about wetland fill.

Mr. Cullipher explained about 11,000 square feet would be filled and noted this had been authorized by state and federal agencies.

Commissioner Gillikin noted all her questions had already been answered.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the proposed site plan as submitted, with the addition of the elevations as part of the record.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Resolution- Petition for Annexation submitted by Beaufort Agrihood Development, LLC

Ms. Lewis explained before the Board was consideration of a resolution directing the Clerk to investigate a petition for annexation received under G.S. 160A-31. She shared Beaufort Agrihood Development LLC had submitted a petition for voluntary annexation and noted the annexation application and map were attached in the meeting packet. She explained that the first step in the process involves Board action to instruct the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the annexation request.

Commissioner Spiegler asked for more details on the process, specifically what the Town Clerk would be reviewing to deem the request sufficient or not.

Ms. Lewis shared it was her duty to determine whether the petition meets the requirements set forth in the North Carolina General Statutes; she provided specific details of those requirements.

Commissioner Spiegler asked Ms. Lewis if her investigation would consider any economic or environmental assessments.

Ms. Lewis confirmed it would not.

Commissioner Cooper asked for clarity on previous annexation applications submitted by Beaufort Agrihood Development.

Ms. Lewis explained the Board approved annexation ordinances associated with Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Salt Wynd Development in May of 2022 and October of 2022. While these ordinances were adopted and annexation of this area was approved, the applicant failed to meet all conditions set forth in the ordinances. She noted that because all the conditions were not met, the ordinances were not recorded in the Register of Deeds of Carteret County, North Carolina, and now considered null and void.

Arey Grady, Town Attorney, commented that it was a discretionary legislative decision of the Board of Commissioners whether or not to direct the Town Clerk to move forward with an investigation of the petition for annexation.

Commissioner Gillikin suggested the Town of Beaufort needs a strategic growth plan in place before approving any annexation request. She provided several reasons as to why it was not a good idea to instruct the Town Clerk to move forward with the investigation of the petition for annexation.

Commissioner Spiegler agreed with Commissioner Gillikin's comments and cautious approach to growth in Beaufort. She suggested the CAMA Land Use Plan should be considered when discussing the area in question.

Commissioner Oliver shared similar concerns regarding limited resources in the area. He also noted he was uncertain as to what the proposed annexed area would be used for.

Commissioner Cooper commented that the Town of Beaufort did not have to annex the area or instruct the Clerk to investigate the petition.

Commissioner LoPiccolo agreed that the Town needs to decide if they want more growth or not.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to deny the request to instruct the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition for annexation, submitted by Beaufort Agrihood Development, LLC.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Paid Parking Program and RFP

Paul Burdette, Police Chief, discussed the history of Town's paid parking program. He shared parking committee recommendations from fall of 2023 and outlined priorities established by that committee. He noted the RFP publish on February 23, 2024 was based off those recommendations. He shared an overview of the RFP results, which provided data that led the staff to recommend outsourcing the function of the paid parking program to Pivot Parking. He noted that Pivot has specific experience in parking management, with up-to-date knowledge on emerging technologies that would enhance applications and make the enforcement piece operate more efficiently. He also shared challenges the Town has faced with running the parking program over the past several years.

Christi Wood, Finance Director, shared a financial comparative of parking data from 2018-2023. She shared the highest revenue year on the books was in 2018, when the parking program was outsourced to a third party. She discussed the RFP responses in more detail, sharing both Lanier and Pivot offered a fee-based management agreement plus reimbursements to the Town. She noted several reasons the Town believed Pivot would be a better fit for Beaufort, such as a smaller localized company and higher projected revenues.

The Board discussed whether the Town should run the paid parking program or if they should select a third party. They expressed concerns regarding year-round parking and the timeframe that was included in the RFP. They discussed payment options and enforcement technology included in Pivot's proposal.

Mayor Harker deemed a consensus to move forward with a third party to operate the parking program and directed staff to continue a conversation with Pivot by inviting them to the next Board of Commissioners meeting to present and discuss several scenarios regarding the parking season, time of enforcement, rate structure, and passes for sale. She noted the Board was not making decisions on those details currently, rather than instructing Town Staff to move forward with securing Pivot's services.

8. BBA Rock the Dock Event Application & Fee Reduction Request

Rachel Johnson, Parks & Events Coordinator, shared that the Beaufort Business Association (BBA) submitted an event application for Rock the Dock, which requests 30 events with alcohol waivers for each; the details are listed in the meeting packet. She noted the BBA was requesting a fee reduction for the electricity portion of the application.

The Board noted the need to have a conversation regarding a policy that would address requests from non-profits for waived fees associated with event applications. They discussed electricity fees and the request for additional lighting in the park.

Mr. Clark said if the Board desired to add more lightening to John Newton Park, the Public Works department preferred ground lights due to the high winds on the waterfront. In regard to the comment about past due fees in the meeting packet, he shared that the BBA paid all fees associated with December events and Mardi Gras.

After much discussion, the Board consensus noted further deliberation was needed to determine a way to establish consistency when considering fee reduction requests from organizations in Town.

Mr. Clark explained the opportune time to discuss the issue would be during budget work sessions, as the fee schedule would need to reflect any desired changes.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the event without the agreement to reduce fees associate, but with the waiver of the requirement to hire officers (subject to reinstated at any time).

The motion carried unanimously.

9. BBA Request for July 4th Fire Works Funding

Mr. Clark explained the BBA had requested the Town fully fund the July 4th Fire Works display, which totals \$16,000. He noted in the prior year, the Town appropriated \$5,000 for the event, which equated to a third of the total cost.

The Board discussed the request and formed a consensus to appropriate a third of the cost as approved in the prior year.

Commissioner Spiegler made a motion to appropriate \$5,300, a third of the total cost, to help fund the July 4th event put on by the BBA.

The motion carried unanimously.

10. Periwinkle Event Request- Mile Run

Note, this item was removed from the consent agenda and moved to "New Business" for further discussion.

Ms. Johnson shared details regarding the event request from Periwinkle. She explained the request was to host a Beer Mile event on April 20, 2024 as a fundraiser for Misplaced Mutts. The event is scheduled to start at 2:00 p.m. and to be complete by 3:00 p.m. The event involves competitors running four .25 mile laps; in between each lap, they will consume a low ABV beer at 406 Live Oak Street in the parking lot of The Periwinkle. She shared alcohol would not be consumed on Town property and described the race route. She noted closures at the Periwinkle parking lot, the opening onto Cedar, crossing to Gordon and down to Broad Street. She shared that Beaufort Public Safety reviewed the event and worked with the organizer on the route, which has been approved.

Commissioner Oliver expressed concerns about the type of event, noting he did not agree with participants drinking beer and running down the street in a residential district, and did not believe it to be true with the character and charm of Beaufort.

Commissioner Cooper LoPiccolo noted he did not see any concerns with the event, as it was a fundraiser and a potentially fun event.

Commissioner Gillikin suggested they monitor the participation level to ensure safety, but did not anticipate there to be a large number of participants.

Commissioner Spiegler made a motion to approve the event request submitted by Periwinkle.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Spiegler, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Gillikin, Commissioner LoPiccolo

Voting Nay: Commissioner Oliver

The motion carried with a (4-1) vote.

Public Comment

Edna Davis Johnson, 1329 Keeter Ct in Morehead City, shared that she was a long-time resident of Beaufort, although she did not currently live in Town, she was still very active in the community. She noted that her God son was recently gifted with a street legal go cart, and she was looking for help in obtaining tags and registration.

Jud Kenworthy, 109 Holly Lane in Beaufort, shared that he was glad he attended the meeting and praised the Board for making difficult decisions, specifically the item related to voluntary annexation. He also thanked Mr. Meshaw for his hard work with the USDA Project. He noted the future was bright for Beaufort and stressed the importance of environmental protection moving forward.

Manager Report

Mr. Clark distributed the monthly report handout; this document can also be accessed online by visiting the following link: <https://www.beaufortnc.org/boardofcommissioners/page/managers-report>

Mayor/Commissioner Comments

The only additional comments from the Mayor and Board were summarized by thanking the citizens who were in attendance, those who were watching online, volunteer board members, and Town Staff for their hard work in keeping the Town moving forward.

Closed Session

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

Commissioner 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 Spiegler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor, Sharon E. Harker

Town Clerk, Elizabeth Lewis