

CAROLINA BEACH

Town Council Workshop

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 - 6:30 PM

Council Chambers, 1121 N. Lake Park Boulevard, Carolina Beach, NC



MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pierce called the recessed June 8, 2021 Council meeting back to order at 6:30 PM.

PRESENT

Mayor LeAnn Pierce

Mayor Pro Tem Jay Healy

Council Member Lynn Barbee

Council Member JoDan Garza

Council Member Steve Shuttleworth

ALSO PRESENT

Town Manager Bruce Oakley

Assistant Town Manager Ed Parvin

Town Clerk Kim Ward

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Budget Presentation

Mr. Oakley said after receiving direction from Council at the last meeting, Town staff worked hard trying to find things to trim from the proposed budget without cutting services to citizens or eliminating necessary projects.

Budget Message

FY 21/22

- General Fund: \$16,554,184* (reduced by \$73,070)
- Utilities: \$9,328,375**
- Total Budget: \$25,955,629

*Includes proposed tax decrease – 21.5 cents per \$100

**Includes 2% rate increase/\$1 stormwater fee increase and \$312,446 from Utilities General Fund

Budget Reductions

Operating Budget Reduced by \$73,070

- Environmental - \$9,000
 - Chemicals, Professional Services, Electrical
- Beach Maintenance - \$45,215
 - Truck, Dumpsters

- Parks & Recreation - \$12,000
 - Office Renovations
- Boardwalk - \$10,183
 - Security Cameras, Capital Project Fund

Mr. Oakley said the Town will look into grants for the Boardwalk security cameras. Mayor Pierce asked if the Town already has cameras on the Boardwalk. Mr. Oakley said there are some, but the Town was going to add more to provide better coverage. Mayor Pierce said she encouraged Mr. Oakley to put additional cameras on the Boardwalk if he can find funds elsewhere. Mr. Oakley said he feels good about the possibility of coming up with that money.

Council Member Barbee mentioned needs vs. wants and said he thinks almost everything in the proposed budget falls into the “needs” category, with the exception of the Saint Joseph Street Bike Path. He said everything else was basically maintenance or refurbishment. He mentioned the addition of a maintenance worker and the possibility of this saving the Town money on contract costs for having to outsource work. Mr. Oakley said this was accurate and that the Town hopes to not only break even or save money but also improve response time to maintenance requests and needs.

ACTION: Motion to approve the fiscal year 21/22 budget as presented by the Town Manager

Motion made by Council Member Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Pierce, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Barbee, Council Member Garza, Council Member Shuttleworth

Motion passed unanimously

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Oakley said the Town will have an Emergency Operations Center exercise next Tuesday after the Council workshop, and Council is invited to attend the exercise. He said Council Members are not required to be there but may find it useful to learn more about out how the Town is preparing for the current hurricane season.

Mr. Oakley said the Town will have an employee appreciation luncheon with food trucks for staff, and Council is invited to that as well.

Council Member Garza recommended a review of the Emergency Operations Center plan that outlines Council’s role during hurricanes. He said this will be especially important when new Council Members start and cautioned that this may be a big year in terms of storm activity.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion to adjourn

Motion made by Mayor Pierce

Voting Yea: Mayor Pierce, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Barbee, Council Member Garza, Council Member Shuttleworth

Motion passed unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.