

CAROLINA BEACH

Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 - 6:00 PM

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



MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barbee called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, followed by the invocation by Pastor Shawn Blackwelder of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Mayor Lynn Barbee

Mayor Pro Tem Jay Healy

Council Member Joe Benson

Council Member Mike Hoffer

Council Member Deb LeCompte

ALSO PRESENT

Town Manager Bruce Oakley

Assistant Town Manager Ed Parvin

Town Clerk Kim Ward

Town Attorney Noel Fox

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Council Member LeCompte said Council decided previously to remove non-agenda items for expediency, but she thinks these should be added back to all agendas moving forward.

ACTION: Motion to add back in Council comments at the end of agendas

Motion made by Council Member LeCompte

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

ACTION: Motion to adopt the agenda

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

Mayor Barbee said the public hearing for non-profit funding requests will be removed from this agenda due to a requested delay.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Set Public Hearing for April 12, 2022 to receive public input on the 2022/2023 budget
2. Set a public hearing for April 12, 2022 for a Text Amendment – to amend:
Chapter 40 Sec 40-70 & 72, add multi-family uses to the Neighborhood Business (NB) zoning district with reduced setbacks.
Chapter 40 Sec 40-74, increase the density in Neighborhood Business (NB) zoning district.
Chapter 40 Sec 40-72, allow parking areas serving the use to be located in a different zoning district. Applicant: Hamby Beach Properties, LLC
3. Set a public hearing for April 12, 2022 for a Text Amendment to amend Chapter 40, Sec. 40-394. Zoning and Site Plan Approvals to provide proposed water usage data for multi-family projects.
4. Set a public hearing for April 12, 2022 for a Text Amendment to amend Chapter 40, Sec. 40-487. Planning and Zoning Commission to amend the meeting time from 6:30pm to 6:00pm.
5. Budget Amendments/Transfers
6. Approval of Minutes from January 25 and February 8

Council Member Benson said Finance Director Debbie Hall pointed out to him that the \$52,377.60 for the marina project is coming from a contingency fund that is set aside for emergencies.

ACTION: Motion to adopt the consent agenda

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

Mayor Barbee recognized former Mayor LeAnn Pierce and former Council Member JoDan Garza in the audience.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

7. Presentation by the Friends of CB Parks and Greenways

LeAnn Pierce, Chair of the Friends of CB Parks & Greenways, introduced the program and its mission. She said this is a 501(c)(3) organization that can raise funds for recreational projects. She said the first fundraiser is planned for March 23 at Good Hops Brewing.

Treasurer Nick Hahn introduced the organization's team:

- Ms. Pierce, Chair
- Emily Joyner, Vice Chair
- Yvonne Bailey, Secretary
- Mr. Hahn, Treasurer
- Janet Hoffer, Assistant Treasurer
- Jason Kesler, Board Member
- Jill Oakley, Board Member

Mr. Hahn gave a presentation of the history of the group as well as its purpose and goals. More information is available at www.friendsofcb.org and www.facebook.com/friendsofcarolinabeach.

Council Member Hoffer said this organization can be a clearinghouse for donations because people cannot donate directly to the Town. He said to help start fundraising efforts for the group, on May 13 he is going to attempt a Guinness World Record for the longest disc golf round ever played.

Mayor Barbee said this is a big step for the Town to move initiatives forward.

8. Events Update by Tim Murphy

Tim Murphy, Recreation Programs Superintendent/Community Events Coordinator, reviewed upcoming special events:

- Steve Haydu St. Patrick's Lo Tide Run – March 12
- Solstice Healing Arts & Music Festival – March 19 at Carolina Beach Lake
- Island Montessori School Tinted Turtle Trot – April 10 at Mike Chappell Park
- Spring Fever Dance Party – April 8 at Carolina Beach Rec Center
- Summer Camp 2022 – registration begins April 5 for residents; general registration opens April 11

9. Manager's Update

Mr. Oakley gave an update on various projects and events:

- There were some parking issues over weekend, and warning tickets were issued. The issues have been resolved, so enforcement will now begin.
- Beach nourishment is moving forward quickly at about 800 feet per day and should be done in three weeks.

Project/funding updates (underway/starting soon):

- Ocean Rescue Building/Restroom Facility – \$777,000 (room occupancy tax)
- Florida Avenue Paving/Infrastructure Improvements – \$250,000 (American Rescue Plan and Powell Bill)
- Marina Reconstruction – \$3.8 million (Golden Leaf, American Rescue Plan, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Town)
- Mike Chappell Park Restrooms – \$250,000
- Stormwater projects – \$300,000 (American Rescue Plan)
 - Spartanburg Avenue/2nd Street Reprofile and Pipework
 - Maryland Avenue and Virginia Avenue Pipe Re-route
 - Greenville Avenue Stormwater Emergency Pump
- Saint Joseph Street Bike Multi-Use Path – \$572,000 (N.C. Department of Transportation, Town match 80/20)
- Freeman Park – \$7 million (Tourism Development Authority rollover, room occupancy tax, financing, N.C. Land and Water Fund Grant)

Project/funding updates (future funded projects):

- Carolina Beach Avenue North Paving and Improvements – \$1 million (State budget)
- Ocean Boulevard Sidewalk – \$485,000 (State budget)

- Dow Road/State Park Turn Lane (N.C. Department of Transportation/State budget)
- Stormwater Projects -- \$229,000 (American Rescue Plan)
 - Basin Road Installation
 - Hamlet Stormwater Repair
 - 7th Street Pipe Lining
 - Sumter Avenue and 7th Street Improvements
- Lake Park Improvements
 - Brandy Myers Memorial Playground – \$1.35 million (State budget, Land Water Conservation Fund match 50/50)
 - Stormwater Retention and Stabilization – \$2-3-4 million (State budget, Town)

Project/funding updates (future unfunded projects)

- Spartanburg Crosswalk
- Coastal Area Management Act Grants
 - 1810 Canal Drive Acquisition – awaiting appraisal (85/15 match)
 - Starfish Stormwater and Site Improvements – awaiting estimates (75/25 match)
- Wastewater treatment plant headworks project – \$3.8 million (potential American Rescue Plan funds available through N.C. Department of Environmental Quality)
- Wastewater treatment plant drying beds – \$150,000

Mr. Oakley said the Town is looking at \$20 million in projects with \$8 million to \$11 million in taxpayer savings.

Council Member Benson said he received news that the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved the traffic light at North Lake Park Boulevard and Winner Avenue. He asked if The Proximity’s multi-use path will tie in on the west side of Saint Joseph Street. Mr. Oakley said this project still needs to be coordinated. Council Member Hoffer said The Proximity will present options, so that remains to be seen.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy asked if the marina project will pose a conflict with paving of Carolina Beach Avenue North. Mr. Oakley said both can’t happen at the same time, so staff will make sure they are timed properly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Skipper Funderburg of 203 Bogey Drive in Wilmington said he wanted to remind everyone of the positive impact surfing has had on the Town.

Scott Seifer of 101 North 6th Street said options for revenue generation are limited at the municipality level, so it’s going to take creative thinking and difficult choices. He said the burden of the cost should be spread so that visitors pay their fair share. Mr. Seifer said he does not want to discuss possible tax increases until all possible revenue sources have been exhausted.

Karen Graybush of 518 Sumter Avenue said she doesn’t think it’s OK to not offer parking passes to those who live in Kure Beach and over the bridge. She also said she is against paid parking during the winter and asked Council to investigate other options.

Joe Starks of 203 Florida Avenue said there is a lot of Federal money out there, but without plans the Town won't get it. He encouraged the Town to pursue these funds as quickly as possible.

Bob Ponzoni of 1201 Canal Drive said he is seeking support for addressing the repeated nuisance of flooding on the north end, specifically Canal Drive. He said he proposes putting controls on outflow pipes and suggested offering guidance to the nine properties identified as the most problematic.

Bill Carew of 1520 Bonito Lane said he supports year-round parking and is opposed to year-round non-resident passes unless they carry use restrictions. He said he wants to avoid damaging parking revenue and alleviate the tax burden on residents.

Katie Stone of 612 Charlotte Avenue said she believes tourists and non-residents should pay for the share of resources they use instead of having the burden fall on residents. She said she wants Council to support year-round parking and discontinue non-resident parking passes.

Brenda Butler of 6709 Dorrington Drive in Wilmington said she is requesting that Council let retired Town employees who don't live in the Town buy passes at the same price as residents or employees.

Michael Hannan of 1615 Bowfin Lane said he doesn't want to pay more taxes and complimented Council for looking at alternative revenue sources. He said he supports what Council has done with parking this year and said after the year is over it can be reviewed and tweaked.

Ben Richardson of 731 Grand Banks Drive in Wilmington said he is frustrated with not being able to purchase a non-resident parking pass and thinks he should be treated like a local and not a tourist. He said he's not opposed to year-round parking if New Hanover County residents have the option to purchase a season pass, even if it costs more than in previous years.

Kristen Dunn of 905 Ocean Boulevard said communication is a problem for the Town. She said citizens need continuous updates on the budget process and mentioned concerns about spending. Ms. Dunn also said she'd like to see a sign at the corner of Dow Road and Atlanta Avenue indicating that is the turn for Carolina Beach Elementary School.

Matt Dunn of 905 Ocean Boulevard said he has concerns about the Town's communication. He said the last Council caused a loss of trust, and the current Council has not done enough to rebuild that. Mr. Dunn said it's essential for citizens to be engaged in decisions. He said he's against year-round parking.

Cindy Dunn of 915 Tidewater Lane said she would like to see a speed limit reduction to 35 mph at North Lake Park Boulevard down Dow Road beyond Cape Fear Boulevard where the crossing is or at least to Harper Avenue. She said she'd also like for Council to look at parking signs around the Senior Center and Community Center so there is enough free parking and no confusion for people using those services.

Harry Humphries of 111 Dow Road said he is opposed to year-round parking and wants to see season passes extended to residents of Kure Beach and those to the north. He said as a retired Town

employee, he would be in favor of the benefit of a parking pass at the employee rate. Mr. Humphries said the Boardwalk businesses and others will lose revenue due to current parking regulations.

Troy Eason of 717 Valley Brook Road in Wilmington asked Council to please consider offering non-resident parking permits. He said he and his family otherwise won't be able to patronize Town businesses and events.

Olin Furr of 440 Oceana Way said the Town needs to get more information to really analyze the numbers regarding parking. He said he doesn't think the current regulations are a good long-term solution and asked Council to look at expenses and focus on numbers.

Jeff Hogan of 1108 Merchant Lane said he is against year-round parking. He said as a business owner, he knows how badly everyone struggles during the off-season, and this will only make the situation worse.

Kevin Fritzingler of 704 Harper Avenue said local businesses may close if changes are not made to the current parking regulations. He said he is opposed to year-round parking.

Michelle Alberda of 205 Greenville Avenue said she had concerns about the Town's fiscal responsibility. She said until the Town comes up with a framework for making decisions, there will never be enough money. Ms. Alberda said she would like to make a \$5,000 donation to the new 501(c)(3) organization for new lights on the Boardwalk.

Kathy Murray of 794 Sloop Pointe Lane in Kure Beach, President of Island Women, thanked Council for working with the group to help with parking for volunteers. She said Kure Beach residents should have an option for a non-resident pass and mentioned that year-round parking might cause her group to pick other places for meetings during the off-season.

Cathrine Robbins of 301 Ivy Lane said business owners already struggle during winter months and may close for the season or permanently if things get worse. She said this will cause the Town to lose sales tax and Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) revenue. Ms. Robbins also asked the Town to work with the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO) to see what other grants may be available for the crosswalk at North Lake Park Boulevard and Winner Avenue.

Susan Ywaskevic of 205 South Lake Park Boulevard said she has been in business for 24 years and has heard her customers say they will no longer shop with her due to new parking regulations. She said people who live over the bridge should be considered for non-resident parking passes. Ms. Ywaskevic said not enough income will come from the bad will this is causing.

Dan McNutt of 496 Congress Street in Portland, Maine, founder and owner of the company that operates as NC Parking Co., said his company will offer the more than 450 private parking spaces they control for free use during the off-season. He said the lots are temporarily closed due to maintenance work but will reopen shortly.

Butch LeCompte of 307 Charlotte Avenue said he would like to see all workshops streamed live, including those held at the Fire Department. He also asked for an update about Ocean Boulevard sidewalks and expressed safety concerns about parking spaces at the corner of North Lake Park Boulevard and Cape Fear Boulevard by Havana's. Mr. LeCompte also asked when the WMPO is coming to meet with Council and said strategic planning is critical for the Town. He urged Council to create a multimodal transportation plan ad hoc committee soon.

Steve Stefanovich, Chair of the Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce, said his organization has sent a parking survey to its members and will later report results.

Ricky Niec of 702 Clarendon Avenue said there is not yet any hard data regarding year-round parking. He said he doesn't know if it will affect businesses, but he does know it will affect the Town's income if the current regulations are removed or modified. He said parking is one of a few methods the Town has to collect from non-residents who visit.

Paul Levy of 1606 Mackerel Lane offered suggestions for better decision making. He said what matters is whether voters, residents, and taxpayers were included in the decision-making process before a decision was made and whether Council took enough time to think things through.

Ron Stevens of 402 South 5th Street, owner of Lake Park Steakhouse, said he wants Council to reconsider year-round parking. He said people who don't live in the Town support local businesses in the off-season, and it's not fair to that part of the community to stop offering a non-resident parking pass.

JoDan Garza of 513 Atlanta Avenue said he was not in favor of Council removing the non-agenda items portion of each meeting. He asked about stormwater updates and said porta-potties should be present at each entrance to the beach. Mr. Garza also mentioned a light at Winner Avenue, the HVAC budget at Town Hall, and engineering expenses among his concerns. He said non-residents to the south and north are more upset about the removal of their option to buy a parking pass than they are about year-round parking.

James Sanderford of 418 Marina Street said Canal Drive should be paved because it's a public safety issue.

Lila Torres of Carolina Beach Avenue South said drivers on Hamlet Avenue are going the wrong way. She said she's against the current parking regulations because she thinks they will be a complete disaster. Ms. Torres said people should not have to pay extra to support local businesses and worries businesses will lose revenue. She said December, January, and February should offer free parking for everyone.

Joe Tyron of 619 Hamlet Avenue said he is not in favor of year-round parking but is more against the lack of transparency. He said this type of decision should not be done in a workshop that falls at the end of the terms of several Council Members. He said he would like to see a light at South Lake Park Boulevard and Hamlet Avenue for public safety reasons.

Michael Urti of 513 Monroe Avenue said he has concerns about the way in which the current parking regulations went into place. He said Council Members are firing before they aim and encouraged every resident to be concerned about how decisions are made.

Jeff Smith of 770 Settlers Lane in Kure Beach said businesses have been beaten up by the pandemic and are looking to the government for protection, but they've lost a friend with Town government right now. He said this is shameful and asked Council to reconsider parking regulations.

Jeremy Fenton of Fentoni's Pizza, who lives in The Cape, said some business owners lose money by opening in the off-season. He said he is unhappy with the way the vote on parking regulations happened.

Anthony Newberry of Island Cruises said his customers are asking for his boat to dock elsewhere for charters due to new parking regulations. He said year-round parking is going to be a killer for his business and others. Mr. Newberry asked Council to rethink year-round passes for those in the community who don't live inside the Town.

Amanda Hassler, who said she lives under the bridge, asked Council to consider increasing sales tax for the island instead of the new parking regulations. She suggested getting rid of year-round parking and letting non-residents have passes at an increased cost with a lot designated for them. Ms. Hassler said if this is not possible, charge an extra 5 percent in sales tax.

Melanie Boswell of 107 Island Palms Drive suggested that Council bring back non-resident passes but possibly charge more. She said the Town should look at ways to cut wasteful spending. Ms. Boswell said saying that taxes will go up without the current parking regulations is a fear tactic.

Brenda Butler 6709 Dorrington Drive in Wilmington said information about when meetings are and what's on the agenda is available to everyone well in advance. She said there should be a full audience for every meeting.

Cathrine Robbins of 301 Ivy Lane said she listens to every meeting online and reads all of the meeting minutes. She said the parking topic was moved multiple times and was not on the agenda for the workshop when the vote took place.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - POSTPONED TO 4/12/2022

10. Public Hearing on Non-Profit Funding Requests

This item was removed from the agenda.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

11. 2022 Lifeguard Season Discussion

Fire Chief Alan Griffin presented details about the current lifeguard program's needs and proposed changes for fiscal year 2022/2023.

Changes to 2022 season

- Start Easter weekend patrolling beach with lifeguards and Beach Patrol
- Utility terrain vehicle (UTV) lease vs. purchase
- Storage unit lease

Action request

- Approval of starting lifeguards April 15, 2022
 - Transfer \$7,000 from General Fund to 10-520.02
- Approval of property rental for UTV storage/lease
 - Transfer \$8,500 from 10-383.000 to 10-520.02

Council Member Benson asked if the Town will take these figures to the Tourism Development Authority (TDA) for reimbursement. Mr. Oakley said yes.

ACTION: Motion to approve starting lifeguards April 15 and transfer \$7,000 from the General Fund to 10-520.02

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

Chief Griffin said he is asking to use money from the sale of four-wheelers to pay for leases and rental property.

ACTION: Motion to approve property rental for UTVs and storage lease transfer of \$8,500 as described by the Chief from 10-383.000 to 10-520.02

Motion made by Mayor Barbee.

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

12. Adopt a certificate of Municipal Declaration to decrease the speed limit on N. Lake Park Blvd.
Applicant: Town of Carolina Beach

DOT received concerns about traffic crashes and speed at the traffic island at Saint Joseph Street and North Lake Park Boulevard. DOT has completed a review of the request to extend the 25 mph speed limit on U.S. 421/North Lake Park Boulevard for 600 feet north from Saint Joseph Street/Wilson Avenue and has found it is warranted. DOT is requesting certificates of Municipal Declaration for the Town's adoption of the ordinance changes.

Planning Director Jeremy Hardison presented the details.

Council Member Hoffer said this feels like a speed trap because visuals and the type of road affect motorist behavior more than what a sign says. He said he disagrees that it will slow people down and

would like to see no left turn out of the intersection at Saint Joseph Street and North Lake Park Boulevard.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy said that intersection is terrible, which is the reason for the speed limit change.

Council Member Hoffer said he will go along with it but doubts it will matter.

Mr. Hardison said once the DOT changes the signage, there will be an expectation of enforcement.

Council Member LeCompte said she would be happy if the lower speed limit went all the way to Food Lion.

ACTION: Motion to adopt Ordinance 22-1170 repealing State Ordinance 1077224 and adopt Ordinance 22-1171 enacting a 25 mph speed limit on Lake Park Boulevard from Alabama Avenue to 340 feet north of Goldsboro Avenue

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

13. Marina Budget, Reimbursement Resolution, and Entering into a Contract for Construction

Hurricane Florence caused severe damage to the south and east bulkheads at the Town marina. The western bulkhead was replaced after Hurricane Matthew and had no issues. After reviewing the damage with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), it was determined most of the issues were associated with deferred maintenance. Due to this reason, only limited funds were allocated by FEMA to include the following summary:

Northeast corner stormwater outfall

Federal share (75 percent) \$15,069.24

Non-federal share (25 percent) \$5,023.07

Damage to the south and east bulkhead

Federal share (75 percent) \$107,567.16

Non-federal share (25 percent) \$35,855.71

Total from FEMA/State: +\$163,515.18

To help with costs, the Town also obtained a grant from Golden Leaf Foundation in the amount of: +\$2,112,493.60

The Town will receive American Rescue Plan funds in the amount of: +\$1,019,672.47

Rolled over from prior project: +\$234,817.63

Current expenditures: -\$190,554.76

Total available: \$3,339,944.12

The lowest responsive/responsible bid (Evans & Sons Contracting Inc.): \$3,615,950.00

Fund Balance: \$276,005.88

Mr. Parvin presented the details.

Mayor Barbee said Council sent Mr. Oakley to look for money for this project, and he did what he was asked and is now asking for the remainder. Mayor Barbee said this is a lot of money but nowhere near the whole thing, so he offered praise to Town staff.

ACTION: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 22-1161, an ordinance to amend the General Fund balance creating a budget appropriation for Marina Bulkhead Project, Resolution No. 22-2254, reimbursement resolution for Marina Bulkhead Project Phase III, and approval for the Town Manager to enter into a contract with Evans & Sons Contracting

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

14. Parking Discussion

Mayor Barbee gave a timeline of the parking discussion over the past year. He said the current regulations were the recommendation of Pivot Parking and Town staff and asked Mr. Oakley if this is still staff's recommendation. Mr. Oakley said yes, the Town strives to maximize service delivery while maintaining a high quality of life and minimizing the burden on taxpayers, and that's the intent of the parking changes. He said the goal is to maximize parking income.

Council Member Benson said he is making a motion to offer non-resident passes to be purchased in-person April 1-30 at \$250 per pass with restrictions that the pass not be honored between the hours of 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekends beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day to Labor Day. He said the Town needs to consider expenses and how to generate revenue from existing resources.

Council Member LeCompte said the current regulations have created a divide between the business community and residents, but many business owners are also residents. She said she likes the idea of non-resident passes with caveats, but **she would like to amend Council Member Benson's motion to charge \$365 instead of \$250** to make up for the resident tax increase for infrastructure improvements. Council Member LeCompte said she would be in favor of capping the non-resident parking permits at 500 or allowing for unlimited sales.

Ms. Fox said procedural rules require Council to vote on whether Council Member Benson's motion can be amended, not on the action itself initially.

ACTION: Motion to amend Council Member Benson's motion from \$250 to \$365

Motion made by Council Member LeCompte

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member LeCompte

Voting Nay: Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer

Motion passed 3-2

The motion is amended to propose offering non-resident passes with caveats for \$365.

Council Member Hoffer said he doesn't like not giving the option for a non-resident pass, but he thinks it's too dangerous to start upending what's already in place with the current contract. He said non-resident passes will have to wait until 2023 as far as he's concerned.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy said Council is having a discussion about how to lose money vs. making money. He said if you don't believe in taking care of our taxpaying citizens, then you have the wrong mindset. Mayor Pro Tem Healy said Council is allowed to make decisions at a workshop and needed to act quickly because it was a time-sensitive issue. He said the former Council that voted on the issue had 30 years of experience, as opposed to the current Council that has six years of experience. Mayor Pro Tem Healy said the parking company recommended discontinuing non-resident passes because they caused the Town to lose revenue. He said he cares about the downtown businesses, but the bottom line is the Town needs money. Mayor Pro Tem Healy said he wants Council to stick with the original plan and if changes are necessary make them when the contract ends.

Council Member LeCompte said non-resident passes are guaranteed revenue that is now being discontinued. She said the bulk of the 30 years of experience Mayor Pro Tem Healy mentioned was between three people, two of whom were adamantly opposed to the new parking regulations. Council Member LeCompte said Council must encourage input from residents and build a consensus among constituents. She said parking and taxes are not the only revenue streams for the Town, and Council needs to take a long, hard look at spending. Council Member LeCompte said people didn't have a voice when the parking changes happened, and while it might be legal to make decisions in a workshop that doesn't make it the right way to go about things. She said Council may be stuck where things currently stand with November and December because of the contract.

Mayor Barbee said this is probably the most financially reckless conversation he's ever heard in his life. He said the goal is to find \$1 million, so a professional parking company made recommendations to help the Town achieve that goal. He said no Council Members have run their ideas by Pivot Parking to find out if the system can do the things they are proposing. He said the system will not do this. Mayor Barbee said Council is basically voting on cutting fiscal year 2023 revenue, and to cut revenue before even seeing a proposed budget is reckless behavior. He said has 110 percent confidence in Mr. Oakley and his staff and will vote for Mr. Oakley's recommendation.

Mr. Oakley said Pivot Parking indicated imposing exceptions on certain passes is not a feasible option this year, but it can be revisited in the future. He said they think it would be chaotic and logistically tough to do.

ACTION: Motion to sell non-resident passes at \$365 each for a 30-day period, with or without limit, in-person only with limited access Memorial Day through Labor Day (no use between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM Fridays through Sundays on weekends and holidays)

Motion made by Council Member LeCompte

Voting Yea: Council Member Benson, Council Member LeCompte

Voting Nay: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Hoffer

Motion failed 2-3

Council Member LeCompte said she is making a motion to allow free parking in January and February 2023.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy said if Town lots are free and private lots decide to charge, there's a good possibility the Town will lose its leased lots because there would be no incentive to stay.

Council Member LeCompte said the Town is going to lose those lots anyway because eventually they're going to be developed.

Council Member Hoffer said he is proposing to keep lots as paid year-round but put bags over meters in the streets during the off-season. He said this would allow the Town to charge in places where there are amenities, such as nearby beach access, showers, and bathrooms. He said it's the least impactful solution while offering something for non-residents in winter and something for downtown business owners who are worried about the off-season.

Mayor Barbee said the Town hired a professional parking company that has made recommendations and staff has reviewed and agreed with those recommendations, so that's what he's supporting.

ACTION: Motion that we go back to the original motion that Mayor Barbee made at our workshop where January and February 2023 will be free

Motion made by Council Member LeCompte

Voting Yea: Council Member Benson, Council Member LeCompte

Voting Nay: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Hoffer

Motion failed 2-3

Council Member Hoffer said he is making a motion for street-side parking meters to be free from December 1 to March 31.

Council Member Benson said this is a move in the right direction.

Mayor Pro Tem Healy again said Council is discussing how to lose revenue. He said when the Town has to make budget cuts, it's on them.

Council Member LeCompte said people wouldn't be opposed to year-round parking if it was handled in a different manner. She said Council has divided the heart of the community by pitting business owners against residents. Council Member LeCompte said she will refuse to vote for any large issues that come up in a workshop.

Mayor Barbee said this is about \$1 million. He said he doesn't like Council Member Hoffer's proposal because it would result in the loss of March revenue.

Council Member LeCompte said she is not sure why the Town would bag meters in March.

Council Member Hoffer said he's hesitant to include November instead of March because of what it would do to the contract. He said December is minimal enough.

Council Member Hoffer said he was rescinding his previous motion and offering a new one.

ACTION: Motion that street-side metered parking is free December 1 through February 28

Motion made by Council Member Hoffer

Voting Yea: Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Voting Nay: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy

Motion passed 3-2

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Hoffer asked how many Council Members it takes to put something on an agenda. He said his understanding was any one Council Member could request an agenda item. Mr. Oakley said that is correct.

Council Member Benson asked whether 2016 revenue bonds can be applied to the marina project. Ms. Hall said she would have to check to see if that's within the scope.

Mayor Barbee said he is looking forward to budget season and thinks it's going to be eye-opening for everyone. He thanked staff members for their hard work.

Ms. Fox said the Town has collected all but \$14,000 of the Wilmington Beach street assessments. She asked Council for consensus to send final demand letters and proceed accordingly. There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion to adjourn

Motion made by Mayor Barbee

Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer, Council Member LeCompte

Motion passed unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.