

CAROLINA BEACH

Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - 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 Jen Nau of Lifepoint Church Carolina Beach 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

Finance Director Debbie Hall

Town Clerk Kim Ward

Town Attorney Noel Fox

Mayor Barbee recognized the following elected officials in attendance: State Rep. Charlie Miller, Kure Beach Mayor-Elect Allen Oliver, Kure Beach Commissioner John Ellen, and Kure Beach Commissioner-Elect Connie Mearkle.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Budget Amendments and Transfers
2. Set a Public Hearing for January 9, 2024, to Consider a Conditional Zoning Modification for an Outdoor Seating Area and Landscaping at the Event Venue/Bar at 205 Charlotte Avenue in the Central Business District
Applicant: Kindred Carolina Beach, LLC

3. Set a Public Hearing on January 9, 2024, for a Special Use Permit Modification to Consider Additional Boat Slips and Expanding the Eating and Drinking Establishment Located at 401 Marina Street in the Marina Business and R-1B District
Applicant: CBYC, LLC
4. Approve 2024 Town Council Meeting Schedule
5. Request Approval to Submit Room Occupancy Tax Reimbursement Request
6. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Benson asked about plans to consolidate Town operations at the Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point (MOTSU) site and move them toward Dow Road. Mr. Oakley said Town staff is still preparing plans and will submit the storage tank for approval in April, followed by the proposed consolidated building to house staff and water treatment.

Council Member Hoffer pointed out that budget workshops are on the schedule now.

Regarding item 3, Ms. Fox said it has been a while since Council has had a Special Use Permit modification to consider, so she reminded Council that ex parte communications, such as email messages from the public, should be forwarded to Town staff, and Council Members should not attend Board of Adjustment or Planning and Zoning Commission hearings related to this application.

ACTION: Motion to approve 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

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE

7. Mayor Pro Tem Healy, administered by Rep. Miller
8. Council Member LeCompte, administered by Rep. Miller
9. Mayor Barbee, administered by Rep. Miller

COUNCIL IS SEATED AT THE DAIS

Mayor Barbee said it's rare that a new Council would not have any changes from the previous Council, but that is what happened this time.

Council Member LeCompte, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, and Mayor Barbee offered words of thanks on their re-election.

Mayor Barbee recognized County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair and former Town Mayor LeAnn Pierce for her attendance.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

10. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Barbee explained the role of the Mayor Pro Tem, which is to step in if the Mayor is absent.

ACTION: Motion to nominate Council Member LeCompte for Mayor Pro Tem
Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Healy, seconded by Council Member Benson
Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem Healy, Council Member Benson, Council Member Hoffer,
Council Member LeCompte
Motion passed unanimously

11. Committee Appointments

ACTION: Motion that committee appointments stay as they are, both internal and external
Motion made by Mayor Barbee
Voting Yea: Mayor Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem LeCompte, Council Member Benson, Council Member
Healy, Council Member Hoffer
Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Dunn of 907 Ocean Boulevard congratulated the recently re-elected Mayor and Council Members. He said the decision to change the parking program two years ago was a mistake, and he hopes Council will get input from all stakeholders when making a decision that could have negative effects. Mr. Dunn said he would like to see the issue approached with civility and an understanding of how it impacts everyone.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Hoffer said continuity is important with elected bodies and he is glad to have his three colleagues return, but he reminded everyone that there are issues that must be handled.

Council Member Benson reminded everyone about the Paws Place Dog Rescue fundraiser featuring Jim Cantore of The Weather Channel as a guest bartender at SeaWitch on December 22.

Mayor Pro Tem LeCompte wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Council Member Healy thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Barbee said he and Council Members love each other but sometimes fight like family.

ADJOURNMENT - RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN THE ATRIUM

Mayor Barbee adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM.