

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH**

January 11, 2010

The Town Council of the Town of Carolina Beach met in special meeting on January 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the fire department training room located at the Carolina Beach Volunteer Fire Department, 9 S. Dow Road, Carolina Beach, North Carolina. The following were present: Mayor Joel Macon; Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Pat Efird; Councilman Dan Wilcox; Councilman Lonnie Lashley; and Councilman Bob Lewis. Also present were Town Manager Tim Owens and Town Clerk Lynn Prusa. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the following: parking program, lifeguard program and expansion of the fire department.

Mr. Owens said that Mayor Macon telephoned and said he would be a little late for the meeting. In his absence, MPT Efird called the meeting to order.

PARKING PROGRAM

The town manager said these are some of the parking issues that he would like the Council to make a decision about:

1. Enforcing 2 hour turnover along Lake Park and Cape Fear.
2. Enforcing 3 hour turnover at oceanfront parking facilities.
3. Metering Lake Park Blvd. and Cape Fear Blvd. on street parking. Do we want to continue to do that?
4. Residential parking on Cape Fear, Harper, Charlotte – do we want to keep those?

The town manager turned the presentation over to representatives from Lanier Parking, Scott Diggs and John Crawford. Mr. Crawford went over the season highlights, revenue, expenses, citation issuance, 2010 items for discussions and metering opportunities (Exhibit 1).

Some of the points of interest discussed were:

Lanier was up \$300,000 in net revenue versus the previous company, but the expenditures were up too.

There are 165 spaces and some are single metered and some are double metered.

Lanier would like to get rid of all 3-wheel vehicles and scooters and replace them with golf carts for safety reasons. The cost is about \$10,000. This is something to think about for next year's budget.

The town currently has \$102,844 of outstanding debt. There was discussion about contracting with ACS Company to take care of collecting outstanding debt. They would get a portion of the collections. Lanier will not contract with this company without Council's approval. There are other benefits from using this system such as assisting the police department with Amber alerts and other illegal situations since they can hit on a license tag.

There was discussion about using an electronic booting device. The Town of Wrightsville Beach, Wilmington and Myrtle Beach will be booting after someone receives 3 outstanding citations.

Additional items to consider: purchase of covers for Luke and Shelby units approximately \$1,890; 3 workshop shelf units \$300; and uniform jackets \$500.00. These are some things Lanier would like Council to consider purchasing.

The manager suggested that we can bring back the proposed changes in February.

Councilman Wilcox said he would like to talk about the possibility of businesses being able to purchase placards for their employees' cars.

Mr. Crawford said the Town of Wrightsville Beach charges \$25 resident parking and they can buy 2 of these. The commercial pass is \$290.00 and anybody can buy these and parking anywhere. Wrightsville Beach doesn't accommodate for employee parking unless you buy a commercial pass.

There was discussion about the pay by cell option. Mr. Diggs said there is a new company that does this now and they have had great success. This is an option Council may want to think about. He said you can actually pay for time in advance and a message can be sent to your cell phone informing you that your time is just about out. At that point you can decide if you want to buy additional time or not.

There are 30-50 spaces at new Harbor Master parking lot. The manager said we will do minimal work to the lot at this time and most likely will install an honor box. We are currently seeking a CAMA permit. Mr. Crawford said there will be no more management cost other than you may want to give the more enforcement hours for that lot.

There was discussion about the cost of meters. Mr. Crawford said the single meters are \$328.00 and the double meters are \$403.58.

Mr. Diggs said Council may want to evaluate the rate structure, Freeman Park pass and meter costs. Wrightsville Beach will be going from \$1.50 to \$1.75 and day maximum from \$10 to \$12.

Council was in general agreement to install meters on Lake Park Blvd. The manager said he will present the proposed parking changes in February.

A motion was made by Mayor Macon to hold a public hearing on February 9, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter to consider amendments to the parking ordinance. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

Police Chief Younginer and Officer Sanders went over the statistics from the 2008 and 2009 seasons as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Rescue (Assist)	39	17
Rescue (Rip)	77	175
Missing Person	15	22
Call of Service (Medical)	7	10
Chest Paint	0	0
Eye Injury (Sand)	0	0
Jellyfish/Stingray	134	31
Laceration (minor)	38	16
Hit by Object	2	1
Seizure	0	0
Fracture/Dislocation	5	2
Heat Related	4	1
Near Drowning	0	1
Death Drowning (Unguarded)	0	1
Death Drowning (Guarded)	1	1
Rescue	116	192
Medical	190	61
Other	15	22

Officer Sanders presented some recommendations for next season (Exhibit 2). He said we currently have 13 stands and we might add 5 more. Locations for the new stands would be: 1 at Clamshell, 1 at Periwinkle, 1 more at the Boardwalk, 1 in the first block of the Marriott and 1 south of the short pier.

The cost to add 10 more lifeguards would be \$70,000. They are considering extending the guard time to 9:00 p.m., creating 3 shifts in order to have full coverage from 9-9. Shifts could be: 9-5, 11-7, and 1-9. The Mayor said if we want to have this type of coverage then we should advertise so the public is aware.

Officer Sanders said the lifeguards currently work an average of 65.7 hours.

Council suggested bringing this back to the budget workshop meeting for further consideration and to consider hours somewhere between where we are now to what has been discussed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION

Fire Chief Jonathon Rorie presented this item (Exhibit 3)

Chief Rorie said that last year an architect with Garner and Brown presented to Council a plan totaling \$1.7 million for construction of a new fire station but the plan didn't include anything inside the structure. The cost to upgrade the exterior was \$250,000. The old concept provided a place to park the trucks but it didn't address anything else that is needed.

He presented what he called the "New Phase One-Alternative" plan which is to add new four bay metal/brick building facing onto Cape Fear Blvd. with potential to eliminate traffic pre-emption, but speed reduction to 35 mph. It would be a 76' x 70 @ 5320 sq. ft. building. All Span Construction's estimate is \$65/sq ft. or \$346,000 for the building only. There would also be paving, storm water and grading costs.

The total cost for the new plan would be less than \$1 million for construction.

The "Phase Two Alternative to Up-Fit Current Station" would be to move the apparatus to new bays; add sleeping quarters, office space, fitness room, exterior upgrades, sprinkler system, etc. The budget estimate would be \$50/sq ft. or \$160,000.

The town manager said the initial impact would be \$60,000 and he doesn't know how it would impact the budget yet.

The Mayor would like to see the exterior of all the structures blended so that it is all tied together.

Councilman Wilcox said he would like us to move forward with the design element as soon as possible.

Council was in general consensus to use \$15,000 for design work.

A motion was made by Mayor Macon to advertise for a public hearing to be heard on February 9, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter concerning fire department expansion, and begin the preliminary design work with the \$15,000 already budgeted. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business to discuss, MPT Efirm made a motion to adjourn.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn N. Prusa
Town Clerk

Approved: _____