Elizabeth (Dale) Williford, Mayor Michael Luther, Mayor Pro Tem

Commissioners Randell Bentley Ryan Kelley Sam Lovelace



1400 Salter Path Rd. Indian Beach, NC 28512

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REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETINGS MINUTES

May 8th, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Elizabeth Williford. Commissioners Luther, Bentley, Kelley, and Lovelace attended the meeting. Town Manager White, Police Chief Pollock, Fire Chief Whitley, Public Works Director Golden, and citizens.

- 2. Public Works Director Golden gave the invocation, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Mayor Williford approved minutes of the April Regular Meeting.

4.FINANCE OFFICER/TOWN MANAGER

Council was informed that the NC Public Beach Grant was submitted, we hope to hear back on the grant by August. After a visit from the Carteret County Building inspector last month, it was recommended we close the Ocean Club Neighborhood Beach Access until further notice. Public Works Director Golden will rope off the access on both sides and put-up signs. We collected \$5,633 in taxes in April. The following reports were included: Cash Balance, Budget vs Actual Detail Report as of April 30, 2024. Budget vs Actual Summary Report as of April 30, 2024, Manual Journal Entries for April.

- **5. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT** Chief Pollock gave his report for April, and it was accepted as presented.
- **6. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT** Fire Chief Whitley gave his report for April, and it was accepted as presented.
- **7. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT** Director Golden gave his report for April, and it was accepted as presented.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

a) Awarding of the Town's Storm Debris Removal Contract. FEMA requires a contract in place prior to a storm. Motion was requested to award the Debris Contract based on Johnson Environmental recommendation. Motion was made by Commissioner Kelley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Luther. Motion was passed unanimously.

- b) Presentation of the Proposed 2024/2025 Budget and Budget Message. See attached budget message and proposed budget. No action required. Commissioner Bentley voiced his opinion on the proposed .3 cent tax increase for 2024/2025 and that he could not support the increase. Commissioner Bentley asked if it was possible to use money from the General Fund Balance to support raises and other needs for the Town for the coming year instead of a tax increase. Town Manager White recommended the Town not use money from the Fund Balance; due to previous decisions made Indian Beach is on the Local Government Commission watch list. The Town has been on this watch list since about 2018, in the past few years the Town has worked very hard to put money back into the Fund Balance and work to get off the LGC watch list. Mr. White would not recommend the Town to use money from the Fund Balance as this could call more attention to the Town and cause us to stay on the watch list.
- c) Set Public Hearing for the Proposed 2024/2025 Budget. Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley to set the hearing for June 12th, 2024 during the regular scheduled meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelley. Motion was passed unanimously.
- d) Closed Session....

Commissioner's comments, public comments; Mayor Williford reminded everyone Community Unity Night Out will be August 8th, 2024 from 5pm-8pm in the parking lot at Albert's. Donald Skinner commented on the Proposed 2024/20245 budget, he wanted to remind everyone of the service our Police and Fire Department give to each person in this town and what the .3 cent tax increase would mean from his point of view as a citizen. Brian Nicklow spoke about Food Trucks and the tax increase as a business owner.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Tim White Town Manager

Elizabeth Dale Williford, Mayor