

Village of Bald Head Island Council Work Session

May 16, 2008

Location: Bald Head Island Association Building

Council Present: Mayor Larry Lammert, Mayor Pro Tempore Andrew Sayre, Councilman Douglas, Councilman Morris, Councilman Pitera

Staff Present: Village Manager Calvin Peck, Assistant Village Manager/ Development Service Manager Chris McCall, Finance Director Deb Straub, Human Resource Dawn Reno, Chief of Emergency Services Chip Munna, Lt Freeman of Police, Public Works Director Ben Liddle, David Suther, Daralyn Spivey, Attorney Charles Baldwin, Interim Village Clerk Debbie Talbert recording minutes

Other Present: BHI Communications Director Joyce Fulton, Ann Boozell, Ray Webb

- 1. Call to Order/ Approval of Agenda-** Mayor Lammert called the May 16, 2008 Council Work Session to order at 9:30 a.m. Mayor asked Council for approval of the Agenda. With all in approval, voice vote **(Motion 5-0)**

Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre stated the minutes to the April 11, 2008 meeting needed to be corrected with who was in disapproval of the property tax being collected by Brunswick County. The vote was 3-1 with Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre in disapproval.

- 2. Review of Agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2008**
Council reviewed agenda and recommended changing 3.1 on the afternoon agenda from "Update on Beach Private Sand Placement" to "Update on Engineered Beach Project". Mayor Lammert, after reviewing the regular meeting agenda, returned to the work session agenda.
- 3. Franchise and Agreement-**
Chip stated this was a yearly agreement for EMS service for mutual aid between departments. This requires Council approval each year.
- 4. Golf Cart Insurance Property Owner Communication**
Calvin stated that concerns have been raised by property owners that their insurance companies have denied golf cart coverage in the future. With further investigation, Calvin stated he has been in contact with Representative Bonner Stiller's office and the Department of Insurance concerning this issue. The changes in the law as of January 1, 2008 for vehicle insurance does not effect golf cart coverage.

5. Liaison Committee for Brunswick County Commissioners Meeting

Mayor Lammert asked Council for approval to form a committee for representation of the Island at the Brunswick County Commissioners meetings. Mayor Lammert and Council had discussion in reference to this decision. Mayor stated that having a consistent presence at the meetings is very important. Mayor asked approval. In a voice vote, with all in favor.

(Motion 5 – 0)

6. Committee Appointment-Planning Board

Mayor appointed Scott Starks for the Village Planning Board. Mayor asked for approval of appointment. In a voice vote, with all in favor.

(Motion 5 – 0)

7. Budget Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2008/09

Calvin stated to Council, based on Wednesday afternoon's meeting, within the recommended budget is a property tax of .22 cents for operation plus 2.75 cents for Capital Reserve.

The budget has the rate for ICE at the same level as was agreed in January with Limited collecting the fees for ICE permits.

The water rates will increase by .11 cents for second tier customers because Brunswick County is raising their rate.

The tap fees will increase by 20%.

Calvin does not recommend any new hires at the Fire Department. Councilman Pitera made the recommendation to increase the tax rate .25 cents to make up the difference for a hire in the Fire Department to be effective January 1, 2009. Calvin stated that if this is what Council wants he will place it in the budget.

Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre stated he was concerned that the number of new taps for next year may be over-estimated. Calvin stated he would further investigate the number of taps to be projected this year.

Councilman Douglas asked Chip if hiring one person for the Fire Department would help, to which Chip replied in the affirmative explaining that response time would be improved.

Councilmembers and Chip discussed the operation of the Fire Department, volunteers, and hiring new personnel.

Council and Calvin discussed finding ways to cut the tax rate for next year. The Mayor pointed out that getting people involved with the Liaison Committee and talking to the County Commissioners to express the Island's concerns would help a lot. Mayor stated that Bald Head Island is paying for emergency services which the County provides to all cities and towns.

8. Review of Beach Stabilization

- Harbor Village
- Private Sand Placement
- Inlet Hazard CRC Meeting

Calvin reported that Eric Olson was here this week and he and Eric met with Limited representatives, Jim and Joyce concerning the Jetty extension. Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre has concerns with West Beach and the design of the jetty. Calvin replied that the jetty will have a negative impact on West Beach. Eric has suggested doing the groins first to help trap the sand. The Council and Calvin had further discussion with the issue on the jetty and the harbor groins. There was a discussion of the ownership of the groins and who would pay for the upkeep and repair. Councilman Douglas suggested we fix the groins and then go to the property owners for the monies. Calvin suggested giving the estimate and plans to the Harbor Association and scheduling a meeting with them. Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre suggested sending letters out to the property owners and explaining the importance of maintaining the groins and the cost for upkeep.

Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre asked about the dredging of the Creek. Calvin replied that the Land Management Group believes we would be better served if another party would make application for the permit. Calvin has spoken with Limited in reference to the sponsorship of this project.

Regarding the Engineered Beach Project, Calvin reported to Council that all comments have been received from federal and state agencies with the time line being June 1st 2008 for the application for the Non-Federal Beach Project which should be in effect by 2009.

Mayor Pro Tempore Sayre asked if the Sand Bag Removal is being done. Attorney Baldwin replied that 2 criteria have to be met with one being the expiration of the permit and the other being that sand bags must be exposed. The State is anticipating litigation and issues of proof. The Village has met this criteria. Further discussion between Council and Charles proceeded.

Calvin stated that the next CRC meeting will be in Washington, NC and the Land Use Plan will go before the CRC Board. The presentation will be made by our consultant and questions will be answered by me (Calvin).

Councilman Douglas spoke in reference to a proposal brought to the Council on Wednesday with Peter Ravella Consulting and it was noted that the item will be on that afternoon's Council Meeting agenda.

9. Manger's Update on Village Projects and Other Items of Consideration

Calvin stated that the Inlet Hazard Area Maps are still in process of being updated by Division of Coastal Management.

The tree survey on the creek access properties has been received and we are waiting on the creek access design which should be ready for the next Council meeting. Limited has been asked to assist with the creek access design.

The charter revision whereby the village clerk would report responsibilities to the village manager rather than to the Council has been sent to Senator R.C. Soles and we are currently awaiting his reply. In relation to this, Calvin stated that Joy Davis will begin her employment as village clerk on May 28th.

Mayor entertained a motion to go into Closed Session. With all in approval, close session began at 10:55 a.m.

Closed Session (pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(1), (3) and (5))

- **Howard Biggers III, vs. Village of Bald Head Island, et al**
- **Property and Facility Acquisition**
- **Village of BHI vs. Corps of Engineers (civil action # 03-CV-243-FL)**
- **Utility Agreement with the Bald Head Island Club**

Mayor motioned to return to open work session at 12:00 p.m. with all in approval.

Adjourn

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the Work Session Meeting. In a voice vote, all in approval. **(Motion 5-0)**

The May 16, 2008 Village Council Work Session adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Approved:

Larry Lammert, Mayor

Attest:

Joy Barrow Davis, Village Clerk