

Recap of the 2024 Village Council Annual Retreat

Day one of the Village Council Annual Retreat consisted of the following:

- A presentation from the Bald Head Island Conservancy on the Conservancy's environmental services contract with the Village. This includes several services such as aquifer monitoring, creek water monitoring, beach vitex assessment & treatment, deer management, and predator population assessments. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A shoreline management update from the Village's coastal engineer which included an overview of the Village's shoreline management program, proposed scope, and options for the 2025 coastal storm damage reduction project, future options for the east end of South Beach, and future Village considerations. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A presentation from the Village's governmental affairs consultants on the various advocacy efforts they have been working on for the Village. They provided an update from Washington DC on the budget and appropriations process and the Village's congressional priorities for this session. They discussed the Village's priorities which include beach renourishment & the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) contributed funds agreement, a proposed USACE feasibility study, the wastewater treatment plant expansion, and offshore wind plan and leases. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A discussion with Carrie Moffett, Executive Director of the Bald Head Association (BHA). Ms. Moffett gave an update on what the BHA expects to be focusing on this year. There was discussion on how the Village and the BHA work together on the staff level and how the BHA's committees can assist the Village. Listen to the audio [HERE](#).
- A discussion with Chad Paul, CEO of BHI Limited, LLC. Mr. Paul reported on the actions that Limited is planning to take regarding the properties it owns on the island. He spoke about a new policy for bringing trailers on the barge that limits customers to two trailers per barge. He gave an update on the ferry fleet and a proposed schedule change for the passenger ferry. Listen to the audio [HERE](#).
- A presentation from Chris Webb, Executive Director of Old Baldy Foundation on the restoration project and the campus expansion. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#)
- A presentation from WithersRavenel on the Village's asset inventory assessment (AIA) program and funding opportunities once the Village has an asset management plan in place. The tasks that need to be achieved to develop the AIA were discussed and the status of each was explained. The Village is

expected to receive the Sewer and Water Asset Management Plan from the firm around this time next year (February 2025). View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#)

- An update on the Village's wastewater treatment plant expansion project from Tony Boahn, P.E., from McKim & Creed. Mr. Boahn presented the two alternatives for the expansion project and explained the advantages of the recommended alternative (AquaNereda process). He specified the major expansion components of the project which is expected to be built within the current footprint of the plant. He presented the updated construction cost estimates (\$33.5M for AquaNereda – lowest cost), the estimated timeline (38 months), and the recommended next steps. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A discussion with David Sawyer, CEO of the BHI Club. Mr. Sawyer reported that the Club will be attending the BHA information session on 2/15 to present details on its position in support of the GO bond and help educate voters.. He gave an update on the sandbag revetment project at the Shoals Club and site planning for the relocation of amenities. He reported that the Club is finalizing construction plans for Swans Quarter and is working on the stormwater requirements for the project. He updated the Council on other upcoming construction projects including some additional parking and new croquet greens. Listen to the audio [HERE](#).
- A presentation from Jonathan Peele of Coastline Insurance Associates on insurance issues. He discussed increasing insurance rates, rating factors, market availability, and golf cart liability insurance. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- The Village Council discussed the Village's comprehensive long-range planning and review of Vision 2025 (completed in December 2017). Mr. McCall, Village Manager, said that he wanted to review the Vision 2025 document to see where the Village is now. There was discussion about possibly updating the document and getting the Cape Fear Council of Governments or another firm (possibly the same firm working on the Unified Development Ordinance) to assist and include this cost in the FY25 budget. Listen to the audio [HERE](#).

Day two of the Village Council Annual Retreat consisted of the following:

- A presentation from the Village's Human Resources Director, Judy Schofield, on the staff composition of the Village (what percentage of the employee population serves in each department), turnover rates, worker's compensation claims, benefit usage, training, accomplishments made over the last year, and future goals. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).

- A presentation from the Village's Public Safety Chief, Joshua Gibson, on upcoming projects for FY25. Projects include an assessment of the public safety model, a review and update of the department's policies and procedures, work toward achieving NC law enforcement accreditation (this takes approximately 36 months), and a fire preparedness assessment. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A presentation from the Village's Public Services Director, JP McCann on public works and utilities activities for the year and future planning efforts. He discussed staffing levels (he will be requesting two public works specialists in FY25), the wastewater treatment plant capacity rule, timing of the wastewater treatment plant expansion, an analysis of barge trips and a proposed solution to save money and staff time in the long-term, the asphalt paving 5-year plan, the remaining tasks to perform at the contractor services campus (grading, stormwater, parking), beach access repairs, and wastewater treatment plant and lift station upgrades, the Village's motor fleet, and a Village Hall and Island Package Center fence replacement proposal. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- A presentation from the Village's Finance Director on the proposed FY25 budget calendar, preliminary revenue estimates (ad valorem and accommodations taxes), an update on the financial model, potential FY25 budget impacts, and proposed updates to the Village's financial policies. View the video of the presentation [HERE](#) and the slides [HERE](#).
- The Village Council discussed its priorities for FY24-25 considering all the information that was presented. The wastewater treatment plant expansion and its funding were discussed. Grant funding was something that the Council would like to pursue for the wastewater treatment plant and shoreline protection projects. As far as grant funding for public safety, achieving NC law enforcement accreditation will make the chances of receiving grants more favorable. Listen to the audio [HERE](#).

All videos/audio have been compiled into a YouTube playlist which can be found [HERE](#).