

MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MARCH 12, 2020

Mayor Mills called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Attendance: Mayor Darryl Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Henry E. Miller III, Alderman Jeff DeGroot, Alderman Ken Dull, Alderman Vivian (Zeke) Partin; together with Town Attorney Brian Edes, Town Manager Timothy W. Owens and Town Clerk Sylvia J. Holleman.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Pastor John McIntyre, Wrightsville Beach Baptist Church

PUBLIC COMMENTS: MATT JOHNSON – COMMERCIAL PARKING PASSES; LAYNE SMITH – CORAL DRIVE SIDEWALK; MEBANE SHERRARD – MEIER STREET PIER.

Mr. Matt Johnson, owner of Mercers Pier (family business since 1969), said he would like to talk about Commercial Parking Passes. He said, "So many years ago, they put a cap on it. Leading up to that time, there were many other options for free parking on Lagoon and as those disappeared, we used Lumina. It's more or less the ability to park your car quickly and get to work. You guys offer parking here at Town Hall. I've got a lot of females and older people and walking about a mile or a mile and a half might be rough at ten thirty at night. It's kind of a hardship. I was told it was capped at the number we currently have which is four. In years past, we bought up to twelve. Obviously, we don't use them all at the same time; we have swing shifts with people coming and going all the time. Even though we have passes, it's sometimes hard to get spaces there because it's the first to fill and the last to empty. I've talked to Hank (Mayor Pro Tem Miller) and a few other people who said maybe I should come back and talk to the Board about it to see if we could do something about lifting that cap. Currently we have four but I'd like another eight for a total of twelve."

Mrs. Layne Smith, 300 Coral Drive, said, "I am here to discuss my concerns about the sidewalk that is yet to be constructed on Coral Drive for the school. In 2010, I sent an email to Katie (Ryan) asking about what we could do to try to get sidewalks on that street. There was a grant at the time called 'Safe Access to Schools'. We didn't get to apply for that grant with the timing and all these other things. So, I came to the Town in 2013 when my child was in fifth grade at Wrightsville Beach Elementary School. We had some agreement with the Board; we were going to have a sidewalk. There was another hearing in 2014 and another hearing in 2015. Now my daughter is a senior in high school and about to go to college and there is still no sidewalk on that street. And, in addition to that, the school is about to open up in August; so the window of time has closed to complete the sidewalk so that it's open when the new school is open. I'm very disappointed that we're here this many years later and we still don't have a sidewalk for that street. I've already signed an easement; I had to sign another easement because those easements expired. I just wanted to let everybody know that this is not the way government should be run. Hopefully, something can be done before my daughter goes to college."

Mrs. Mebane Sherrard said, "I've been a long-term resident but I'm not here right now. My grandparents bought property here in 1936 and did a lot for this beach; got the saline conversion plant; and allowed the use of their property to facilitate the building of the breakwater at the south end of Wrightsville Beach. Although this has not been public, I feel like I need to speak now; y'all have it on the agenda for tonight. Our pier at the end of Meier Street, which is in dispute, you're talking about tearing it down and this is still in dispute. I feel like you should not be tearing something down on someone else's property until it is settled. We have not had a chance for any public time to speak or give our comments and I felt like it was time to do that. I think the public needs to understand my grandparents gave a whole lot and loved this beach and this just doesn't seem fair or right and I would just like to get my sentiments in for the record."

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY MOTION OF ALDERMAN PARTIN AND SECOND BY ALDERMAN DEGROOTE.

- a. Approved special event permits as follows:
 - 1) WB Churches' Community Sunrise Service (*1,000-1,500 people*)
Sunday, April 12, 2020 (6:00 – 8:00 am)
Location: Beach Access 19
*** Recurring Event
 - 2) First Presbyterian Church Easter Sunrise Service (*175 people*)
Sunday, April 12, 2020 (6:30 – 7:30 am)
Location: Beach Access 34
*** Recurring Event
 - 3) James/Langlely Sunrise Wedding (*75 people*)
Sunday, August 2, 2020 (6:00 – 8:00 am)
Location: Beach Access 1 (Shell Island Resort)
- b. Acknowledged previously approved special events for April.
- c. Approved request from the Wrightsville Beach Museum to continue the "Loop through History" Event over nine weekends in 2020.
- d. Adopted Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 520-B to recognize the revenues and expenses associated with work performed by Joshua Tree of Wilmington LLC approved by the Board on October 10, 2019. This will take \$90,000 in revenues out of Room Occupancy Tax funds (approved by TDA Board) and create the budgeted expense for FY2020.
- e. Adopted Resolution No. (2020) 2197 approving an Agreement with the City of Wilmington for utilization of the Haynes/Lacewell Training Facility.
- f. Approved revised 2020 Board of Adjustment Meeting Schedule to cancel the March 26th meeting.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTIONS 155.6 ZONING DISTRICT / ARTICLE 155.7 SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS; 155.6.4 TABLE OF PERMITTED / CONDITIONAL USES; AND A NEW SECTION 155.7.27 TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL CONNECTOR STRUCTURE IN THE R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT. (*CONTINUED FROM THE FEBRUARY 13TH MEETING.*)

Mayor Mills stated that this item had been withdrawn.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FY20/21 BUDGET PROCESS AND A PUBLIC HEARING TO TAKE PRELIMINARY INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE FY20/21 BUDGET.

Mr. Owens said, "Every year we give the public a chance to come in and give some input on the budget before we develop the budget. We haven't gone to work balancing the budget; we're about \$650,000 apart from balancing the General Fund Budget. The Water & Sewer part is pretty much balanced at this point. If there are any programs or projects you want to get done, we'd like to give you a chance to talk about them."

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 5:40 p.m.

Mr. Neal Briggi, 4 West Henderson Street, said, "I was looking at the Parks and Rec survey that had been done and then the budget and I would encourage you to think of different funding models around the Parks and Rec budget requirements. Look at it as more of an enterprise and ways

of collecting a pot of money. We find ourselves looking at grants every now and then we get a bit flatfooted on how we match that. There are a number of things in that survey that have been recurring year after year on our wish list. Those things are still on the radar screen and I know there are some grants available – coming back to the funding issue and having any kind of a budget cap here. Please look at ways to increase fees and gear some of that money towards accumulation so we could be in a position to have those kinds of matching funds. The other thing I would note is the use of our facilities and our programs by nonresidents is extremely high. It says a lot about what we offer and what this Town is. Yes, residents and property owners should bear a portion but our programs should be self-sustaining. And improving our facilities, we should also ask the larger public to contribute to that through participation. And I would include in this some of the larger events because at the end of the day, the residents do put up with a lot; closures, redirects, crowds, etc. Please look at those as models to consider in letting Parks and Rec be more self-sustaining if not completely. One other point, please consider looking at our dunes. Evan does a good job but we did just take two hits in a row. The dune grass took a hit as well as the sand. I don't know that we have a good thorough understanding of where we have weak spots in our dunes. I would encourage you to get that kind of assessment and put more than \$4,000 in the budget to substantiate the dune work.”

Ms. Sue Bulluck, speaking for the Chamber, said, “I've been on the phone with our board but more so with TDA and with the State with regard to the likely downturn in tourism revenue for next year. The position of the State and the County in terms of their admonitions for travel and tourism, we are suggesting a different approach now that we have travel restrictions on out-of-country and foreign visitors. We might attempt to reach out through TDA in a more positive way so that, indeed, we are encouraging people to come to our small island with relatively low population and relatively low threat. Unfortunately, that will take all of us working together; all three beaches. That ties into the fact that our approach at the Feds may well be wanton by the downtrend in terms of the WRDA expansion and the extension of our monies for TDA. While they look good now at the moment, all of that is likely to change. I ask you to really look at the budget and be prepared for a fill-in. I know we've done a good job in set-aside for the rainy day fund, but the rainy day fund may be here at both the Federal, State and Local levels. Tourism does not look good.”

With no further input from the public, Mayor Mills closed the hearing at 5:47 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF RESTROOMS AT 88 SOUTH LUMINA AVENUE.

Mr. Owens said, “This item is not ready and will be tabled until the next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ON ADJUSTING THE PIERHEAD LINE FROM 205 JASMINE PLACE TO 203 LINDY LANE.

Planning and Parks Director Tony Wilson said, “Mr. Mark Maynard is requesting that the Board of Aldermen extend the pierhead line between 205 Jasmine Place and 203 Lindy Lane. At 107 South Channel Drive, there is an existing boat lift that is currently beyond the pier head line, and at 111 South Channel Drive, there are existing pilings that are over the pierhead line. According to the proposed pierhead line adjustment (Exhibit A Survey), they decided to reduce that from 79.26 feet to 56.3 feet. The request for the pierhead line adjustment, if granted, would benefit the nine properties on South Channel Avenue.” Mr. Wilson reviewed the survey and said, “The blue line is the existing; fifty-five feet is to right here. This is the newly proposed Exhibit A that you have in your packet. This is an overlay; this would be the Jasmine Place where it's going to be extended to here; this would be Lindy Lane. This is the existing here and you see the encroachments here; this is what is proposed so it gets these properties in line there. The request is to consider the pierhead line adjustment as Exhibit A that Mr. Maynard has provided and the survey dated February 5, 2020 Exhibit A. And you have Resolution No. (2020) 2196 to consider.”

Mayor Mills said, “When this was first filtered down to me, there was some interest in a larger extension and after minimal discussion, I think the Applicant decided that he didn’t need quite as much. He really wasn’t seeking to get additional, he was doing a fairly logical thing by drawing from one most outstanding piling of pier to the other, just a straight line and that created a huge area in there. He has agreed to back off of that. I think what we’ve got now is fairly consistent with what we had before except we take in all the outliers and make everyone in conformity. I think it’s a reasonable application and I’m prepared to support it.”

Mayor Pro Tem Miller said, “I’m fine with it, too, but I have a question about the map at Lindy Lane.” Mr. Wilson replied, “This was done by staff; it is not a survey. This line will eventually go back to the other point. If you look at Exhibit A, we did connect those two.” Mayor Pro Tem Miller said, “So that pier will still be out of conformity?” Mr. Wilson replied, “This one right here will be; yes sir.” Alderman Partin asked why we left that one out of conformity. Mr. Wilson replied, “I don’t know why; I think it was a stopping point. You could have gone around the corner.” Mayor Mills said, “I think it was seen as a logical stopping point as opposed to trying redo the entire South Harbor Island.” Alderman Dull said, “After looking at the map and looking at the existing pilings that are already in place, it seems like a housekeeping issue.” Mr. Wilson noted that we have had these requests before in other areas. Alderman DeGroot said, “I believe we have done these in multiple areas around the beach, correct?” Mr. Wilson replied, “We did one last year or the year before in the lollipop. The year before that it may have been around Marina Street and some others.” Alderman DeGroot said it looked like it had been an ongoing problem. Alderman Dull made the motion to approve the pierhead line adjustment as per the survey from Cape Fear Surveying dated February 5, 2020 by adopting Resolution No. (2020) 2196. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Miller and unanimously approved.

CONSIDERATION OF A CONCERT IN THE PARK REQUEST FOR THE UNITED STATES FLEET FORCES BAND TO PERFORM IN WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH ON SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020.

Program Supervisor Katie Ryan said that she had been contacted by an officer in the Navy looking for venues for the United States Fleet Forces Band’s “Uncharted Waters Brass Band” to perform as part of their outreach. She said they wanted to perform on Sunday, June 21, 2020. When asked about the time for the event, Ms. Ryan replied, “We haven’t set a time yet. Probably later in the afternoon.” Mayor Mills said his only concern would be with the event traffic conflicting with beach traffic. Ms. Ryan said we had a military band several years ago and they didn’t bring quite the crowd the Sounds of Summer does. Alderman Dull asked if this was just a one-time thing and Ms. Ryan replied, “Yes.” Mayor Mills asked what costs we would incur. Ms. Ryan said it would just be her staff time. She noted that they were not charging for the event. Alderman DeGroot made the motion to approve the request because he felt it was a great event and it would support our military. Alderman Dull said, “As long as we do it late in the afternoon. I’d say 6:30 p.m.” Mayor Mills said, “I’d say 6:30 p.m. at the earliest so we get as much beach traffic out as we can. The motion was then seconded by Alderman Partin and unanimously approved.

CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION FROM THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FOR A 5K AND FUN RUN (NEW EVENT) ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020 FROM 5:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON (RACE STARTS AT 8:30 AM) IN THE WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARK AND THE LOOP 5K ROUTE.

Ms. Ryan said, “This is a request from the American Cancer Society to have a fun run and walk. It is a new event but the scheduling is outside of the April to September timeframe. It requires Board approval because we would need to close Salisbury Street for the start of the race. They originally wanted to be in the park and have police help them cross the street to go

over to Bluewater. We told them that would be too much so they have coordinated with a shuttle to pick them up and they would just have to go down Salisbury and around. The estimated time depends on their numbers; it may be twenty minutes or it may be thirty minutes.”

Mayor Mills asked where we would be on our Salisbury Street Park project then. Mr. Owens replied, “We should be done with both sides by then. We should be substantially complete by mid-May and totally finished by Memorial Day barring any problems.” Mr. Edes said, “That’s assuming the State of North Carolina is not shut down.”

Mayor Mills said, “We all catch a lot of heat from the residents about events shutting down streets. We, as a Board since at least the last six years, have made the determination that we were going to be awfully persnickety about adding new events. I’m not saying we shouldn’t do this, I’m just putting that out there. And, as pointed out by Mr. Briggi just a few minutes ago, that’s one of the things we need to keep in mind.” Mayor Pro Tem Miller said, “We also turned down events that closed the road based on some other issues. This is a good cause.”

Alderman Partin said, “Do we ask them to pay anything?” Ms. Ryan replied, “Yes. \$600 and a security deposit.” Mayor Mills said it was based on the number of participants. Alderman Dull suggested looking at that pricing during the budget. Mayor Mills said, “We argue about these fees every year. We try to push upwards but then we get push back from other places. So, it’s an ongoing thing.” Following a brief discussion regarding the fact that these events are good for the businesses, Alderman DeGroot made the motion to approve the special event permit. The motion was seconded by Alderman Partin and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND FURTHER DIRECTION ON THE PURCHASE OF A 100-FOOT FIRE APPARATUS AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. (2020) 2194 APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL CONTRACT FOR COOPERATIVE PURCHASING WITH THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (H-GAC).

Mr. Owens said, “We’re moving towards purchasing a ladder truck. If it’s over \$90,000, we have to bid this thing out or go through a purchasing co-op or through the state or some other means like piggyback purchasing. We are requesting that the Board approve the application submittal to join the H-GAC. There is no fee for the application process. We also need to start thinking about how we’re going to fund this apparatus. It’s probably going to be in the \$1.25 Million range. We have \$390,000 in our CIP, so that would leave roughly \$850,000 to fund. We could go out for financing. There would be an RFP process. The down side is that it takes a little while for the loan-closing process. The other possibility would be for us to self-fund. We have a pretty substantial fund balance and a lot of reserves for CIP projects that have been refocused since the major hurricane. I recommend we self-fund it but we could go out for financing as well. After we join H-GAC, we would get a firm price on the apparatus and all of the other stuff that goes along with it and we’ll bring that back to you.”

Mayor Mills said, “The advantage of going with this group is that it has already been bid out so we would save time and effort. It’s not really a money savings per se; it’s time and effort.” Mr. Owens said, “You would hope for money savings because it’s a competitive bid process.” Mayor Mills said, “I would assume there is some sort of contract or Interlocal Agreement.” Mr. Owens said, “The document is in this packet and I will get Mr. Edes to look at it. We’re looking at E-One with an office in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The truck will actually be built in Ocala, Florida.” Following a brief discussion, Mr. Edes said, “A lot of cities and towns are doing this for larger purchases because it’s a bigger pool. I think they’re a useful tool particularly since there’s really no financial obligation at this point.”

Following a brief discussion regarding why the Town needs a hundred-foot ladder truck, Mayor Mills made the motion to adopt Resolution No. (2020) 2194 approving the contract with H-GAC. The motion was seconded by Alderman Partin and unanimously approved.

Mayor Mills said, “Now let’s talk about how we’re going to pay for this thing. Mr. Owens has suggested two possible methods. One is to finance it and one is to self-finance.” Alderman DeGroot asked how much we would save by self-financing. Mr. Owens replied, “Forty to fifty thousand probably. That’s based on two-and-a-half percent interest rate and we may be able to get a little better than that. The down side is if we have a major hurricane, then we don’t have that \$850,000 sitting in the bank to pick up debris. But we do have reserves.” Following a brief discussion, Alderman Dull said, “My personal opinion is that I would get the loan; we can always pay it back. If we don’t get the loan and we spend the money, then we can’t get that money back.” Mayor Pro Tem Miller agreed. Alderman Dull made the motion that we move forward with exploring doing the financing piece of it. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Miller and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. (2020) 2195 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FOR A WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH COASTAL STORM DAMAGE FEASIBILITY STUDY.

Mr. Owens said, “In order to move forward with this, and the Town Attorney has looked at this agreement, we have to approve this agreement to move forward with a three million dollar study that will hopefully get us extended for another fifty years. This will also look at the parameters of the project now; where the project begins and ends and potentially expanding the project if the need is there. We have been using the inlet as a sand source since 1965, so they will probably look at other sand sources. Basically all this says is if the Feds don’t fund this, we will talk about possibly using ROT funds; it’s a parachute in case something happens.” Following a brief discussion, Mayor Mills made the motion to adopt Resolution No. (2020) 2195 approving the agreement between the Town and the Department of the Army for a Wrightsville Beach Coastal Storm Damage Feasibility Study. The motion was seconded by Alderman Dull and unanimously approved.

DIRECTION ON REMOVING THE PIER AT THE END OF MEIER STREET AND CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. (2020) 518-B.

Mr. Owens said, “In 2018, we received a quote from Evans and Sons Contracting, Inc. for \$8,500 to demolish and remove the pier at the end of Meier Street. That quote is still good. I’m seeking consideration of Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 518-B to move forward with the demolition. The money is coming from your reserves.” Mr. Edes said, “There’s no question that Meier Street is a platted, dedicated street that’s been accepted and open to the public. There was some litigation filed over this. In my legal opinion, the component of that litigation related to Meier Street was without merit. There is a case in Oriental, North Carolina with almost identical facts and the Court of Appeals said once a street is dedicated and accepted and open to the public, any portion of it, the entire street is dedicated and belongs to the public. Once it is accepted, you can’t withdraw that dedication. In my legal opinion, we have every right to go forward with this. Incidentally, the litigation was dismissed without prejudice a couple of months ago.” Mr. Owens noted that this had been on a back burner because of the legal issue. Mayor Mills said, “The condition of the pier is dangerous; it’s a safety hazard.” Mr. Owens referenced timing and said, “They’re in Southport so it would be the end of April or May when they get back this way.” Alderman Dull said, “It doesn’t prohibit anybody that has adjacent property to build their own piers on their property with an approved CAMA permit, is that correct?” Mayor Mills replied, “Yes.”

Mr. Sherrard said, “We definitely object to this whole thing.” Mayor Mills said, “Understood. This is not a public hearing but your objection is noted.” Alderman Dull made the motion to adopt Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 518-B. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Miller and unanimously approved.

**DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON THE SALISBURY STREET OCEAN PARK PROJECT.
CONSIDER ADOPTING BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. (2020) 519-B TO PURCHASE TWO
ADDITIONAL PAY STATIONS FOR THE SALISBURY STREET PROJECT.**

Mr. Owens said, “There are a lot of decisions we need to make and some loose ends that need to be tied up. We did meet as an ad hoc committee and some of this stuff was not quite developed as it is now. I want to go over some of these to let you see where we are and get direction. The first one is decorative concrete finishes. There are three components – A, B, and D. Basically, D is where the drop-off is. There’s also A – the little rounded components. And B is everything that fills in. So, there are different types of finishes. We had multiple examples presented to us and this is where we settled. The A component is at the top and that’s more of the circle-type areas. The drop-off site is in the top left – that’s D and that’s basically a finished-type concrete – it’s stained. Then, below is a salt finish that’s a little lighter than either one – but the salt finish didn’t do well. So, what the contractor is proposing is a Keno-stamped; it will have some kind of pattern. The upper right one was a little bit rough on feet so we’re going to go a tad down from what that roughness is. They will probably start that within the next week or two. The next component is internal restroom colors and external colors. We sort of picked the external colors – gray and white like everything else we have in Town. We’re going to meet with Big Sky and look at some of these colors. The wall colors are sort of a cream color and then a sort of taupe color and taupe stall colors. We will run this by Big Sky and will make sure the committee and the Board sees what we pick. Signage: on our front signage – in between the two restroom buildings, there’s an arbor and there’s the Town seal. We met with RAGS, who does a lot of the Town’s signage, and sort of came up with a concept. The main entrance sign is at Lumina. There are three different designs. The gray on the signs look weathered. The grain will stand up and the rest will be sort of compressed. A brief discussion developed regarding signage materials. There was Board consensus that the size of the logo was okay.

Mr. Owens showed other signage for Board discussion. He said, “First, there’s been some discussion about calling the ocean-front facility “Blair Pavilion.” That’s something the Board will have to decide. Second, this is a donation sign that will be for the private donors. We’d have to send something out and they would have to tell us whether they want their name or their company name or nothing at all. Then we would probably give the higher billing to the higher totals. We don’t have a location yet. Alderman Dull suggested putting it on the other side of the main entrance sign because that would be something you would walk up to. Mr. Owens noted two blank walls that could be used as well. Mayor Mills suggested that it could be placed in the breezeway. Following a brief discussion regarding the feasibility of selling bricks, Mr. Owens said, “Moving on. These are the government sponsors that would probably be in close proximity to the public sign. This would be an aluminum-type sign telling who was involved and when it was done. Street furniture concept: we’re still getting quotes on all of this and different options. One or two benches and two bike racks. This would be a dog way-station; there would be four of these around. We need to make decisions on moving forward because they will be done by mid-May. Landscape options: on the west side – mostly live oaks and lower-type shrubs. On the east side is where there are concerns about what we have specked (currently loquats). A brief discussion followed regarding acceptable tree options for the area which would not include palm trees.

Mr. Owens then reviewed the signs and said if the Board was okay with the concepts, we would move forward with those. When he asked about the concept of “Blair Pavilion”, Mayor Mills said, “I would suggest on that, that maybe Alderman Dull approach the private donors that are on the ad hoc committee and run it by them and just make sure they’re good with that.” Alderman Dull said, “We are basically bringing that to you as a recommendation from that committee. So, everybody is already onboard with that from the committee. If you want to give me the list of people that gave the money, I don’t mind calling. What came out of the committee was that it wasn’t just something that Mayor Blair put together but it’s basically recognition for his service to the Town.” Mayor Pro Tem Miller said, “I agree with you and he didn’t ask for it either.” Mayor Mills asked if Alderman Dull would contact a few of the top donors. Mr. Owens said, “If you have any problems with the choices we’ve made with colors and designs, just let me know.

Mr. Owens said, “Next, I’d like for you to consider purchasing two pay stations. We had five total and there are seven in the concept. I’m asking for consideration of Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 519-B coming from reserves to purchase two pay stations. Then, we are also planning a gable on the back side. It would have a pitch with a small logo on it so people can see it when they’re coming off the beach. There will be a change order but I do not expect it to be more than \$3,000.” Alderman Partin made the motion to adopt Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 519-B in the amount of \$20,000 for the purchase of two pay stations. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mills and unanimously approved.

ALDERMAN DULL: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- The Wrightsville Beach Coastal Storm Damage Feasibility Study that Mr. Owens talked about earlier is a big deal for our Town and continuing beach re-nourishment to 2035 and beyond. We asked that they study the whole beach and not just up to the Holiday Inn. There are other homes at risk further up the beach that we thought needed to be part of this study and the Corps and the County thought that made perfect sense. So, we will look at that and we’re going to look at places where we might have some other sand borrow areas. The idea is to try to use good sand on our beaches and not stuff that’s laden with organics.

ALDERMAN DEGROOTE: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- I’d like to reiterate what Sue Bulluck said in her public comments: with everything that happened with the virus – I did speak to one hotel here on the Island and they had quite a few conventions pull out today. So, room occupancy is going to be affected big time.

MAYOR PRO TEM MILLER: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- MPO – D.O.T. continues not to have any money. They’re down to \$270 Million. If you go on their websites, they have put out four renditions of a replacement of the Cape Fear River Bridge, not to be confused with a second or third bridge.

ALDERMAN DEGROOTE: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- TDA has not met since our last Board of Aldermen meeting so nothing to report.

MR. OWENS: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- Monday, we’re having a big meeting with Highland Paving and Chambliss & Rabil at 10:00 a.m. to clean up some things and keep the project moving.

- The Landfill Project was halted. They found materials that they couldn't dispose of and had to go back to the drawing board. They took out the roadway that was in there. We've secured another site potentially. There are two things that we need to consider. 1) Brian (Edes) is working on a temporary construction easement that would go through that parcel and connect into our landfill tract through two pieces of private property owned by the same LLC. We need to approve moving forward with the temporary construction easement and access. 2) We also need to consider a budget adjustment to put in the roadway. It looks like they're going to move forward pretty quickly. I'm asking for consideration of Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 521-B in the amount of \$20,000. The roadway we think is going to be about \$15,000. The roadway is going to stay in. It's going to access from the parking lot over to our lot. The state will probably have everything bid out again and done by the end of March. It was all prefaced with 'we don't know what the world is coming to at this point'. We should get a clean bill of health on that tract and it should be a nice piece of property for future development. Mayor Mills made the motion to adopt Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 521-B to build the road and to accept the temporary construction easement for construction and for ingress and egress. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Miller and unanimously approved.
- The Governor is saying not to have events with over one hundred participants as a precautionary-type thing. The race for next weekend has been cancelled. We have a lot of events scheduled; we're going to have to make a decision. If we cancel an event, then we're hurting businesses potentially. If we don't make the call and somebody gets sick, then the down side is we didn't make the call.

ALDERMAN PARTIN: OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS.

- Update on the Wrightsville Beach license plates. Ms. Ryan said, "They should be in any day. They were sent back to be redone because the image was blurry. That was about three weeks ago.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:55 P.M. BY MOTION OF ALDERMAN PARTIN AND SECOND BY ALDERMAN DEGROOTE.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia J. Holleman
Town Clerk