

MINUTES  
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING  
JUNE 30, 2020

Mayor Mills called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Attendance: Mayor Darryl Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Henry E. Miller III, Alderman Jeff DeGroote and Alderman Zeke Partin; together with Town Manager Timothy W. Owens, Finance Officer Melissa Norton and Administrative Support Assistant Amy Wolf. Department Heads present: Interim Police Chief Ralph Evangelous, Fire Chief Glen Rogers, Public Works Director William Squires and Sanitation and Facilities Superintendent Daniel Keating.

Absent: Alderman Ken Dull and Town Clerk Sylvia J. Holleman.

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. (2020) 527-B:**

- Mrs. Norton gave the Board a summary of the annual budget. She said the Town is overall in a solid place, considering the circumstances that COVID-19 has presented. She noted that Parking was still short, but picking up.
- Mrs. Norton explained that funds would be removed from the Parks Maintenance, Recreation, Planning, Streets, Building Maintenance, and Sanitation Department budgets and then reallocated to the accounts that went over budget (Legal Fees, General Administration, Public Works Administration, Parking, and Fire Department). She said these funds transfers meet the North Carolina requirements for a balanced budget.
- Mayor Mills clarified to the new Board members that they would be voting to take money from the accounts in the 'top section' and using it for the accounts that went over budget.
- Alderman Partin made the motion to adopt Budget Ordinance No. (2020) 527-B to recognize the proposed transfers. The motion was seconded by Alderman DeGroote and approved with a 4-0 vote.

**GENERAL AND DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES:**

- Staff gave the Board an update on the Salisbury Street Project. Following a brief discussion regarding how much money was left in that project fund, Mr. Owens said there was about \$200,000 under a change order budget.
- Interim Police Chief Ralph Evangelous gave the Board an update on the Police Department staffing for the summer and for the upcoming Fourth of July weekend. Alderman Miller asked the Police Department to post on Facebook the positive campaign regarding extra staffing and ask residents to lock their doors and cars. Mayor Mills requested that they keep in mind a few busy traffic spots. Alderman Partin asked about DUI checkpoints for the holiday weekend. Interim Chief Evangelous said he was not aware of a checkpoint near the Town but there would be officers out on boats patrolling. Mayor Mills said some residents had expressed concerns that there was a lack of police presence on the past Saturday which had been very busy everywhere.

- Fire Chief Glen Rogers gave an Ocean Rescue update for the Fourth of July weekend (two lifeguards per stand and an extra person on staff). He offered the Board members the opportunity to ride along in an Ocean Rescue truck and observe. He reiterated that the beach has been very busy. He noted an injury that had occurred this past weekend on the Wilmington side of the Intracoastal Waterway. He said our staff also answered the call which required CPR.
- Mr. Squires gave an update on the public parking lot traffic backups. He suggested that parking lot attendants might help with the Fourth of July holiday weekend. He then reviewed the following: 1) The new bathrooms at the Blair Pavilion will open Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Salisbury project will be finished today; 2) The water usage on the island is slightly high. There hasn't been a lot of rain so the sewer system is in good shape; 3) There have been high chloride levels in the water lately; however, it is safe to drink; 4) The Trolley Stop restrooms have been getting vandalized lately with purposeful flushing of t-shirts; and 5) The Facilities crew will drive on the beach strand if need be to get around traffic for the upcoming Fourth of July weekend.
- Mr. Keating reviewed the cleaning schedule for the upcoming Fourth of July weekend that included: 1) Extra beach strand trash cleaning in the evenings for all three days of the weekend; 2) Facilities crews will visit each bathroom every two hours; and 3) There will be a crew member monitoring litter in public parking lots and trash cans. He noted that some of the businesses lowered their trash service as yet have not raised it to the level it needs to be.
- Mayor Pro Tem Miller asked which restaurants were open and which were closed. Mayor Mills asked how this has been enforced and how the police were getting the large crowds to spread out. Mr. Owens said he had proactively contacted the restaurants that would be open. Interim Chief Evangelous explained what the police officers can and cannot enforce regarding masks and restaurant occupancy. He then described the early education that had already occurred.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:59 A.M. by Mayor Mills.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia J. Holleman  
Town Clerk

*(From notes submitted by Amy Wolf, Administrative Support Assistant)*