

**Town Council Minutes
Morehead City, North Carolina**

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

The Honorable Council of the Town of Morehead City met in regular session on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., in the Municipal Building Auditorium at 202 South 8th Street, Morehead City, North Carolina. Those in attendance were:

MAYOR:	Gerald A. Jones, Jr.
MAYOR PRO-TEM:	Demus L. Thompson
COUNCILMEN:	George W. Ballou Paul W. Cordova [Absent, excused] David Horton John F. Nelson
CITY MANAGER:	R. Randy Martin
CITY CLERK:	Jeanne M. Giblin
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:	Nelson Taylor, III, Derek Taylor, Michael Thomas
OTHERS:	Leigh Blackwell; Jack Garvey; Kitty Brawley; Mark Hibbs, Reporter, THE CARTERET NEWS TIMES; Deana Steed; Cassie Steed; Dean Steed; David W. Styron; Ronetta Gaskill; Makye Summers; Scott Summers, Daniel Brewster; Bradley Tinklepough; Nick Antonelli; Harvey Walker; Captain Richard Abell; David Robertson; Planning Director Linda Staab; Pastor David Jones; Ruth Bailey; Marjorie Lindsay; David Lindsay; Susan Griffith; Jeanette Youngblood; Evelyn DuBois; Lenzie Griffin; Nina Williams; Martha Bruno; Anne Lindsay; Lynn Greer-Senich; Terrance A. Senich; Ginny Darnell; Michael Osborn; Sally Anger; Tom Kies; Bill Taylor and several others.

I. Regular Meeting, Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Ballou MOVED, seconded by Councilman Thompson, and unanimously to excuse Councilman Cordova who was absent due to illness.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Reverend David Jones of Franklin Memorial United Methodist Church in Morehead City gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Special Presentations:

II.A. Resolution of Sympathy 2011-30 in Remembrance of Laura Virginia Lindsay Drewyor

The City wishes to express its condolences to the family of Laura Drewyor who passed away on Sunday, May 8th, 2011. Laura served the Town of Morehead City since 2001, as an In-City Member of the Morehead City Board of Adjustment. In addition, Laura was very instrumental in the continuing beautification of the Webb Memorial Library Garden. She will be well remembered for her dedication to the duties of her office and for her concern for the citizens of Morehead City. Mayor Jones presented the Resolution of Sympathy to her family.

II.B. Third Annual Mission Carteret Fall Festival – Saturday, October 29th at 5:00 p.m., Parks & Recreation Center Ballfields, 1600 Fisher Street

This is the third year that area churches have banded together to sponsor this activity for the whole community. The venue is the fenced ballfields behind the Parks & Recreation Center at 1600 Fisher Street and is free and open to the public. Pastor David Jones of the Franklin Memorial United Methodist Church gave a brief presentation. He stated that the importance of the festival was that 13 to 14 churches will gather together to offer an alternative to Halloween to the young and old of Morehead City. He estimated that over 3,000 people attended last year and they gave away approximately 2,000 hot dogs. On behalf of the many citizens attending, the Council thanked Pastor Jones and his volunteers for the event.

III. Adoption of the CONSENT AGENDA

III.A. Approval of Minutes: Tuesday, August 9, 2011, Regular Meeting

Approved the minutes of Tuesday, August 9, 2011, Regular Meeting and dispensed with the reading.

III.B. Approve the Requests for Release of Overpayment of Ad Valorem Taxes for August 2011, in the amount of \$936.17; and Accept the Tax Collector and Finance Director Reports for August 2011

Approved the requests for release of overpayment of ad valorem taxes for August 2011, in the amount of \$936.17; and accepted the Tax Collector and Finance Director Reports for August 2011.

III.C. Adopt Resolution of Sympathy 2011-30 in Remembrance of Laura Drewyor

Adopted Resolution of Sympathy 2011-30 in Remembrance of Laura Drewyor, In-City Member of the Board of Adjustment. [Resolution 2011-30 is attached to and made a part of these minutes]

III.D. Adopt Resolution 2011-31 Endorsing the Third Annual “Mission Carteret” Fall Festival on Saturday, October 29, 2011, on the Morehead City Parks & Recreation Center Ballfields

Adopted Resolution 2011-31 Endorsing the Third Annual “Mission Carteret” Fall Festival on Saturday, October 29, 2011, on the Morehead City Parks & Recreation Center Ballfields at 1600 Fisher Street. [Resolution 2011-31 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.]

III.E. Voluntary Contiguous Annexation Request by Larry Styron for 5101 Business Drive, PIN #6356-0898-7284-000 –Portion Thereof, 11.99 acres, Zoned IP [Port /Industrial] District, Adopt Resolution 2011-32 Directing the Clerk to Investigate the Petition and Resolution 2011-33 Setting the Date of the Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at 5:30 p.m.

The property under consideration for annexation, PIN #6356-0898-7284-000 – portion thereof, is contiguous to the present City limits, contains approximately 11.99 acres and is currently zoned IP [Port Industrial] District. The site in question is not part of a subdivision, and therefore, will not fragment a subdivision. The current tax value of the property is estimated to be \$254,524.60. Based on a 28.5 cent tax rate, \$722.55 in tax revenues would be generated. Water and sewer will be accessed from Business Drive. All costs associated with extending water/sewer service to the newly annexed property will be the responsibility of the owner.

Adopted Resolution 2011-32 Directing the Clerk to Investigate the Petition and Resolution 2011-33 Setting the Date of the Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. for the voluntary contiguous annexation requested by Larry Styron for 5101 Business Drive. [Resolutions 2011-32 and 2011-33 are attached to and made a part of these minutes.]

III.F. Approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Progress Report

The Annual Progress Report for Morehead City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan was presented. The City must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible for federal disaster funding following a hurricane or other natural disaster. As part of the plan, it is necessary for the Council to receive and approve the annual progress report during a public meeting to remain in good standing for federal disaster funding.

Approved the Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Progress Report for the Town of Morehead City.

Councilman Nelson MOVED, seconded by Councilman Thompson, and carried unanimously, [Councilman Cordova excused] to adopt the CONSENT AGENDA in one [1] motion.

IV. Citizen Requests/Comments:

Mayor Jones distributed an e-mail from Eric Broyles dated September 13, 2011, to the Councilmembers.

David Styron of 1208 Shackleford Street addressed the Council regarding an ongoing confrontation in the neighborhood. He requested that he be able to place landscaping in the right-of-way in front of his home to prevent the parking of cars in that area. He also requested that the City take measures to let all residents know that the alleys and access to public waters are for the use of all the citizens and are not private areas.

Manager Martin and Mayor Jones both suggested that this item be brought before either the Public Safety and/or Public Works Committees of the Council for further review.

Ginny Darnell of 1211 Shepard Street stated that many individuals are ignorant of the status of alleys in Morehead City and the policy that alleys should remain open and clear for all to have public access.

V. City Manager's Report:

Hurricane Irene:

Manager Martin reported to the Council that the City has been advised that 75 percent of the eligible costs to the City associated with Hurricane Irene will be reimbursed by FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] with the State of North Carolina reimbursing the remaining 25 percent. He continued that the City has made one complete sweep of all the streets for the cleanup of debris. A second phase is underway and he encouraged all residents to place the debris at the curb for pickup as soon as possible as the county will be closing the debris site on September 30th. He anticipated the total costs associated with Hurricane Irene will be approximately \$350,000 and that some will be paid by insurance before the federal and state reimbursement will be accessed.

Bids for Fire/EMS Station No. #2 Update:

Manager Martin reported that despite delays due to the hurricane impacts, the City staff and the architect are reviewing the bids and costs to develop potential change orders to reduce the amount of funds necessary for award of the bid contract. The only risk with the delay is the contractor being willing to fulfill the bid.

Morehead City/Beaufort ETJ [Extraterritorial Jurisdiction] Area Update:

Manager Martin reported that the Carteret County Commissioners have informally indicated a willingness to reconsider the Morehead City request for extraterritorial jurisdiction on portions of the Causeway and Radio Island. A review of emergency services response responsibilities in the affected area will be undertaken as part of the process.

VI. Council Requests/Comments:

Councilman Thompson expressed his distress with the alley and right-of-way situation on Shackleford Street.

Councilman Ballou reminded everyone of the North Carolina Seafood Festival [NCSF] on September 30th to October 2nd. For the first time the Festival will open on Friday and he invited everyone down to the Morehead City Waterfront.

Councilman Nelson commended the City on the exceptional job done by the City in getting back to normalcy after Hurricane Irene especially the debris pickup efforts.

Councilman Horton requested an update on the new water plant and the status of the Water/Sewer Fund being paid back the borrowed funds for the purchase of the Jib property.

Manager Martin reported that the testing of the equipment on the water plant is being finalized and that the plant has been producing the improved treated water intermittently as the staff becomes familiar with the equipment and process. The system should be running continuously very soon. Manager Martin also stated that the interfund loan has been repaid for the City share of the Jib property purchase.

Mayor Jones commented that a goal of the City was to have soft water throughout Morehead City. He invited all to attend the Mission Carteret Fall Festival on October 29th at 5:00 p.m., at the Parks & Recreation Center Ballfield at 1600 Fisher Street.

Upon a question from Councilman Horton, Manager Martin advised that the state sales tax allocation received by Morehead City was higher than budgeted and that many took advantage of the tax discount by paying ad valorem taxes before August 31st as the percentage of tax collected to date was 48.99 percent which was higher than last year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Gerald A. Jones, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Jeanne M. Giblin, City Clerk