

PINE KNOLL SHORES COMMISSIONERS MEETING

By Paige Gillespie

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on August 10 at 6 p.m. at town hall. There were more than 50 members of the public in attendance. All commissioners were present.

Mayor Jones announced that town hall will be closed on September 5 for Labor Day.

Mayor Jones also presented a check for \$68,000 to Hope for the Warriors. Representing Hope for the Warriors, Michelle Rademacher, Senior Director for Community Engagement, from Camp Lejeune, and Erin Thompson, Community Relations Coordinator, from Washington, D.C., accepted the check and thanked the town for its support. Mayor Jones acknowledged everyone's hard work with this very successful event and is looking forward to celebrating the event's 10-year anniversary next year.

Mayor Jones presented a plaque and a shirt to Team Member of the Quarter Rich Donoghue and thanked him for his service to the town.

Several people spoke during both public comment sessions regarding their concerns about recent helicopter landings in the community.

Town Manager Brian Kramer's report covered a variety of items. He reported that he held a conference call with Moffatt Nichol, Scott Sherrill, Greg Rudolph and Johnny Martin to discuss the "hot spots" that came out of the release of the FIRM maps. The hot spots in question are the Loblolly loop, the oceanfront and the sound side of Beacon's Reach. Moffatt Nichol has met with the NC Division of Public Safety (DPS) to determine if any changes will be applied prior to the start of the 90-day appeal window. He is looking into whether the town may appeal on behalf of citizens.

Mr. Kramer also reported that the town will advertise for three weeks in the *Carteret County News-Times* for bids on the Phase III sidewalk, with bidding opening on September 9. He is looking for construction to be completed before Thanksgiving.

The Finance Committee has been looking into investment strategies, but will wait to see what happens with interest rates before moving forward.

Mr. Kramer has met with Reefstone and Bermuda Green HOA presidents regarding the second stormwater line into the golf course ponds. Both are very interested in this and

would like to have it in place by summer 2017, but no agreement has been made with the country club. He has asked that they consider a three-way split to cover the \$25,000 cost.

Mr. Kramer noted that another accident has occurred at the Hampton Inn crosswalk. With no NCDOT grant money for new lights and a \$12,000 cost per crossing, he has asked the Hampton Inn to split this cost with the town. He will recommend funding for this crosswalk next month.

Mr. Kramer is working on an amended lease for the Verizon tower on Roosevelt Boulevard. The board will need to approve this at the next meeting.

Mr. Kramer ended his report with several quick updates:

- The town is still waiting for approval of the septic design on the Knollwood property, and hopes to close within the month.
- Town Planner Scott Sherrill inspected all bulkheads, and 30 letters were sent out to affected properties.
- The Emerald Isle appeal has been filed. Arguments should take place in the fall with a decision in the 2017 winter/spring time frame.
- Sand survey results were to be presented by Rudi Rudolph at the August Beach Commission meeting.
- The town may work with Bogue Pines on their dredging project this winter.
- The town is eligible and will apply for a \$50,000 grant to fund the town's half of the western water connection with Bogue Banks Water.

Assistant Town Manager/Finance Officer Julie Anderson reported that the auditor finished on August 10 and everything looked good. A sum of \$330,000 was added to the general fund, but \$7,000 would be needed to pay for finishing the repairs to the public safety building. She noted that tax bills would be sent out soon.

Fire Chief Baker reported that OSHA would be in town during the week of August 8 for the final STAR certification visit.

Building Inspector Jim Taylor reported that 90 permits were issued for an estimated construction cost of \$878,000, and that 162 inspections were performed.

Police Chief Ryan Thompson acknowledged the hard work of the Volunteers in Police Service and the efforts of Fire Chief Jason Baker and Public Services Director Sonny Cunningham with OSHA.

Intern Alex Gottschalk reported that NCDOT installed a permanent lid over the drainage area at Oakleaf Drive and Highway 58. He planned to submit his report on the sea level rise before leaving later in the week to return to classes at UNC. He extended a sincere thank you to the town staff for their efforts in making his internship successful.

Human Resource Officer Natalie Gible reported that the Administrative Committee has drawn up tuition reimbursement policy changes and recommended that the board accept these changes.

Public Services Director Sonny Cunningham reported that the new stormwater pumps have arrived and are operational, and that he has been working with OSHA on some house-keeping issues. The mosquito population is under control due, in part, to the recent dry weather. He reported that he expected the water leak on Oakleaf Drive to be fixed later in the week.

Commissioner Fred Fulcher commended the staff for their hard work on the OSHA STAR program.

A public hearing was held on the Oceanfront Development Ordinance. The ordinance was approved unanimously.

Under unfinished business, the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Fire Inspections Agreement with Indian Beach was approved unanimously. A discussion regarding park usage fees ended with no decision.

Under new business, the Tuition Reimbursement Policy was approved unanimously.

Mr. Kramer reported that he had met with the town resident who has been landing a helicopter on his property. The resident requested that he be allowed to speak to the board at the September meeting. Mr. Kramer noted that there is nothing in the town code to forbid the helicopter landings. After much discussion, the board voted unanimously to approve a moratorium on these landings until the October board meeting. This moratorium makes landing a helicopter in town limits a criminal offense and also carries a \$500 fine.

Mr. Sherrill presented an overview of the Visual Preference Survey results.

Fleet policy changes were approved unanimously.

The next regular Board of Commissioners meeting will be held Wednesday, September 14, at 6 p.m. at town hall.

The full minutes of Board of Commissioners meetings are included in the agenda packets that are publicly available through the calendar on the town website (townofpks.com) and are sent out via email prior to the next month's regular board meeting. If you have questions about access to the minutes, contact Town Clerk Sarah Williams at 247-4353, ext. 13.

Save the Date

Join us for

THIRD THURSDAY FORUM AT FOUR

The Road Scholar and other programs
offered at the Trinity Center

with

Mindy Furrer
Trinity Center Education Director

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 4 P.M.

at

PINE KNOLL SHORES TOWN HALL

Free and Sponsored by the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee

NEXT THIRD THURSDAY FORUM AT FOUR:
OCTOBER 20