

PINE KNOLL SHORES COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

By Sarah Williams

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on December 13 at town hall at 6 p.m. All commissioners were present.

After the call to order and pledge of allegiance, outgoing board member Fred Fulcher was recognized. Commissioner Clark Edwards thanked him for his time and said that his engineering background had been immeasurably valuable. He and his wife Sara were presented with a poinsettia and commemorative tray thanking him for his service. Newly elected commissioners John Brodman, Larry Corsello and Bill Knecht were sworn in. Commissioner Brodman nominated Commissioner Edwards as mayor pro tem. The board voted unanimously for approval and Commissioner Edwards was sworn in.

Mayor pro tem Edwards made several announcements regarding scheduling for upcoming events.

During the public comment session, two people spoke.

Town Manager Brian Kramer reported on several items:

- Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative (CCEC) is requesting an amendment to the contract to deal with false alarms. Manager Kramer feels that this is premature and will attend their board meeting to discuss it. They are requesting funds to help with their software.
- The NC Rate Bureau is requesting an 80% increase for the town. Manager Kramer will be drafting a letter in opposition and urging residents to do the same.
- The town is receiving bids for tree trimming in town. Manager Kramer has notified residents of the work that will be done. A bid was to be chosen in mid-December.
- Two road bores will be done at 193 Salter Path Road and 215 Salter Path Road this winter to equalize water pressure from both sides of Highway 58—and will also allow fire hydrants on the south side of the highway. Affected property owners will be notified.
- Two duck blinds were installed this past fall. The discharge of firearms in the town's jurisdiction is not allowed, but the construction of structures is not prohibited. Manager Kramer is recommending that the town attorney help draft a local bill for the 2018 session that would allow Pine Knoll Shores to remove unpermitted structures in the public trust waters.
- One of the HVAC units at the public safety building has quit working, and will need to be replaced or repaired.
- The digital version of the water system map is ready to be downloaded/delivered.
- The crosswalk lights were expected to be installed by the end of December.

Public Services Director Sonny Cunningham reported that he is working on installing water meters.

Fire Chief Jason Baker made a couple of announcements for Police Chief Thompson (who was unable to attend the meeting): the pet clinic on December 2 treated about 30 animals, and he reminded citizens to sign up for residential security checks if they were leaving for the holidays.

Chief Baker reminded everyone to check their fire alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, and to be careful running extension cords during the holiday season.

Assistant Town Manager Julie Anderson said that the Finance Committee would be meeting in January to look at options for the designated reserve and to make a recommendation to the board. As part of their Christmas celebration, town staff expected to donate food items toward a lunch that they intended to prepare and distribute to about 15 individuals in town. She also announced that town hall will be closed on January 1 for New Year's Day.

Town Planner Kevin Reed reported he will be attending training for the local census update, he is working with the permitting software vendor to go live, and the Maritime Woods subdivision has presented a sketch design plan that shows 22 possible lots.

There was a public hearing for the tree ordinance.

Under unfinished business, the board moved to adopt the tree ordinance with the amendments.

Under new business, a public hearing was called for regarding the dock ordinance. A solid waste amendment was passed that all trash bags must be in containers. This should help with litter and wildlife. A budget amendment to replace the HVAC at the public safety building and to pay for the trimming project was passed.

No one signed up to speak for the second public comment session.

The board went into closed session to discuss property acquisition.

The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 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.

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	4		8	7				1
	2		3	1				
								8
9	7	8	2					
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6		5			2	9		
		7	1				3	

January Sudoku

See page 19 for solution.



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