

PINE KNOLL SHORES COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

By Paige Gillespie

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on January 9 at town hall. All commissioners were present.

There were 42 members of the public present, and one person attended via webinar.

During the public comment session, Amry Cox spoke about 2019: Year of the Tree.

The Consent Agenda, consisting of minutes from past meetings and tax discoveries and releases, was unanimously approved.

Town Manager Brian Kramer reported on several items:

- He met with FEMA on January 7 to discuss post-storm items. The police trailer has been ordered and delivery was expected in about three weeks. FEMA will fund replacing 300 cubic yards of sand at the Iron Steamer beach access.
- Town Planner Kevin Reed met with the NC League of Municipalities insurance adjuster. The original estimate of \$22K to replace the roof at the public safety building was increased to \$106K. Negotiations continue over the building's contents.
- A letter of interest in grant funds was submitted to the NC Department of Public Safety in late December. Jurisdictions were to be notified in mid-January of funds' availability.
- Adjustments are being made to the Stormwater Management Phase II preliminary plans, and NC Coastal Federation will submit a grant application for Phase II to the Clean Water Trust on the town's behalf.
- The town will begin work on the east end swales this winter/spring. In the spring, the identification process for stormwater retrofit sites will also begin.
- Eight homeowners expressed interest in house raising. The county Planning Department is submitting a request for this project to NC Department of Public Safety for properties throughout the county.
- Mr. Kramer, Town Clerk Sarah Williams and Commissioner Clark Edwards will visit Kure Beach to learn about their dune infiltration stormwater discharge system.
- The water table remains above five feet.
- The town rejected the one bid it received for the water bores and fire hydrants as part of the Water Enterprise Fund Capital Improvement Plan. Bids were to be reopened in late January.
- Eastern Carolina Council is nearing completion of data entry on the water asset management project and will brief staff on February-1.
- NCDOT will repair the drain line on Arborvitae Drive.
- Ron Pearson has agreed to become the chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Assistant Town Manager and Finance Officer Julie Anderson reported that tax collections are a little behind the same time last year. The Carteret County Tax Office sent a notice that if there was damage to real property during Hurricane Florence that was not restored to pre-hurricane conditions by January 1, 2019, the property owner may be entitled to a reduction in taxable value.

Kevin Reed reported that the Community Appearance Commission and Planning Board Stormwater/Tree Subcommittee were to meet on January 31 to hear a presentation from Lauren Kolodij, Deputy Director of the NC Coastal Federation. He also gave the building inspector's report: 29 inspections were performed, 78 permits were issued at a value of \$6,186,959, and fees generated by these permits totaled \$5,166.80.

Public Services Director Sonny Cunningham reported that pumping on the east side of town before rain events is working. There has been no flooding since the town has been proactively pumping the stormwater.

Police Chief Ryan Thompson reported that officers issued 166 speeding citations

in 2018, and that 30.6% of all citations were for speeding. There was an 84.4% increase in speed enforcement in 2018 compared to 2017. Officers received 2,003 hours of training in 2018, a 17.8% increase over 2017 despite several months of low or no training due to Hurricane Florence.

Fire Chief Jason Baker reported that the new ambulance is ready to be delivered, and that he was scheduled to go to Garner on January 30 for a final review and to arrange a delivery date.

Town Clerk Sarah Williams reported that the Watershed Restoration Plan has been submitted to the state. The Age-Friendly Advisory Committee met with Lee Padrick at their December meeting and is planning to launch a survey in February to identify transportation needs and work with CCATS. The committee is asking for a line item in next year's budget.

A public hearing was held regarding the major landscape review process. Six people spoke and one letter was read, all against the proposed ordinance change.

Under unfinished business, after much discussion and a presentation by Kevin Reed on the major landscape review process, the board tabled the issue. They agreed to meet with the Planning Board on January 23 to discuss and clarify issues with the proposed changes.

A debt reimbursement resolution was passed unanimously to pay for the new ambulance.

New tax collector Erica Reed was introduced to the board, which charged her with her new duties.

During the second public comment session, one person spoke.

Commissioner John Brodman announced his resignation as of January 31. Alicia Durham was chosen to finish out Mr. Brodman's term of office; she will be sworn in at the off-site meeting in February.

The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be the annual off-site retreat to be held February 7-8 at the Trinity Center

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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