

MINUTES
OAK ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARINGS & REGULAR MEETING
June 11, 2019 – 6 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - OAK ISLAND TOWN HALL

Present: Mayor Cin Brochure, Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff, Council members John W. Bach, Sheila M. Bell, Charlie K. Blalock and Loman Scott, Town Manager David Kelly, Town Clerk Lisa P. Stites, MMC, and Town Attorney Brian Edes.

Mayor Brochure called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Councilor Blalock gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING I: The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear citizens' comments on the proposed FY 2019-20 budget.

Dara Royal, 216 NE 47th Street: Ms. Royal said she wanted to speak on the budget in relation to what the County is doing. She said the County is keeping the same tax rate, because as was explained in the Pilot, there are general obligation bonds the votes approved four years ago that have debt service to be paid and that was a good argument for keeping that tax rate. She said that what that will do to Oak Island property owners is that last year, the County billed us around \$13.5 million and that this year they will bill us \$17 million, another \$3.5 million coming out of the pockets of Oak Island property owners. She said in that context, it would make sense to go revenue neutral with the budget. She said the revenue neutral budget for the general fund and the sand tax is \$25.18 cents and the proposed budget asks for 29 cents, which is a 16 percent increase over last year. Ms. Royal said that 24 cents was a sufficient tax rate for the general fund and that the sand tax could be dropped this year because there is sufficient money in fund balances for everything that is proposed with the FEMA projects, and to pay Moffatt & Nicol and still have the 25 percent emergency fund balance according to our policy. She said in the April financial report, \$18 million was sitting in the bank right now, and at the end of the fiscal year this summer when the books are closed out, if things go according to how things have been going the past few years, a conservative estimate would be to add another half million to that, so that's \$19 million we have before the budget. Ms. Royal said the projected needs we have for the Hurricane Florence FEMA project, the Sea Turtle project, Moffatt & Nichol engineering and that 25 percent cushion is \$19 million, so you really don't need any more money. She said that 24 cents would cover the general fund budget as it was proposed just shy of about \$50,000, which could easily be balanced by increasing some of the more conservative revenue projections. Ms. Royal said that next year's budget also proposes another \$1.7 million in accommodations tax, so there was plenty of money to do what needed to be done going forward with a flat 24-cent rate and she encouraged Council to consider that.

Councilor Bell made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING I ACTION: Council took action under New Business.

PUBLIC HEARING II: The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizens' comments on a text amendment to modify the text in the Unified Development Ordinance Article 10, Part IV – Signage Regulations; to regulate signage standards for the airport. There were no comments.

PUBLIC HEARING II ACTION: Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to table the item to next month (July 9). Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Following discussion later in the meeting with the Town Attorney, the following additional motions were

made: Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to “untable” the item. Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to continue the item to the July 9 meeting. Councilor Bach seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING III (6:10 p.m.): The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizens’ comments on a text amendment to modify the text in the Oak Island Code of Ordinances; Nuisance Ordinance Sections 4-1, 4-15, and the fee schedule; to permit hens in Oak Island.

Katie Vinson, 2902 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Vinson asked Council to allow pet chickens on the island. She said that would be beneficial to town. She said she recently visited a chicken and coop show in Raleigh, which brought visitors to the area and raised funds for a good cause. Ms. Vinson said that many other communities allow chickens. She said chickens are maintained in a coop, where their waste is isolated and the bedding can easily be changed and properly disposed of. She said that her neighbors would not know that she had chickens if she hadn’t told them. She said that the chickens were an important part of her family and she asked Council to approve the ordinance.

Sharon Vinson, 2902 E. Yacht Drive; Ms. Vinson thanked Council and the citizens for taking the time to consider allowing chickens as pets. She said that the current ordinances were in place to prohibit keeping livestock in residential areas. Ms. Vinson said they were not trying to wage a war but to preserve her daughter’s right to keep her pets. She said that many cities allow people to keep chickens, including Raleigh, Apex, Cary and Wilmington. She said that pet chickens do not cause water pollution. They protect gardens, and eat bugs, which reduces the need for pest control. She also said they are great pets. She asked Council to move on to other issues, such as preserving and cleaning the beaches, and saving trees and sea turtles.

Kelly Vinson, 2902 E. Yacht Drive: Mr. Vinson said that he listened to the comments made at other meetings and heard some things that are not correct. He said that chickens were not causing water pollution. He asked how many times people saw someone leave the beach to find a restroom and said that people should consider what they were swimming in. Mr. Vinson said that chickens cause less destruction and make less noise than most people’s dogs and cats. He said his daughter had brittle bone disease and this was one of the activities she can do that brings her joy. He said that anyone concerned about the smell could stop by their house and see for themselves. He said he was disappointed in some of the ignorance that has been shown.

Leslie Angier, 208 NE 39th Street: Ms. Angier said she echoed Kelly’s statement regarding chickens. Ms. Angier said they make fantastic pets, they have funny little personalities and have better manners than her dogs do. She said they provide eggs and are low maintenance. Their area can easily be kept clean; they will clear vegetable beds of all pests. She said their care is minimal. She asked Council for their support and said the benefits outweighed the negatives.

Glenn Baker, 110 NE 60th Street: Mr. Baker said that Boiling Spring Lakes had turned down proposed ordinances to allow chickens. He said he had been seeing a disturbing pattern with the Town not enforcing existing ordinances yet wanting to add more. He gave the following examples: growth of weeds and grass, junk vehicles, refuse on developed and undeveloped property, unsanitary areas of animals. Mr. Baker said that he didn’t know what had happened to the Mayor’s idea of allowing people to submit pictures of code violations, but he hoped that would be implemented. He said he was against chickens being in the town limits. He said this was a beach town and that he has heard it called “ghetto island.” Mr. Baker said that the violations fell under the direction of Jake Vares, the Planning and Zoning Administrator, to fix. He said he was incredulous when he saw in the newspaper that Mr. Vares had voted

and said he was going to change the ordinances because he was in favor of it. He said that he didn't think that a member of the planning department should even be quoted because he should be anonymous. Mr. Baker said that the Town has too many issues with enforcing current ordinances to consider allowing chickens in town limits. If Oak Island wants to be considered a family-friendly community that is progressive, the Town needs to seriously start enforcing the existing ordinances.

Carolina Candelaria, 301 NE 42nd Street, written comments provided as follows: Thank you for taking the time to read my comments as I am unable to attend the council meeting. I strongly support the modification in the towns Ordinance that would allow up to 10 hens for private use. There is nothing more healthy and nutritious than your own home grown eggs. This modified ordinance ensures the safe and humane treatment of the animals, who can then be lovingly cared for by individual families on private property. In giving us this opportunity to raise our own chickens for eggs, you also give us the choice to stop supporting huge factory farms, where just this week animal rights activists found animals providing eggs to Amazon and Whole foods and all major grocery chains are still being mistreated, warehoused in battery cages and subjected to cruel and inhumane conditions. The only way to be sure of proper treatment is to raise the hens yourself. Thanks for supporting me and other individual Oak Islanders efforts to become more self-sufficient and sustainable in growing our own nutritious food.

Councilor Bell made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:23 p.m. Councilor Scott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING III ACTION: Councilor Blalock said that he has had a different time with this. **Councilor Blalock made a motion to table this item and bring it up at another time after reconsideration. Councilor Scott seconded the motion.** Councilor Bach said that the issue should be addressed rather than tabled. He said that the ordinance would be inconsistent with the vision the Town has as a community and this would start a slippery slope to allowing other exceptions going forward. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that he had asked for an ordinance to address any other animals that would be acceptable too so that we don't have to go through this every time someone wants another kind of animal. Councilor Bell said the ordinance states no livestock and she didn't think they should ask staff to write another ordinance if they were not in favor of allowing livestock. **The motion passed 3-2 with Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff and Councilors Scott and Blalock in favor and Councilor Bell and Councilor Bach opposed. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to bring back a revised ordinance for the July meeting (one that also addressed pets, domesticated animals, livestock, etc.). Councilor Scott seconded the motion and it passed 4-1 with Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff and Councilors Bach, Blalock, and Scott in favor and Councilor Bell opposed.**

PUBLIC HEARING IV (6:32 p.m.): The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizens' comments on a text amendment to modify the text in the Oak Island Code of Ordinances; Section 7.8 Fences; to permit six-foot tall fences on some parts in some areas of ocean front properties between SE 58th and SE 74th Street. There were no comments. **Councilor Bell made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m. Councilor Bach seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING IV ACTION: Mr. Vares said there was a map included that showed what it would look like. The ordinance amendment would allow a 6-foot fence on oceanfront lots between East 74th and 58th Streets; the fence could be 6-foot 250 feet from the vegetation line, but not father forward than the front of the house. Councilor Bach said that in his point of view, this question was asked and answered with the Board of Adjustment ruling. He said he saw no reason to change it for one individual. **Councilor Scott made a motion to deny the text amendment. Councilor Bach seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING V (6:35 p.m.): The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive citizens' comments on a text amendment to modify the text in the Oak Island Code of Ordinances; Section 18-669. - Standards for limited single and two-family residential development and Section 18-663. - Applications for approval, and Article 8 – Zoning District & Development Standards; to limit the permissible impervious surface percentage for new residential development to 45 percent.

Dara Royal, 216 NE 47th Street: Ms. Royal said that once again, an Oak Island Town Council has an opportunity to limit impervious surface on a residential lot. She said that there had been long periods of time in the Town's history when the Planning Board would not even send a proposal to Council for consideration. Previous versions that have made it to Council were doomed from the start for a variety of reasons; a proposal considered and rightly rejected in 2016 was a prime example. She encouraged Council to take action tonight to adopt the ordinance as presented. Ms. Royal said that a 45 percent cap does little more than preserve the status quo on new development for the time being and that future redevelopment needed to be considered at some point, and the sooner the better. She said that a significant amount of existing, older residential development that has impervious surface in the range of 20-25 percent will be torn down and redeveloped over the next several years. She asked Council to imagine doubling the impervious surfaces on even half of those properties. Placing a 45 percent cap on impervious surface tonight would be better than nothing but it would not be sufficient going forward. She said that sometimes less is more.

Kevin Tittle, 134 NE 3rd Street: Mr. Tittle said he opposed the ordinance. He said that existing development would be affected if something had to be replaced. He said he didn't think it was right that people could lose things they already own, such as a shed. Mr. Tittle said he is a builder, but that he was following all the rules in building within the allowed footprint. He said he didn't understand why we needed to add something else to restrict what we do on our own properties. He said the Town was becoming more like an HOA where permission was needed to do anything on private property.

Betty Hupp, 7916 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Hupp said allowing 45 percent was a good idea, if it wasn't too little or too late. She said that allowing swimming pools to be counted as pervious surface negates the whole idea. She said that the top of a swimming pool may be pervious, but the bottom had better be impervious. Making swimming pools part of the 45 percent and not the 55 percent would help us we would return to the 3-bedroom, 2-bath houses the sewer system was built for and the lots were laid out for.

Carolina Candelaria, 301 NE 42nd Street, written comments provided as follows: I love Oak Island and have lived here for 25 years. Thanks for your time in reading my comments supporting the proposed changes to limit the building area to 45 percent or less for new construction. I fully support our planning board's wise recommendations. I so appreciate all their efforts and your support of requiring all new construction hardscape to have full French drain systems, down spouts etc. to handle all drainage from any built on areas. I also appreciate VERY much your support in implementing the boards recommended changes to working proactively. Not allowing indiscriminate new construction w/o proper planning or drainage to erode the land is integral in preserving and improving the current exposed soil, and vegetation trees and wetlands which absorb flood waters. As is done in Southport and many other towns affected by climate change, we can encourage mulch and pine straw in all new driveways and limiting impervious surfaces as much as possible. THANK YOU for supporting efforts to plant trees and help limit hardscape and indiscriminate construction. You will see that our grandkids can see Oak Island as we do now. Not looking like Holden Beach!

Councilor Bell made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:44 p.m. Councilor Blalock second the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING V ACTION: Councilor Bach asked if there were no impervious surface controls; Development Services Director Steve Edwards said that there was no maximum for Built Upon Area (BUA), not that there weren't any controls in place. Councilor Bach asked about the data provided, saying in effect, the outliers are small, and he wondered if 40 percent would be a more desirable target, or 38 percent, or a range. Mr. Edwards said they were trying to maintain what the building trends are. Councilor Bach said he thought this was a step in the right direction but thought they could use a different target number. He also said the redevelopment section of the ordinance should be re-examined. Mr. Edwards said there was a difference between redevelopment and repair work. Regarding the stormwater retention part of it, Mr. Edwards said property owners were credited, for lack of a better word, any existing BUA, so moving forward, they would just have to capture anything more than what the existing stormwater did. Councilor Bach asked, for clarification, if that meant that in a catastrophic storm damage, the property owner would be made whole by reconstructing what they had, versus redevelopment, which is surely coming as we build out, when the new standard would apply. Mr. Edwards said that it would be a case-by-case basis for non-conforming issues, depending on how much damage was done.

PUBLIC HEARING V ACTION:

Councilor Bell made a motion to set second public hearing for July 9 as suggested by staff.

Councilor Bach seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. Officer of the Year – Southport Rotary Club: Officer Locklear was not available to be present for the meeting and this will be rescheduled for another time.
2. Proclamation – Oak Island Senior Center 40th Anniversary: Councilor Blalock read the proclamation.
3. Presentation by ATMC (designation as a Smart Rural Community provider by the NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association): Victoria Bellamy, Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator for ATMC, gave a brief presentation on being recognized as a Smart Rural Community provider for bringing fiber optics to communities such as Oak Island.

ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff added Old Business 1, 2019 Meeting Dates Schedule, to the agenda.

Councilor Bell made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Council took a brief recess at 7:58 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - GENERAL TOPICS & AGENDA ITEMS

William Love, 2001 E. Oak Island Dr.: Mr. Love spoke about the walkover at SE 20th Street. He provided pictures and a petition with signatures of people who support replacing the walkover at SE 20th Street. He said there are nails sticking out, there are boards splintering, hand rails are rotted, etc. He said they have heard a few rumors, such as that it was in the budget to be fixed, that someone had been hired, and that it would be torn down entirely. He said they didn't know what was true. He said they had asked Public Works about it, and been told that it wasn't previously in the budget to make the repairs. He said his wife had offered to raise the money to replace boards. Mr. Love also said it was to the point that the Town could be facing lawsuits as it was a safety issue.

Don Hicks, 114 NE 71st Street: Mr. Hicks said they had owned property here since 1980. He provided pictures of the beach access at 71st Street East. He said that the incline was tough to walk up. Mr. Hicks said that he had a senior living with him and that he couldn't even go to the beach there. He said that people on their street had to drive somewhere else. He asked that the hill be knocked down so that people could access the beach more easily.

Development Services Director Steve Edwards gave a report on what he had seen with his review of the access. He said that at SE 71st Street, it is soft sand and difficult to walk across, but that opening it up would go against everything we do to protect the beach. He said maybe there was something else they could do, such as putting down matting. Mr. Kelly said they could look at it to see what could be done.

Helen Cashwell, 3407 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Cashwell said the sewer system was designed for a 3-bedroom, 2-bath house with four residents. She said that in 2014, there were questions that had never been answered, such as what the chances were that the sewer system could break, what are the capacities that she should be concerned with, how do we ensure the longevity of the system, how does she know if her valve pit is blocked, what should she do if she smells sewage, what needed to be done during an emergency, and what should she do during a hurricane. She said that the homes being built the last two years were becoming noticeably larger and that the sewer system was designed for 3-bedroom houses. Ms. Cashwell said that Council had voted last year to enact a cap of 3,999 square feet for new houses and she asked if Development Services staff was aware of that. Ms. Cashwell said that they could check the rental agencies and see that houses were renting for 20 or more people. She said they were not homes but mini-hotels. Ms. Cashwell said that a home sold at Kings Lynn in the past four months that had 4 bedrooms and was immediately advertised by the new owner as having room for 22. She asked who would pay for the pumping station expansions and what the rules were for being over the allowances. She said that Council should demand an immediate audit of the capacity available at each pumping station.

Betty Monin, 3501 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Monin said that if this was the ghetto, she was proud to be a member of the hood. She said her issue was with speeders on Yacht Drive. She said the police had stepped up enforcement but that wouldn't handle the problem in the long run. She said that one stop sign was left at the boat ramp, but that from the 40s on, it is a straightaway and that it was dangerous for pedestrians and bicycle riders. Ms. Monin said she hoped they would reconsider having stop signs on Yacht Drive.

Tom Huntley, 134 NE 10th Street: Mr. Huntley said that he comes down in the fall to blow out the water lines. He said that a contractor, Ed Wong, had remodeled the house next door. He said that by his own admission, Mr. Wong turned the water on at Mr. Huntley's property to use it while remodeling. He said that the water went all through the house and that he got a \$312 bill and then a bill for more than \$900. He said that Mr. Wong did pay the \$300 bill but refused to pay the \$900 bill. Mr. Huntley asked the Town to not issue permits for Mr. Wong until this is taken care of. He said that he would padlock his meter, but that he is not allowed to do that. He said that he was being treated as the culprit, but he is the victim.

Councilor Bell asked if this issue wouldn't be between Mr. Huntley and the contractor. Mr. Edes said that he would be glad to work with the Town Manager and gather some information, but that he couldn't answer that tonight. Mr. Huntley said that he could take out a warrant or go to small claims court, but that a judgment wouldn't be worth anything, and again asked the Town to intervene. Mr. Kelly said that he would speak to Mr. Huntley.

Rosanne Fortner, for the Beach Preservation Society, said that they needed citizens' involvement to carry out its mission (education, public engagement and enhancing the beach experience for everyone). She spoke about the educational programs held each month at the Recreation Center this summer; the first one

is June 22. She also asked for volunteers to host a Flash Sweep, a 5-minute beach cleanup, for each of 10 weeks. Ms. Fortner said the group also supports the Beach Ambassadors, who are focusing on holes left on the beach.

Mayor Brochure asked Mr. Kelly about the walkway at SE 20th Street and what the plans were for repair. Mr. Kelly said staff had already had a contractor take a look and that they were waiting for a quote. There was money included in the budget for repairs. He said that it will likely have to be closed for a little while so repairs could be made.

COUNCIL REPORTS (MAYOR AND COUNCIL)

Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff gave a review of what has been going on with Oak Island over the past year. He said that after Hurricane Florence, there was a lot of flooding, and he was glad to be able to visit with residents after the storm. The County also had problems with the sewer system during the storm, which impacted the Town. He said that sewer rates were not raised, again. He said the Pier was rebuilt and the buildings renovated, the Splash Pad was opened, fencing was replaced at the tennis courts, a stage was built, sand was added to the beach at the west and east ends, and we got the Turtle Project, which no one thought could be done and which will be done this winter. He said that all of the committees were contributing to the Town's success as well. He said that when people write things, you know it must be election season. He said that being called a "mom and pop" shop made him proud, because that was the foundation of the country, and if they could continue to helping our residents, that was a good thing. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said he'd asked Council to consent to not charge residents for fishing on the first day of fishing, July 2. There will be fireworks on the Pier on July 1. He said that a lot of credit should go to staff and the Mayor for the work they have done; so far, we had received \$10 million from FEMA for the losses on our beaches, and that there was more coming.

Councilor Blalock said that he saw the Fire Camp at Station 3 this week, and that they seemed to be having a great time. He said he'd heard positive feedback about it too. He said that the Splash Pad was a great success.

Councilor Bell said that if anyone had not visited the Pier or the Splash Pad, they were missing out.

Councilor Bach said he wanted to take note of the professionalism of the staff in uniform and out. He said that there would always be concerns, but that looking at the data, the number of fire calls responded to, the amount of police activity, every measure that we have, we are improving.

Mayor Brochure said that it was a pleasure working with the Council and that they all kept the Town moving forward.

REGULAR MEETING:

I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. May 1, 2019 (Special Meeting – Budget Workshop)
 - b. May 7, 2019 (Special Meeting – Budget Workshop)
 - c. May 14, 2019 (Public Hearings & Regular Meeting)
2. Approval of Electronic Records Policy
3. Approval of Amendments to Sec. 22-12 and 13 of the Town's Code of Ordinances
4. Authorization for Staff to Apply for and Sign the ABC Permit for the Pier
5. Adoption of Post-Florence CSDM Renourishment Project Water Resources Development Grant – Project Resolution and Authorization for Town Manager to Execute Application and Project Contract

Councilor Bach made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilor Scott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

II. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

1. Oak Island Environmental Advisory Committee (3 terms ending June 2022): **Council unanimously re-appointed Maureen Burns, Margaret Johnson and Michael Pratt.**

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Town Manager
 - a. Department Reports: There will be a band on the Pier at 7 p.m. on the Pier on July 1st, and fireworks. The metal roof will soon be installed on the amphitheater and the bathrooms are almost completely remodeled. The port-a-johns may remain to accommodate the crowds. The ADA beach access at 10th Place access is upcoming.
2. Town Attorney: No report.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Meeting Calendar: Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that they usually try to have four Town Hall meetings, and that there should be two more this year, in July and October. **Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to amend the 2019 Meeting Schedule (to have Town Hall meetings in July and October). Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Approving the proposed FY 2018-19 Budget, Adopting the proposed FY 2019-20 Budget Ordinance (including setting the ad valorem tax rate), Adopting the FY 2019-20 Fee Schedule (including the Sewer District Fee and utility rates) and Adopting the Pay Classification Scale: Councilor Bell said that in light of the new property valuations, she thought the tax rate should be dropped to 28 cents total (with 24.15 cents for the general fund and the remainder for sand). Councilor Scott agreed with 28 cents. Councilor Blalock also agreed. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that he wanted 26.15 cents total (with 24.15 for the general fund and the remainder for sand), saying that another 2 cents won't make a hill of beans. He said that money has been saved and that hasn't been used yet, and that beach money has been used to pay the engineer. He said that people would be run out of town with the higher rate, considering the County taxes would be higher too. Councilor Bach said that they keep avoiding the big decision, and regardless of what is saved for the beach now, it is not going to be enough. He agreed that the engineering contract should be paid for out of the budget instead of reserves. **Councilor Bell made a motion to set the tax rate at 28 cents with 24.15 for the General Fund and the balance to go to the sand tax.** Councilor Bell said that her biggest fear is that it how long it would take to raise revenues again if we have more than one storm. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that the additional two cents wouldn't help, and Councilor Bell said that it would when it comes time to do assessments or have to raise the taxes for beach nourishment if that's what we end up doing. **Councilor Scott seconded the motion and it passed 4-1 with Councilors Bach, Bell, Blalock and Scott in favor and Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff opposed. Councilor Bell made a motion to approve the FY 2019-2020 Budget and to adopt the FY 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance, which includes an ad valorem tax rate of 28 cents per \$100 of evaluation, with 3.85 cents of that to be transferred to the sand fund, to approve the FY 2019-2020 Fee Schedule, including the Sewer District Fee and utility rates, and to adopt the Pay Classification Scale. Councilor Scott seconded the motion and it passed 4-1 with Councilors Bach, Bell, Blalock and Scott in favor and Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff opposed.**

2. Consideration of Request to Release Interest on a Sewer Assessment: Councilor Bell said that there have been times when sewer interest has been released; normally it was because there was a different owner. She said that this was originally billed in 2010 and this owner was the owner at that time,

and the address has not changed for billing. She said her recommendation was not to consider releasing the interest. Councilor Bach said he agreed. No action was taken.

3. Discussion of Beach Weddings: Mayor Brochure said that this came up after a recent wedding on the beach. She said there are no tools in the toolbox to keep harmful items from being used on the beach. She asked for Council consensus to bring back an ordinance; consensus was to do so.

VI. **CLOSED SESSION: Councilor Bell made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:57 p.m. to Consult with the Town Attorney on Pending Litigation and to preserve the Attorney/Client Privilege pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3). Councilor Blalock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Council returned to open session at 8:20 p.m. There was no action taken in Closed Session. **Councilor Bach made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Blalock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Cin Brochure, Mayor

Attested: _____
Lisa P. Stites, MMC
Town Clerk

Clerk's Statement: Minutes are in compliance with the open meetings laws. The purpose of minutes per the open meetings laws is to provide a record of the actions taken by a Council or a Board and evidence that the actions were taken according to proper procedures. All actions of the Council are recorded in the official minutes. Not all portions of Town of Oak Island meetings are recorded verbatim in the official minutes, with general discussion items, reports, presentations, and public comments being paraphrased or summarized in many instances. Public comments in writing should be submitted to the clerk via hard copy, electronic mail, or other means so as to ensure an exact verbatim account. The Town of Oak Island provides full coverage of meetings on Government Channel 8 so that the Citizens and the Public may view and listen to the meetings in their entirety.