

# TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT  
FFAFRA NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING CENTER  
CONFERENCE ROOM 103

January 7, 2014 \* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Kure Beach Town Council held a Retreat on Tuesday, January 7, 2014. Town Attorney Canoutas was in attendance and a quorum of Council was present.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Mayor         | Dean Lambeth      |
| Mayor Pro Tem | Craig Bloszinsky  |
| Commissioner  | Emilie Swearingen |
| Commissioner  | David Heglar      |
| Commissioner  | Steve Pagley      |

## STAFF PRESENT

Public Works Director – Sonny Beeker  
Police Chief – Dennis Cooper  
Fire Captain – Ed Kennedy  
Building Inspector – John Batson  
Finance Officer – Arlen Copenhaver  
Town Clerk – Nancy Avery  
Deputy Town Clerk – Nancy Hewitt

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lambeth called the Council Retreat to order at 8:00 a.m.

## ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION – Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky made the motion to adopt the agenda, as presented.

SECOND – Commissioner Heglar

VOTE – Unanimous

Mayor Lambeth stated that Commissioner Heglar will be unable to attend the January Council meeting on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> and requested that Council reschedule the meeting so he could attend.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to reschedule the regular January Council meeting to Monday, January 27, 2014 to begin at 6:30 pm, or soon thereafter.

SECOND – Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky

VOTE – Unanimous



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## DEPARTMENT HEAD PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

### 1. Administration, Finance & Recreation

Town Clerk Avery reviewed the retreat schedule and the purpose of the retreat and welcomed the newest Council member, Craig Bloszinsky. She briefly reviewed some of the Council Rules of Procedure. She summarized staffing numbers for Town employees and volunteers and reviewed the Organizational Chart that was adopted July 2010 and revised December 17, 2013. She reviewed her department's accomplishments from 2013 to present, including a review of the recreational classes, events, Town facilities, general duties of staff and revenue generation from her department. She stated that the main focus of her department in 2013 was the opening and utilization of the Ocean Front Park. She reviewed the 2014 Ocean Front Park program plans and her Capital Purchase plan for FY14-15, which included the request to purchase a "people mover" for Town staff to travel to and from the Town's park facilities. She asked Council to decide if there should be a Street Festival this year and asked Council to decide if they are going to provide financing to the Chamber of Commerce for this year's Summer Concert Series, or if they want to direct the money to be used for Ocean Front Park events. She reviewed her ideas for future storage and office space at Town Hall. She asked Council to consider purchasing the property/house next to the Ocean Front Park for equipment storage, Ocean Rescue, a first aid station and other uses. She asked Council to consider the revenue potential for the Town if they sold the Town-owned property on Sandman Drive.

### 2. Building Inspection & Code Enforcement

Building Inspector Batson gave Council an overview of the building activity, inspections and permits in his department during 2013. He said he collected a total of \$218,600 from permit fees, storm water, water and sewer tap, user, and other fees. He reviewed the ordinance violations he dealt with throughout 2013. He said he is currently working on setback violations and nuisances like junked vehicles and accumulated trash on properties. He said there are 16 properties in Kure Beach that will be affected by the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and that he expects the new flood maps will be coming out in April 2014. He said he will be attending a class in Nags Head in March that will provide more information on this issue.

### 3. Fire & Ocean Rescue

Captain Ed Kennedy, Assistant Fire Chief, reviewed the Fire Department's goals for 2013-2014 and their accomplishments in 2013, including an increase in the number of rescues and a shortened response time. He said that the department is now open around the clock and that one of their employees is going to school to learn how to repair diesel trucks so that he may one day be able to take care of the Town's fleet of trucks. Captain Kennedy reviewed the Town employee and volunteer staffing at the Fire Department and reviewed the department's future goals, as follows: become a full-service EMT fire department, develop a Live-In Program, become a full-service Ocean Rescue department



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and continue to increase the services being provided to the Town. He said that within the next couple of years, the department would like to have a house in Kure Beach that could accommodate about two to four live-in firefighters for free. The plan is to have fundraisers throughout the year to help subsidize cost. Currently, there is one volunteer making \$25 per day to stay in the firehouse overnight, along with a full-time employee. He said that he acquired his certificate to perform fire inspections two weeks ago.

Council instructed Captain Kennedy to include the financial numbers in the upcoming budget for an off-site house to be used for the Live-in Program, for further consideration.

#### 4. Police Department

Police Chief Cooper reminded Council that the police are first on the scene for about 75% of EMS calls that are dispatched. Each squad car has a defibrillator. He said he expects to add 600-800 square feet to the current Police building this coming year. He gave an overview of his staffing and their responsibilities, including the calls that they receive and the investigations they are responsible for conducting. He said his budget is lean with the biggest expense being fuel for the vehicles. He is currently two police officers short. He said that the Town has tried Community Watch programs in the past but, because there are no significant crime problems in Kure Beach, the programs weren't very successful. He said they receive and accept help from the community when there is suspicious activity and he has several fully sworn, part-time officers who are used frequently.

Mayor Lambeth called for a 15-minute break at 9:35 a.m.

Meeting resumed at 9:50 a.m.

#### 5. Public Works

Public Works Director Beeker gave Council a breakdown on garbage, recycling and yard waste collection tonnage, stating it increased from last year. He said water usage was up a little, but sewage wasn't quite as much. He said he's looking at the possibility of lining some of the storm water lines rather than replacing them. He will bring the financial numbers to Council. He said that he is still interested in putting a water loop in to connect Kure Beach with Carolina Beach. He reviewed the garbage fees, including tipping fees which he said should actually go down. He said that the main dune infiltration project is at Seawatch and he has an engineer gathering information on the cost of the project. He presented his future goals, including putting up the signs that the Shoreline Access & Parking Committee gave him a few months ago.

When discussion ensued among Council members regarding the retention ponds at Beachwalk, Commissioner Heglar said that the Beachwalk HOA has been told that the Town is not responsible for the ponds.



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Director Beeker said that the new laydown yard for Public Works, located behind the Baptist Church, is working out well.

Town Clerk Avery said that the lagoon lease is coming due this year and she will forward the information to Director Beeker and Commissioner Heglar to review.

At 10:15 a.m., since the retreat was running ahead of schedule, Finance Officer Copenhaver took the time to present Council with his mid-year budget review. He said the Town is right on target with its budget half-way through the year. He explained the TDA budget is given to Kure Beach which is about \$210,000 and \$40,000 is usually left over to be used for activities. He said that about another \$150,000 comes from Lifeguard Services reimbursed to the Town from the TDA. He shared what the General Fund expenses are for the current budget versus the actual budget, as well as the revenue. He also gave examples of how the Town's funds are invested. He said that the Town is earning next to nothing in interest on its investments compared to current inflation due to restrictions on how a government entity can invest its funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky said he would meet with the Finance Officer to have the budget explained to him in detail.

Finance Officer Copenhaver said he will email his presentation with the financial charts and graphs to Council.

## AD HOC COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

### 1. Annual Street Festival Committee

No one from the committee came.

### 2. Community Center Committee

Committee Treasurer, Jeannie Gordon, stated that early in the past year the reservation book was turned over to Nikki Keely in the Town's Recreation department. She said that the committee worked with her to establish the Town's policy on renting the facility; that the committee finished an entire inventory of all of the assets and consumables at the facility; that the committee thoroughly cleaned the facility and has been monitoring its cleanliness. She reported that Public Works moved the kitchen counter out so there is more room to work in the kitchen. She said that the committee held a spring garden lecture which was sparsely attended, that they didn't hold their Spirit Award Banquet because the committee was uncomfortable with voting on an award recipient and the committee held their annual barbecue that netted over \$1,000 in revenue for the Town. She said that the committee membership has decreased from 11 members to 5 members and they haven't met since September because they lost their leadership. She said that the



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committee is meeting next week to reorganize and asked Council for guidance on what they'd like the committee to discuss at the next meeting. She said that, although Jean Martin no longer teaches aerobics, Aikido and Line Dancing are still being taught at the center.

Mayor Lambeth said Council will await news from next week's committee meeting to move forward with its future.

Town Clerk Avery said that there is not a lot on the books right now for the Community Center and she expects to discuss this later in the meeting.

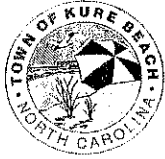
### 3. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Committee Chairperson, Joan Van Ham, gave an overview of activities that took place in 2013 at the Ocean Front Park. She said she met with the Recreation department to go over the 2014 activity plan for the park. She gave an overview of what the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board would be responsible for at the park, including increasing the quality of the bands at the concerts. She reviewed the donation received from Progress Energy and how the money was spent. She said she expects they will book seven of the most popular bands they had at the park in 2013 and will hire a sound company to handle some of the concerts. She said that the board received requests from Kure Beach residents to expand the concerts into September and October. She requested Council approve some sort of food service to be provided during the concerts. She said that the board has approximately \$25,000 to spend in the budget and would like Council to approve an additional \$10,000 in hopes it will be reimbursed through the ROT.

Discussion ensued about food being provided at the Ocean Front Park during some of the concerts, including food permits and for-profit versus non-profit food vendors.

Commissioner Heglar said it is his understanding that vendors selling food at the park need to have a permit, but non-profit groups selling food for donations don't need a permit. He said he supports fundraisers that provide food at the park, but he doesn't want food sold every week at the park where it will take business away from the downtown food establishment. He said that the businesses subsidize the Town via taxes and fees for garbage pickup, water and sewer, etc. He is concerned that the Town is continually putting pressure on the businesses to pay for Town services with little or no return of support from the Town. He would like the businesses downtown to be solicited to provide food at the park during events to increase their income.

Mayor Lambeth said he thinks people would rather get a hot dog and coke from a vendor selling food at the park so they can stay at the park during a concert, rather than miss what's going on at the park while they trek to a food establishment.



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Chairperson Van Ham said that the Kure Beach food establishments the board talked with said they had more business than they could handle without providing food at the park during the concerts.

Town Clerk Avery said it would be good to have food vendors who provided the types of food that are not available in the current food establishments downtown, such as pizza and tacos.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinky said that George Turner, owner of Beach House Burgers and the Kure Diner, said that he did not make any profit selling hot dogs during the Triathlon event, making the conclusion that selling at the Ocean Front Park would not be profitable either.

Council asked Chairperson Van Ham to attend the January Council meeting to discuss the board's plan for concerts, outside food vendors and additional funding. The Town will notify Business owners to attend the meeting to hear the board's ideas and will be allowed to address Council regarding the topic at the February Council meeting.

Mayor Lambeth called for a 10 minute break at 11:35 a.m.  
Meeting resumed at 11:45 a.m.

#### 4. Storm Water & Environmental Committee

Committee Chairperson, John Gordon, explained the reason for the committee and gave an overview of their activities in 2013 and their planned activities for 2014. He said the committee has been primarily involved in promoting and educating the public on storm water and recycling. He said the committee met with Public Works Director Beeker in October to discuss the Storm Water System and maintenance issues connected with it. There were members of the public there, and there was discussion on the retention ponds and the outflow pipes. They discussed the best way to accomplish rainwater capture and cigarette disposal on the beach. In 2014, they hope to have Mitch Woodward from NC State come to talk about rainwater harvesting and related issues and to have Melanie Doyle from the aquarium come to speak regarding the uses for collected rainwater. He said they hope to do more public education through the Town's website and "Notify Me" emails. He said that he has been on Town committees for the last 15 years and he looks at his committee as an adjunct to the Town's departments. He said there are things committee members can do to take some of the work off of Town staff and his committee is available for research and canvassing the community for opinions on things like wind farms and other energy outlets. He suggested that Council define what they want the committees to do so they can be more productive.



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Mayor Lambeth commented regarding the retention ponds at Beach Walk that, as long as the HOA has the State permits, the Town is not responsible for the retention ponds.

Commissioner Swearingen asked Chairperson Gordon to give the dates of the meetings when a guest speaker will attend to be put on the Town's website for advertising ahead of time to facilitate better attendance by the public.

Town Clerk Avery suggested that guest speakers could also give talks at the Ocean Front Park pavilion, if the committee wanted to set it up.

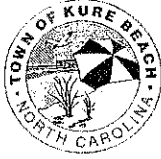
## 5. Shoreline Access, Beach Protection and Parking Committee

Co-Chairperson, Andy Barnhard, reminded Council that they approved the Beach Protection and Shoreline Access and Parking Committees merging into one committee at the December Council meeting. He said that the Sea Oats to be planted in the spring might cost about \$3,500 and is hoping to have UNCW students come out and plant them this year. He reviewed Beach Protection's five-year plan which includes education via informative brochures and signage. He passed out a photo of a cigarette butt disposal container that Carolina Beach Public Works built and asked Council to approve an expenditure of approximately \$1,985 to purchase the materials for the committee to build and label 24 containers; 1 to be placed at every beach entrance. Co-Chairperson Barnard said in Kure Beach, in 2013, there was a Keep America Beautiful Beach Sweep, a UNCW beach sweep where 115 students showed up and a Carolina Beach Elementary School beach sweep. He thanked the Police Department for paying for No Dogs on the Beach signs.

Co-Chairperson Gonsalves asked Council if they would agree to pay for the food and drink that UNCW students provide for themselves each year.

**COUNCIL CONSENSUS:** The Town will continue to pay for the trash bags and gloves but will not pay for the food and drinks that UNCW already provides.

Co-Chairperson Gonsalves reported that the Town website's link to the beach entrances has been updated; two more beach wheelchairs were purchased for a total of five beach wheelchairs; two of the beach entrances that were destroyed during last year's hurricane have been repaired; and "No Dogs" and "No Birdfeeding" signs have been installed on Atlantic Avenue. He said that Ocean Dunes will also install similar signs, so the entire beach strand will have these signs. He said that the beach entrances have been numbered and put on a map which has been taken to the New Hanover County Emergency Dispatch Center so they will know where an emergency is located when they get a call. He reviewed the plan for the sidewalks, curbs and gutters on the north side of K Avenue and



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talked about corral parking. He said the committee hasn't discussed what sort of lighting would go in the corral parking lot.

Mayor Lambeth said the contract to install the curbs, sidewalks and gutters along K Avenue will be awarded on January 23, 2014.

Town Clerk Avery said the easement to the corral has stalled because of a mix-up at AT&T with easement paperwork. She said she will continue to work on getting the paperwork to record the easement.

Co-Chairperson Gonsalves said he talked to Town Clerk Avery about the plan on K Avenue in the business district that eliminates two parking spaces when the power lines are buried. He asked Council to approve two spaces to go where the emergency vehicles used to park, going toward Fort Fisher. He suggested putting a smaller flower pot near the space to make room for the two spaces.

Mayor Lambeth said the plan originally approved by Council should stay "as-is."

Commissioner Heglar agreed with Mayor Lambeth. He explained that the reason the two spaces were used only for emergency vehicles was because, when they were used as regular spaces, accidents occurred and he doesn't want to see two regular parking spaces reinstated in that location.

Mayor Lambeth said that the DOT is going to repave Fort Fisher in 2015, including new curbs and sidewalk, and then the committee will have the chance to voice their opinion where to put more parking spaces along Fort Fisher.

Commissioner Pagley said that there have already been five changes on the project plans and he knows that Director Beeker doesn't want to change it again.

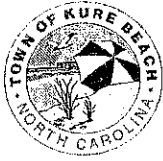
Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky said he would like to increase downtown parking.

Commissioner Swearingen said that Commissioner Pagley, the committee's liaison, should talk to Director Beeker so he is aware of the discussion.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS is to not change the plans for the utility burial project on K Avenue to allow for two more parking spaces.

Town Clerk Avery told Council that the only sign that the Town still doesn't have posted for the public is one informing people to not leave their tents and beach equipment on the beach after 7:00 p.m.





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Mayor Lambeth called for a lunch break at 12:45 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 1:25 p.m.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

Finance Officer Copenhaver reviewed the 5-year capital plan stating its purpose is for planning and to help Council know what the financial needs will be for projects going forward. He reminded Council that the loans for some of the items such as the Police vehicles are ongoing and the entire capital plan is continually changing. He then reviewed "Financial Indicators" and data comparing Kure Beach with other towns. He reviewed the components of the governmental funds and how the fund balance breaks down into the required categories that are restricted for a specific use such as Powell Bill Funds, Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds and the \$10,000 received from Duke Energy. He stated that, overall, the Town is in good shape. He said that two years ago, Council approved a new Minimum Fund Balance Policy to have no less than 32% of the total projected expenditures. Unrestricted fund balance is the total of all Committed, Assigned and Unassigned fund balance, as reported in the Annual Financial Report. He said that the Town's Unrestricted Fund Balance for the past fiscal year was almost 53% and the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance was nearly 36%. He compared revenues for Kure Beach with other towns with 2012 numbers that were available. He said that, in 2012, Kure Beach was way below other beach towns in regard to Per Capita revenue and expenditures. In relation to other towns in 2012, Kure Beach is doing very well as far as covering its expenses. He showed data on the Town's ability to meet short-term and long-term obligations.

Finance Officer Copenhaver reviewed the new tax changes going into affect as part of HB998: elimination of the electric franchise tax, expansion of the sales tax base, elimination of sales tax base/elimination of tax exemptions and tax holidays and expansion of the sales tax base. He said that, effective December 2014, cities and towns will get 44% of the total sales tax collected during the July to September 2014 time period. He shared the NC League of Municipalities' estimates of revenue increases for Kure Beach from Fiscal Year 2014 to Fiscal Year 2019, as a result of HB998.

Finance Officer Copenhaver shared the positives for Fiscal Year 14-15 on revenue: expected continued high tax collection rate; anticipate higher collection rate for motor vehicle taxes due to the Tag & Tax Together program; potential revenue increase resulting from HB 998 and new revenue sources such as Ocean Front Park rental fees and fees for markets in the park. He shared the positives for Fiscal Year 14-15 on expenditures: cost of fuel expected to remain constant, cost of medical insurance for retirees who qualify for Medicare will decrease by \$200 per month; initial funding of unemployment insurance reserve will be complete. He shared the issues and concerns on



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revenue: limited new revenue opportunities; availability of grants; impact of HB998 if expansion of sales tax base does not offset loss of electric franchise tax and continued low investment returns. He shared issues and concerns on expenditures: funding source for beach nourishment; extent of legal and other additional costs associated with the OFP and future funding requests for Carolina Beach Inlet Dredging projects; increases in day-to-day operating costs; funding for future capital projects such as Storm Water projects, Water and Sewer projects, vehicles and equipment and other expenses.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### 1. Town Volunteer Appreciation

Commissioner Pagley said that the committees do a lot of work and he thinks Council should show how much they appreciate it by giving volunteers some sort of recognition.

Committee Co-Chairperson Gonsalves said the members of the committees would like a zip-up hoodie in navy blue with a color, embroidered Town logo. He said he would bring back the total cost of the hoodies to Council for discussion and consideration after he gets together with Town Clerk Avery to go over the number of volunteers. He said he received a count of about 76 volunteers and the total expense for the apparel could go as high as \$2,050.48, spending approximately \$26.98 per hoodie. He said it costs \$5 more per shirt for people who need a 2XL or 3XL.

Finance Officer Copenhaver said Council has already set aside \$2,000 for appreciation for the volunteers in the current budget.

Town Clerk Avery said that she had a count of 66 volunteers on boards and committees, including Emergency Management and Damage Assessment, and 26 volunteer firefighters, for a total of 92 volunteers that would receive a hoodie.

Commissioner Swearingen asked if Council was going to hold a banquet or special celebration for the volunteers.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky also suggested giving the volunteers a letter of recognition signed by Mayor and Council, along with the hoodie.

Chairperson Gonsalves stated that he checked with most of the committees and they only wanted Council to approve a garment with the Town logo for each volunteer. He said they didn't seem interested in having a celebration.

Town Clerk Avery asked Council to decide what date a volunteer would have to be on a committee in order to receive the garment.



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MOTION – Mayor Lambeth made the motion to spend up to \$2,500 for the Town volunteers to receive hoodies with the Town logo embroidered on them.

SECOND – Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky

VOTE – Unanimous

Finance Officer Copenhaver said he will find a line item in the budget from which to pull the additional \$500.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to only give hoodies to volunteers who were active as of January 1, 2014 on committees or volunteer organizations controlled by the Town.

SECOND – Commissioner Pagley

VOTE – Unanimous

## 2. Room Occupancy Tax

Mayor Lambeth reminded Council that they would be attending a meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> with local State representatives and he wanted to get the consensus from Council to discuss and ask approval for any town with a population of 3,000 or less to be able to use their ½ percent Room Occupancy Tax (ROT) funds for beach nourishment, which would be approximately \$50,000-\$60,000 per year. He said he talked to State Representatives Ted Davis and Rick Catlin, and to State Senator Goolsby, and they're on board with it.

Commissioner Heglar asked if there was some entity that does beach nourishment that has a population of more than 3,000. He said he doesn't want a town that might not qualify because of a larger population be excluded from having the ½ percent available to them for beach nourishment. He said that Carolina Beach would be excluded, since their population is over 3,000, so he would like the cap to be reconsidered.

Mayor Lambeth stated that this would be a local bill from local legislators. He said he had spoken with officials from Carolina Beach, and they didn't object, but he hasn't talked to anyone from Wrightsville Beach, yet.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS – Council approved requesting from State representatives, during the meeting on January 17, 2014, to have a local bill allowing the use of the ½ percent of ROT funds, usually used for marketing, to be used for beach nourishment.

## 3. Cost of three holidays for staff at Christmas, instead of two

Commissioner Swearingen asked Council to approve Town staff having three days off, rather than just two, during Christmas 2014. She said that next year Christmas is on a Thursday and staff would normally have Wednesday and Thursday off. She would like Town staff to have off Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 24, 25 and 26, 2014.



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Finance Officer Copenhaver said he estimated that one day of payroll for all Town Staff equals \$6,500, not to mention loss of productivity.

MOTION – Commissioner Swearingen made the motion that Town employees be allowed to have off on December 24, 25 and 26 for the 2014 Christmas holiday.

SECOND – Commissioner Pagley

VOTE – Unanimous

Said revision to the 2014 Holiday Schedule is herein incorporated as part of these minutes.

#### 4. Revenue Generation

Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky told Council his idea to obtain extra revenue. He said that people who haven't been contributing to the beauty of the area should have to pay parking fees. He suggested having "friendly paid parking." He said the Town could have paid parking on K and Atlantic Avenues and parking passes could be sold at Town Hall, online or at Kure Beach businesses for \$5 per day or \$25 per week. He said any local businesses that sold a pass could keep \$1 of the fee and \$1 could go to the Police Department for each pass sold. He said that the Town's "beach fund" could get the other \$3 for each pass. He said that locals wouldn't have to pay for passes because they would have purchased their annual vehicle decal. He said the cost for signs, passes, police enforcement, etc., would have to be taken into consideration and that there would need to be a part-time individual to monitor the parking spaces. Another alternative would be using parking kiosks where there would be a per-hour charge for the space, but that would add to the implementation cost. He said he would like to poll the business owners to see if they would be interested in this idea.

Police Chief Cooper said he didn't want to get into a parking enforcement situation except for severe problems. He said that it is a conflict of interest for his department to receive parking revenues and also that people may get upset if they buy a parking pass for the day or week and are unable to find a parking space. He estimated that his department collects 80% of the civil citations handed out. As for parking tickets, he doesn't know how they would collect fines from out-of-state people; it could get into a court situation which adds to the financial factor.

Commissioner Heglar said that the issue is that the Town either has to have lots of paid spaces that would bring in enough revenue to exceed the cost of instituting paid parking or the Town would need to charge a large fee for the few spaces that are currently available. He listed other problems that could arise like people parking in residential areas to find free parking.



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COUNCIL CONSENSUS – Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky should talk to the business owners for their feedback on his idea for no-frills, “friendly paid parking,” and bring his findings back to Council.

## 5. Computers/IPADS for Commissioners on the dais

Commissioner Pagley would like every councilman to have a laptop to view the agenda online and to be able to Skype. He said that would enable speakers to give their presentations from a remote location, rather than have to come to Town Hall. He said it would also be good for councilmen who aren't able to make it to a meeting to be able to Skype into the meeting remotely.

Discussion ensued about the cost and operation to have a laptop on the dais for each Councilman.

Commissioner Heglar said that Dropbox is already being used by the Town Clerks to send the agenda via an online source.

Commissioner Pagley said he would like everyone to have the same computer to keep everything uniform.

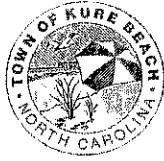
COUNCIL CONSENSUS is that Town Clerk Avery is to research the cost of laptops for Council to be used on the Council Chambers dais during meetings and present her findings to Council.

## 6. Topics of discussion at Beach Town & State Representative breakfast at the Kure Beach Community Center on January 17, 2014.

Deputy Town Clerk Hewitt stated that, so far, there are two discussion topics on the meeting agenda, as follows: coordinated representation at the State and Federal levels and use of the last ½ percent of Room Occupancy Tax for beach nourishment.

COUNCIL CONSENSUS – Add the following three discussion topics to the January 17, 2014, meeting agenda:

- Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012
- Homeowners Insurance Rate Increase
- Shallow Draft Inlet Dredging



# TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT  
FFAFRA NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING CENTER  
CONFERENCE ROOM 103

January 7, 2014 \* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## 7. Town events and OFF programming

Town Clerk Avery asked Council if they wanted to have the Street Festival this year. She said that one thought she had was that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board could come up with a special event rather than hold the festival.

Mayor Lambeth said the board has discussed organizing a special event for which the Town could become well-known.

When asked if the festival profited the Town, financially, Finance Officer Copenhaver stated that the festival usually loses money, taking into consideration all factors.

**COUNCIL CONSENSUS** – The Town will not hold the Street Festival this year.

## REVIEW OF COUNCIL GOALS FOR FY13-14

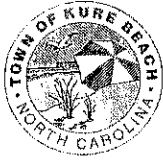
Finance Officer Copenhaver listed the current Council goals for FY13-14 and gave their status, as follows:

1. Maintain current tax rate - Completed
2. Support Fire Dept request for 3 FTEs – Completed
3. Maintain current service levels of all departments – Completed
4. Downtown utilities buried underground (east of 421) – In Progress with a total, estimated cost of the project at \$169,150.
5. Successfully implement the Ocean Front Park and recreation administration – In Progress
6. Develop a long-term plan for beach nourishment – In Progress, with \$96,000 transferred from the General Fund into a Beach Protection Fund. The long-term revenue stream for this fund must still be identified.
7. Review opportunities for dune infiltration systems in Town – In Progress. The engineer is evaluating the feasibility of a dune infiltration system in the Seawatch area.
8. Review video surveillance of Town areas: define stakeholders and policy issues by August 31, 2012 – Not Started. This item was put on the list at last year's retreat by Police Chief Cooper.

## DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL GOALS FOR FY14-15

After discussion, Council listed their goals for FY14-15, as follows:

1. Complete existing litigation on the Ocean Front Park.
2. Develop a long term plan for funding beach nourishment.
  - Find three new funding streams, independent of property taxes.
3. Review opportunities for dune infiltration systems.



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4. Review video surveillance of Town areas – define stakeholders and policy issues. Council Liaison for the Police Department, Commissioner Swearingen, will find out from Police Chief Cooper if he still wishes to pursue this goal.
5. Maintain the current tax rate, if possible.
6. Determine the storage and office space needs for the next five years for each Town department.
7. Investigate the “Live-in Program” for the Fire Department.

Commissioner Heglar suggested renovating Town Hall to make it a two-story building, rather than expanding out into the employee parking lot.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky asked Council to consider selling the Town property on Sandman Drive to increase its revenue

Building Inspector Batson told Council that the Eakes family is getting ready to sell three lots right across the street from Public Works. He said he talked to Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky who agreed that the Town would probably never do anything with the property on Sandman Drive, except perhaps put a park there one day. He asked Council why they don't sell the Sandman property or consider trading it for the property near Public Works. He gave Council the maps of the Sandman property to examine.

Commissioner Heglar asked Council how they wanted to move forward with the land opportunity.

Town Clerk Avery said that discussion about selling land has to be done in an open session, but the initial assessment and discussion on buying land can be done in a closed session, then brought back into open session to vote on decisions.

## CLOSED SESSION

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to go into Closed Session for a land discussion at 4:28 p.m (per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)).

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to return to open session at 4:35 p.m.

SECOND – Mayor Pro Tem Bloszinsky

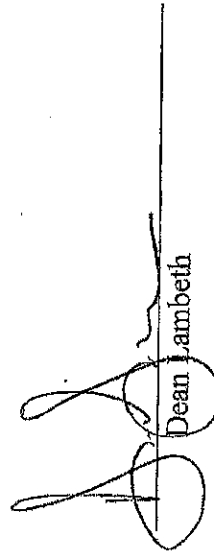
VOTE – Unanimous

Commissioner Heglar directed Building Inspector Batson to determine the value of the Town's property owned on Sandman Drive and the plot size.

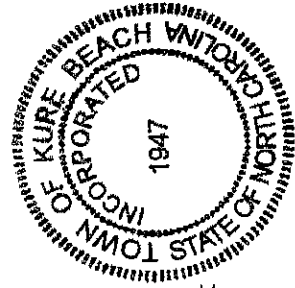
**TOWN OF KURE BEACH 2014 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

|                    |                      |                              |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| New Year's Day     | January 1            | Wednesday                    |
| Martin Luther King | January 20           | Monday                       |
| Presidents Day     | February 17          | Monday                       |
| Good Friday        | April 18             | Friday                       |
| Memorial Day       | May 26               | Monday                       |
| Independence Day   | July 4               | Friday                       |
| Labor Day          | September 1          | Monday                       |
| Veterans Day       | November 11          | Tuesday                      |
| Thanksgiving       | November 27 & 28     | Thursday & Friday            |
| Christmas (3 days) | December 24, 25 & 26 | Wednesday, Thursday & Friday |

Adopted by Council on October 15, 2013 in a regular session.  
 Revised by Council on January 7, 2014 at the annual Council Retreat.

  
 Dean Lambeth

  
 ATTEST: Nancy Hewitt, Deputy Town Clerk







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MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to adopt the goals set forth by Council, as presented.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

## MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Discussion ensued about the corral parking lot near Town Hall. Town Clerk Avery explained that AT&T initially gave the Town an easement to use their driveway and then, the DOT told the Town it had to be paved using a certain width and length. Since then, there have been delays because AT&T only sent a copy of the easement, which can't be used to record the easement. She said the lady at AT&T is now having trouble finding the original signed easement, but she promised that she would send it sometime in January.

In closing, Commissioner Heglar commented that the Town has done a great job over the last two years. He stated that, at the end of the day, no matter what position is held by each Council member, they should all be on the same side of doing what is right for Kure Beach.

## ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar made the motion to adjourn.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Dean Lambeth, Mayor

Nancy Hewitt, Deputy Town Clerk

NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by Council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting. Persons wishing to hear the recording of this meeting may request to do so by contacting the Town Clerk.

