

CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, October 21, 2024, 7:00 PM

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Hatley called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Marilyn Hatley
JO Baldwin
Bubba Collins
Fred Coyne
Nicole Fontana
Trey Skidmore
Hank Thomas

A quorum was established.

Mayor Hatley asked Lt. William McLeod, Police Department, to deliver the invocation.

Mayor Hatley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. MINUTES:

The motion to approve the minutes for the City Council Meeting of Monday, October 7, 2024, as presented, was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Councilman Skidmore. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

3. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Hatley stated the Department Monthly Reports for September 2024 were available online.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor Hatley stated that Parks and Recreation had many upcoming events and asked Matt Gibbons, Director of Parks and Recreation, to share these details. Director Gibbons stated that the Halloween event, BOOnanza, would be held on Saturday, and approximately 40 teams were participating in the Top Gun Softball Winter Royal Series over the weekend at the Sports Park.

Councilman Coyne complimented Director Gibbons on the recent drone light show and concert. He thanked Public Safety, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation for the work they did to make it successful. Director Gibbons stated the event drew the largest crowd for a Main Street event all year. Mayor Hatley added that people loved the drone show and asked if more drone shows could be done in the future.

5. CONSENT:

None

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Hatley stated the petitioners had asked to postpone Items 6A and 6C and the Council agreed to hear them together.

- A. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Amendment to the Parkway Group Planned Development District (PDD) revising neighborhood three (Wax Myrtle) at Waterside. **NOTE: Petitioner requested to postpone.**
- C. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Petition for Annexation and Zoning Designation for ±0.86 acres on Riverside Drive. **NOTE: Petitioner requested to postpone.**

Mayor Hatley read the ordinances by title and called for a motion. The motion to postpone was made by Councilman Collins and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana.

Having no comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to postpone passed 7-0.

- B. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Petition for Annexation and Zoning Designation for ±1.04 acres on Riverside Drive. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin.

Having no comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

- D. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: To reconvey to Meritage Homes of the Carolinas the streets and drainage system identified as Copper Creek Loop and Dunes Point Way in the Waterside neighborhood. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilman Collins.

Having no comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

- E. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: To amend the Intergovernmental Agreement between North Myrtle Beach and Horry County regarding the Joint County and Industrial Park to include property. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Councilman Skidmore.

Having no comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

- F. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Amendment to the Parkway Group Planned Development District (PDD) creating a commercial uniform, business supplies, and service products distribution center. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. Councilman Collins asked if new renderings had been submitted and Mayor Hatley confirmed they were. Councilman Coyne asked if the metal part remaining could be softened with more trees. Robert “Shep” Guyton, representative for the Developer, stated many of the improvements were not reflected on the rendering but would be implemented. Councilwoman Fontana stated it looked much better. Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin stated he felt it looked great.

Having no further comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

- G. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Development Agreement associated with creating a commercial uniform, business supplies, and service products distribution center and to authorize the City Manager to sign the document on behalf of the City. Mayor Hatley read the

ordinance by title and called for a motion. Mayor Hatley stated the motion should include verbiage stating the design must contain more trees and foliage. Jim Wood, Director of Planning and Development, suggested adding language requiring foundation plantings with trees and shrubs comparable to a landscape buffer on Highway 17. The motion to amend the motion to include the recommendation stated by Director Wood to require the Developer to include landscaping and trees was made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana. Councilman Thomas discussed adding more islands with trees and landscaping.

Having no further comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Hatley recognized Gerry Shea with Congressman Fry's office and thanked him for attending and always being available to help the City.

Neil Whitkin, 3019 Winding River Road, North Myrtle Beach, thanked Kevin Blayton, Director of Public Works, for including an update on the Barefoot Swing Bridge on his report. Mr. Whitkin read the following statement:

The Blu Water property is once again on the Planning Commission agenda tomorrow after 3 months of delays for supposed negotiations between our board, the City, and the Developer. It appears Blu Water wishes to develop the land they own. I would like to address Council tonight in advance of Blu Water becoming a City agenda item in November and wish to comment in support of the project. I've heard it said by Mayor Hatley that the Council wants to do what is best for Barefoot. What's best for Barefoot is not a city park nor a conservation area. The Barefoot Community has not been asked by our Board of Directors about the latest application nor should they. Our Board's position of opposition to the development of private property does not have the support of the community nor have they ever polled or surveyed opinions of the 3,140 association owners. Since the Blu Water property is no longer going to be a part of the Barefoot Association, our Board of Directors has no business in their governing capacity to pursue the disposition of Blue Water. What was best for Barefoot was the original proposal for 89 homes where the Developer agreed to offset the additional homeowner usage amenities by offering \$1.16 million dollars for amenity improvements. The agreement made in good faith also included HOA fees and one percent revenues from the sale of homes in Barefoot Lakes. What was best for Barefoot as a compatible single-family community that would have been part of the Barefoot family. Barefoot was developed to be a community of single and multi-family homes around 4 golf courses. Our founder had no concept of a park or conservation area in the Barefoot PDD and still does not have that in the original plan. Barefoot Lakes as a single-family community addition is synergistic, or compatible with the Barefoot concept and lifestyle our founders envisioned. If protestors find having a few more neighbors is objectionable, there's lots of open space with fewer neighbors and less traffic in Conway, Aynor, Marion, and Loris. I support the latest Blu Water application as it adds nicely to the Barefoot Community. I welcome new neighbors in new homes. I hope you will support the Blu Water project when it comes before you.

Damien Triouleyre, 901 Perrin Drive, North Myrtle Beach, stated he had lived in North Myrtle Beach for 30 years and he thanked Dana Crowell, Chief of Police, and her officers for being more community oriented. Mr. Triouleyre responded to Mr. Whitkin's comments and stated there were people who might want open space that did not want to live in Marion. He added that the City had beautiful parks and more open spaces were needed.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Hatley called for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana. The motion passed 7-0. Mayor Hatley thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison K. Galbreath, City Clerk

MARILYN HATLEY, MAYOR

Minutes approved and adopted this 4th day of November 2024