

**CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 15, 2023, 6:15 PM**

Minutes

1A. 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, Absent
Nicole Fontana
Trey Skidmore
Hank Thomas, Absent for roll call

A quorum was established.

1B. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Hatley called for a motion to go into Executive Session for a legal briefing regarding Michael Moshoures (SkyBar) vs. City of North Myrtle Beach, et al. Case No.: 4:22-cv-02123JD. The motion was made by Councilman Collins and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana. The motion passed 5-0. The Council returned to Chambers at 7:03 PM. Mayor Hatley announced that no votes were taken at the session. Mayor Hatley called for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. The motion was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. The regular meeting started at 7:03 PM.

1C. CONTINUATION OF CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Hatley asked Manager Mahaney 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, May 1, 2023 and the City Council Executive Session of Monday, May 8, 2023, as presented, was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Councilman Collins. The motion to approve passed 6-0.

3. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Hatley presented a Proclamation designating June 2, 2023 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day and thanked the organization for their efforts. She presented another Proclamation to the Women's Club naming June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The club will be having a fundraiser to help support Project Lifesaver at Mission BBQ on June 15, 2023 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Project Lifesaver is a premier search and rescue program designed for at-risk individuals who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering.

Mayor Hatley stated that the Departmental Monthly Reports for April 2023 and the Finance Department report for March 2023 were available online.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:**

Mayor Hatley stated she hoped everyone had a great Mother's Day.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. RESOLUTION: To approve the Mutual Aid Agreements for the 2023 Memorial Day Bike Week Event
- B. MOTION TO APPROVE: 4th of July Celebration
- C. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Petition for Annexation and Zoning Designation for 0.27 acres on 1st Avenue South Carolina

Mayor Hatley asked the Council to consider Items A-C together. The Council agreed and Mayor Hatley read the items by title. Mayor Hatley called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. Councilman Collins asked Chief Crowell how many additional officers were coming to help during Bike Week. Chief Crowell stated there would be approximately 55 additional officers.

Having no further comment from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley called for a vote. The motion to approve passed 6-0.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. PUBLIC HEARING: Amendments to Chapter 9, Sections 9-0 and 9-1 of the Code of Ordinances for North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina regarding redistricting plan and related ward lines and to redraw the four single member wards. Michael Parente, attorney from Maynard Nexsen, presented the redistricting plan and how the wards would be redrawn. He pointed out this would not affect the precincts where citizens would vote. He explained on the city website there was a proposed map of the wards where citizens could make public comments or give suggestions. Mayor Hatley confirmed the wards were now evened out and equal. Mr. Parente stated to comply with federal, state, and local laws, the wards needed to be redrawn. Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin clarified that everyone in the city voted for every elected official.

Mayor Hatley opened the floor for public comment.

Henry Oehler, 3624 Pitchers Place, North Myrtle Beach, stated based on how the city was growing, he wanted to know if there would be a 5th ward soon. The city limits go past 31 and looking at the Future Land Use Map, it goes to 90, Hand, and 57. Mayor Hatley stated they have discussed it but at this time, they would not add a ward. As the city continues to grow, future Councils may have to put one or both of the at-large seats west of the waterway. Mr. Oehler stated he was proud to live in North Myrtle Beach and was tired of writing Little River on his mail. Mayor Hatley agreed and stated she would like to see the Post Office change it.

- B. ORDINANCE/FIRST READING: Amendment to Chapter 9, Section 9-0, of the Code of Ordinances for North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina regarding redistricting plan and related ward lines. 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 6-0.

C. ORDINANCE/FIRST READING: Amendment to Chapter 9, Section 9-1, of the Code of Ordinances for North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina regarding a redistricting plan to redraw the four single member wards. 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 6-0.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ed Pomanek, 610 3rd Avenue South, North Myrtle Beach, stated he wanted to get the Council's opinion of smoking on the beach, either banning it or restricting it at public entrances. Too many people were using the sand as an ashtray. It could be seen clearly after it rained. He stated he tells people they forgot something; they flip the bird and walk away. A few will pick it up. He wanted to get some thoughts from the Council on it. Mayor Hatley stated it had been discussed at one time to ban smoking on the beach. However, they felt like it would be very difficult for Public Safety to enforce the law. They were so busy with other issues on the beach and throughout the city, it would take a lot of extra police officers to patrol the ban on the beach. Her understanding was the law was almost unenforceable. Mr. Pomanek asked if it was possible, he would like the Council to ban smoking on the beach. He stated he believed several years ago there was a code on buildings if there were broken windows. Mayor Hatley stated they did have that code and it still existed. The Planning and Development Department currently has a long list, which he can look at on the website in the department's monthly report. Councilman Collins stated he would like to talk more about banning smoking on the beach. Having it might deter some smoking on the beach. Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin stated he went to Surfside Beach and noticed less smoking on the beach. The signs were a deterrent to smoking.

Bobby Monroe, 1761 Cenith Drive, North Myrtle Beach, stated he was with HDL Companies out of California, but North Myrtle Beach was his home. He stated there was a program they have that generated new revenue for cities. They currently were in 650 cities around the country and in 75 cities in South Carolina. Unfortunately, they did not have North Myrtle Beach as a client. This program identified businesses that came in without a business license. Businesses come from out of state, perform a job, leave, and never pay their share or for a business license. The program was also performance based. If they didn't bring 10-30 businesses every month to the city, they would not get paid. Mr. Monroe stated not to take his word for it, but to ask Columbia, Goose Creek, Georgetown, and Conway. They had everyone on this side of the state, but a couple including North Myrtle Beach. He stated the city was sitting on revenue, and they could use more of it. He stated he had not been able to sign up his hometown. He also had another program that discovered short-term rentals. In a nearby city, they discovered over 600 in three days. This program was also performance based. He asked to have a meeting or set up a workshop to discuss the program. Manager Mahaney stated they were using other companies and to speak with Randy Wright, Director of Finance, to set him up with the head of business licenses.

Bob Hutton, 5208 Windy Pines Drive, North Myrtle Beach, stated he was with Keep Water Tower Road Beautiful. They have brand new signs on the road for not littering and had their first trash pick-up for 2023. 23 bags of trash were collected. He thanked North Myrtle Beach High School's NJROTC for helping with the clean-up. He also thanked Choate Construction. They cleaned their side of the roadway near Route 31 and was a big asset to them. He stated DR Horton, that was building homes at Belle's Lake, was losing. The contractors there allowed the wind to blow their materials all over the road. He had sent several emails to the representatives at DR Horton. Mr. Hutton stated that they found a lot of Calvin Klein

underwear in the clean-up. He also wanted to find out who was responsible for the roadway over the bridge at Highway 31 within Barefoot. Manager Mahaney stated the state was responsible for it. Mr. Hutton explained the way the light fixtures were, it was a dark abyss when you drove over it. He wanted to see if they could get pavement markers on the road. Manager Mahaney asked Mr. Hutton to send him an email that he would forward to the SCDOT. He also stated there was a section known as Station 90 at the end of Winding River Road. Manager Mahaney stated that was a sewer pump. Mr. Hutton stated the protection of it wasn't in fitting with the neighborhood; chained linked fence and the gate wasn't fixed. Manager Mahaney stated they would look at it, but they could only dress up a sewer station so much. Mayor Hatley thanked Mr. Hutton and his group for what they did for the community.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Hatley thanked everyone for coming and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Collins and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison K. Galbreath, City Clerk

MARILYN HATLEY, MAYOR

Minutes approved and adopted this 19th day of June 2023