

**CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, June 19, 2023, 6:30 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.

1B. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Hatley called for a motion to go into Executive Session for a legal briefing regarding Chapter 19, Section 22, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina regarding permits required for construction of driveways. The motion was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Councilman Skidmore. The motion passed 7-0. The Council returned to Chambers at 7:00 PM. The Mayor 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 Councilman Collins. The motion passed 7-0.

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 15, 2023 and the Special Called City Council Meeting of Thursday, June 8, 2023, as presented, was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. The motion to approve passed 7-0.

3. COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Hatley announced that the presentation to Merideth Smith, Member of the Tree Board, would be postponed until the July meeting.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor Hatley encouraged everyone to enjoy the Fourth of July Cantata at Living Water Baptist Church, Saturday and Sunday, July 1 - July 2, at 3:30 P.M.. Councilman Collins thanked the Public Safety Department for an outstanding job during Bike Week. Mayor Hatley stated that the Departmental Monthly Reports for March 2023 were available online.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. MOTION TO APPOINT: An appointment to the RIDE IV Committee
- B. MOTION TO APPROVE: The revised City Council meeting schedule for July
- C. MOTION TO APPROVE: Myrtle Beach Tours Beach Games

Mayor Hatley read Item A by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Coyne and seconded by Councilman Skidmore. Mayor Hatley stated that Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin had been involved with the Ride IV Advisory Council and had the experience and knowledge necessary to serve on the RIDE IV Committee.

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

Mayor Hatley asked the Council to consider Items B and C together. Mayor Hatley read Items B and C by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Councilman Coyne.

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

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE/SECOND 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 to approve. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Collins and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana. Councilman Collins stated this had to do with growth and would not affect where citizens voted.

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

- B. ORDINANCE/SECOND 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. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin and seconded by Councilwoman Fontana.

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

- C. ORDINANCE/SECOND READING: Amendment to Chapter 21, Traffic, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of North Myrtle Beach adopting Sections 21-16 to 21-19 regarding the regulation of shared mobility devices. 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 stated that this was not for businesses in brick-and-mortar buildings who rented the devices. 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:

- A. PUBLIC HEARING: On the FY 2024 proposed budget. Manager Mahaney stated that the budget this year was \$174 million and was the largest the City has ever had. There would be no increase in the tax rate, it would remain at 45 mils. The budget did include adjustments including Grand Strand raising the water and sewer rates making a little difference in the Impact Fee.

Manager Mahaney noted that the budget included \$70 million in Capital Projects such as expansion of the Sports Park, entrance monuments, pickleball courts, and extension of Champions Boulevard and \$27 million for ocean outfall expenses. Mayor Hatley added that the staff did a great job on the budget and was pleased that the City was able to do many great projects without raising any property taxes. Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin added this was especially important coming out of a pandemic and the uncertainty of tourism when much of the budget was based on tourism dollars. Councilman Coyne stated that this was due to good management of the City's money. He added that the budget retreat went smoothly, and an exceptional job was done on the budget.

Mayor Hatley opened the floor for public comment.

Harry Oehler, 3624 Pitchers Place, Little River, stated he felt an excellent job was done on the budget and thanked the Council for not raising taxes. He asked if the \$3.5 million for Champions Boulevard was just for the extension or could funds be allocated for Citizens Circle to Robert Edge Parkway. Manager Mahaney explained that the funding was specifically to extend Champions Boulevard to Long Bay Road and pave from Long Bay Road to Water Tower Road. Mr. Oehler then asked Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin to try to get funding from Ride IV to assist. He stated that over 10,000 people attend the Summer Concert series at the Sports Park and any help would be greatly appreciated.

Linda Grimm, 3801 Catcher's Court, Little River, stated she was concerned about the exit from Park Pointe into the park. She noted that there were no stop signs, crosswalks or roundabouts and it was dangerous for walkers. She asked that the Council look at adding crosswalks and/or stop signs at the intersection. Mayor Hatley thanked Ms. Grimm for bringing this to their attention.

Having no further comments from the Council or public, Mayor Hatley closed the floor for public comment.

- B. **ORDINANCE/FIRST READING:** An ordinance setting the tax levy for FY 2024. Manager Mahaney read the ordinance by title and Mayor Hatley called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. Mayor Hatley stated that the City was very fortunate to keep the tax base this low.

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

- C. **ORDINANCE/FIRST READING:** An ordinance to adopt the budget for FY 2024. Mayor Hatley read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Collins 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.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robert Pugliese, 6095 Catalina Drive, North Myrtle Beach, stated he had asked the City to collect trash fees at the issuance of business license and he would like to know the status of that. Manager Mahaney stated the City recommended to the HOA's attorney, Robert E. Lee, to consider revising the covenants to deal with this issue. He further stated this was still the position of the City with the new attorney. Kevin Blayton, Public Works Director, explained that the City cannot bill at business licensing but were looking into the potential of trying to identify cans that have paid for short-term services and only pick those up. He further stated that they did not want to do this city-wide but were researching the possibility for this neighborhood. Mr. Pugliese questioned why billing could not be done at the time of business licensing.

Manager Mahaney asked that a meeting be set up with Sarah Wood, Revenue Manager, to discuss the matter further. Mr. Pugliese asked for assistance in attaining records on a property where the owner states he was long-term, but a permit was issued as short-term. He stated that he was told that the HOA's attorney would have to request the records, so he had been unable to get them. Manager Mahaney stated this would need to be discussed at the meeting with Randy Wright, Director of Finance, Ms. Wood, and the City Attorney.

Harry Oehler, 3624 Pitchers Place, Little River, stated he would like to thank Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin for meeting with him and going over a few things concerning the intersection that Ms. Grimm mentioned earlier. He stated the contractor had recently put in sewer lines that crossed the street making it unsafe for pedestrians. Pedestrians were now forced to walk into the street at the corner to cross. Mr. Oehler asked if the contractor could be asked to install temporary asphalt as they did before and when the sidewalk extension would be completed. Mayor Hatley stated that the City would investigate it. Manager Mahaney stated Director Blayton and Director Wood would look into this with the contractor.

Neil Whitken, 3019 Winding River Drive, North Myrtle Beach, invited everyone to attend the Barefoot Landing Golf Cart Parade on July 1, 2023, at 9:00 AM. He stated the theme this year was, "Red, White and Bluetiful". Mr. Whitken asked for an updated completion status on the Cherry Grove Pier. Mayor Hatley stated the contractors were working with the Army Corp of Engineers and DHEC and were slowly working toward completion. She added that everyone would be happy when the pier was back.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Hatley thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Councilwoman Fontana and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baldwin. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison K. Galbreath, City Clerk

MARILYN HATLEY, MAYOR

Minutes approved and adopted this 10th day of July, 2023