

**Town Council Minutes  
Morehead City, North Carolina**

**Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

The Honorable Council of the Town of Morehead City met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, in the Municipal Chambers located at 202 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Morehead City, North Carolina. Those in attendance were:

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Gerald A. Jones, Jr.; Councilmembers George Ballou, Keri V. McCann, Harvey N. Walker, Jr. and Diane C. Warrender.

Councilman William F. Taylor was absent, as excused, for a medical procedure.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ryan Eggleston; City Attorneys Derek Taylor and Mike Thomas; Fire Chief Jamie Fulk, Finance Director Jewel Lasater, Police Chief Bernette Morris, Deputy Police Chief Bryan Dixon; Human Resources Director Susan Nixon, Communication Director Alize Proisy, Interim Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Riggs, Planning Director Sandi Watkins, Public Services Director Daniel Williams, and City Clerk Cathy Campbell.

OTHERS: Elise Clouser of the Carteret News Times; Lisa Rueh and Lee Hinson of Downtown Morehead City, Inc.; Planning Board Member Lucine Beauchard; William Britt, Zac Everhart, Art Gill, Richard and Sheilia Griffis, and Fred Tootle.

Mayor Jones called the regular meeting of the Morehead City Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m. with a quorum present. Councilmember Ballou gave the invocation and Mayor Jones led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Warrender asked for further information regarding Item G of the consent agenda. City Manager Ryan Eggleston explained that this is the renewal of a lease agreement approved last year. Chosen Generation Christian Academy is seeking a permanent location, but space at the Recreation Center is being utilized as an interim solution. The arrangement has worked very well for both parties.

Mayor Jones reviewed the Consent Agenda. Councilmember McCann made a motion **to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.** Councilmember Warrender seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

Included within the Consent Agenda were the following approvals:

- A. Approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting.

- B. Approval of the Minutes of the May 21, 2019 Special Budget Workshop Meeting.
- C. Accept the Finance Director Reports, Tax Collector Reports, and Notice of Ad Valorem Tax Overpayments in the amount of \$3,694.48 for the month of May 2019 as Recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee.
- D. Approve the Requests for Refunds of Overpayment of Ad Valorem Taxes in the amount of \$4,634.80 for May 2019 as Recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee.
- E. Adopt Resolution 2019-R-41 Endorsing the North Carolina Troopers Association Offshore Inshore Saltwater Challenge and Authorizing Action Necessary for the Event to be Held October 18-20, 2019 as Recommended by the Public Works Committee.
- F. Adopt Resolution 2019-R-42 Endorsing the North Carolina Ducks Unlimited Billfish Tournament and Authorizing Action Necessary for the Event to be Held July 25-27, 2019 at Ottis Landing as Recommended by the Public Works Committee.
- G. Approve Chosen Generation Christian Academy Lease Agreement as Presented and Recommended by the Public Works Committee.
- H. Adopt the 2018 Local Water Supply Plan as Presented.

*All above noted resolutions are attached to and made a part of these minutes herein by reference. The Chosen Generation Christian Academy Lease Agreement is on file in the City Clerk's office.*

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **Consider Request to Rezone 601 North 35<sup>th</sup> Street and Additional North 35<sup>th</sup> Street Lot**

Planning Director Sandi Watkins appeared before the Town Council to present request submitted by John Everhart on behalf of Excel 601 35<sup>th</sup> Properties LLC and Sunnie Gail Ballou on behalf of CAAGAN Inc. to rezone 601 North 35<sup>th</sup> Street (Tax PIN #637610454748000) and North 35<sup>th</sup> Street Lot (Tax PIN #637610454693000) from R-5 (Residential District) to O&P (Office Professional).

Mr. Everhart and Ms. Ballou have submitted a request to rezone two parcels totaling approximately 1.6 acres from R5 (Residential District) to OP (Office and Professional District). The northern parcel is developed with a child daycare for which a special use permit was issued in 1991. The southern parcel is undeveloped.

Surrounding zoning includes Office Professional (O&P), Planned Development (PD), and Single-Family Residential (R5S). Surrounding land use includes multifamily to the south

and across N. 35<sup>th</sup> Street to the east; medical office/office to the north and across N. 35<sup>th</sup> Street to the east; and single-family to the south and west.

Mrs. Watkins explained that this is a conventional rezoning request which requires consideration of all the uses permitted in the R5 or OP districts because potentially any of those uses may be located on the site. The property is in Neighborhood 5 of the CAMA Land Use Plan and is classified as Low Density Residential.

At the May 28, 2019 Planning Board meeting, Sally Lumpkin made motion, seconded by Frank Eastman, to recommend approval of the rezoning request and Planning Board Resolution 2019-0011. The motion carried unanimously. No comments were received regarding the request during the meeting.

In accordance with NCGS 160A-31, notice of this public hearing was published twice times in The Carteret News Times (Fridays, May 24 and 31, 2019). The notice was also posted at the property site as well as on the bulletin boards in City Hall and the Municipal Building. Property owners within 300 feet of the property were notified in writing.

Councilmember Ballou disclosed that Ms. Sunnie Gail Ballou is his cousin; however, he has not spoken to her about the request nor does he stand to benefit in any way from Council's decision tonight; therefore, he is obligated to vote on the request.

At this time, Mayor Jones opened the public hearing inviting anyone who would like to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed zoning request to come forward.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There being no comments, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were none.

Councilmember Warrender made a motion to **adopt Ordinance 2019-O-13 to Rezone 601 North 35<sup>th</sup> Street (Tax PIN #637610454748000) and North 35<sup>th</sup> Street Lot (Tax PIN #637610454693000) from R-5 (Residential) District to O&P (Office Professional) District;** Councilmember McCann seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

*See action taken under the next agenda item for explanation of resolution approval.*

Councilmember McCann made a motion to **adopt Resolution 2019-R-38 of Plan Consistency in Accordance with NCGS 160A-383 for Map Amendment.** Councilmember Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

**Consider Request to Rezone 5263 Business Drive and Amendment to CAMA Land Use Plan**

Planning Director Sandi Watkins presented request from Richard and Shelia Griffis to rezone approximately one (1) acre located at 5263 Business Drive (Tax PIN #635704701076000) from R15M (Single-Family Residential /Manufactured Home District) to I (Industrial District). The property is located in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) and contains one home that was damaged during Hurricane Florence.

Surrounding zoning includes Industrial (I) District to the south and east and Single-Family Residential/Manufactured Home District to the north and west. The property is surrounded by Atlantic Mobile Home Park to the west, the town water plant to the south and east, and Single-Family Residential and undeveloped property across Business Drive to the north. If the proposed is rezoned as requested, a 10-foot wide landscape yard with 8' tall fence will be required to be constructed along the property line which abuts residential.

The property is in Neighborhood 8 of the CAMA Land Use Plan. It is classified as Low Density Residential and immediately abuts General Industrial future land use classification. Based upon a review of the Land Use Plan and after consulting with CAMA's district planner, if the rezoning request is approved, the CAMA Land Use Plan Future Land Use designation for this property needs to be amended from Low Density Residential to General Industrial. This is addressed in proposed Resolution 2019-R-40.

At the May 28, 2019 Planning Board meeting, Ronetta Gaskill made motion, seconded by Frank Eastman, to recommend approval of the rezoning request and Planning Board Resolution 2019-0012. The motion carried by majority vote (5-2; Lumpkin and Beauchard were opposed). Board members discussed the need to adequately buffer the adjacent manufactured home park from potential industrial uses which could be located on the site.

The Planning Committee reviewed the request on May 29, 2019 and has requested that staff conduct analysis on the impacts of increasing the required landscape buffer width where industrial zoned-property abuts residential property from either 10 to 15 or 20 feet. That analysis is currently underway and has not been completed to date.

In accordance with NCGS 160A-31, notice of this public hearing was published twice times in The Carteret News Times (Fridays, May 24 and 31, 2019). The notice was also posted at the property site as well as on the bulletin boards in City Hall and the Municipal Building. Property owners within 300 feet of the property were notified in writing.

At this time, Mayor Jones opened the public hearing inviting anyone who would like to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed zoning request to come forward.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hearing no comments, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember McCann asked for clarification of the ten (10) foot buffer. Mrs. Watkins stated that the current requirement is to install a 10-foot wide landscape yard. However, the Town, if preferred, could amend the requirement through a text amendment, which would apply to all permits submitted after adoption of the amendment.

Councilmember McCann made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-O-14 to Rezone 5263 Business Drive (Tax PIN #635704701076000) from R15M (Single-Family Residential /Manufactured Home) District to I (Industrial) District; Resolution 2019-R-39 of Plan Consistency in Accordance with NCGS 160A-383 for Map Amendment; and Resolution 2019-R-40 Authorizing an Amendment to the CAMA Land Use Plan to Amend a One Acre Area Currently Shown on the Future Land Use Map as Low Density Residential to General Industrial. Councilmember Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

Unable to clearly hear the motion as presented, City Attorney Derek Taylor asked for clarification as to whether the resolutions were included in the motion. Noting that they were not, Councilmember McCann amended her motion to include the adoption of Resolution 2019-R-39 and Resolution 2019-R-40 as it relates to the adoption of Ordinance 2019-O-14; and to adopt Resolution 2019-R-38 of Plan Consistency in Accordance with NCGS 160A-383 for Map Amendment as it relates to the adoption of Ordinance 2019-O-13 in the previous agenda item. *(Noted separately under the previous agenda item)*

### **Consider Authorizing Application for NC Neighborhood Program CDBG**

Planning Director Sandi Watkins advised that the purpose of this public hearing is to provide an introductory explanation of the 2019 North Carolina Department of Commerce Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant (CDBG-NR) and provide an initial opportunity to gather citizen input and allow response from the public to the proposal.

In February 2019, the Town Council identified a goal of improving housing in Morehead City. In April, staff received notification of funding availability from the NC Department of Commerce. The program is geared primarily towards assisting low-to-moderate-income residents as well as addressing slum or blight conditions with special consideration for areas impacted by Hurricane Florence.

In May, the item was discussed by the Town Planning Committee which indicated support of submitting a request for funding from the NC Department of Commerce under the NC Neighborhood Program for a CDBG-NR grant. For the 2019 Spring funding cycle, the CDBG-NR maximum funding availability is expected to be \$750,000. Staff intends to seek a request for funding to undertake a scattered-site housing rehabilitation project for which 100% of any funding would be used to benefit Low to Moderate Income (LMI) households. As an example, the Carteret County [Low 80%] income for a household of four averages to \$53,750.

The range of housing rehabilitation activities which may be covered by the CDBG-NR funds are dependent upon the condition of a structure and may include:

- Rehabilitation (only);
- Rehabilitation with Clearance, Temporary Relocation, and Reconstruction;
- Substantial Rehabilitation (only);
- Substantial Rehabilitation with Clearance, Temporary Relocation, and Reconstruction;
- Emergency Home Repairs.

Individuals are encouraged to contact staff, no later than June 25, 2019, to determine specific eligibility requirements. Depending upon inquiries received, this deadline may be extended. In order to be considered for inclusion in the application, an intake process must be conducted of each home to determine the severity of structural conditions. Systems to be checked would include the foundation, floor, roof, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, interior walls, windows and doors, and egress.

If Town of Morehead City is awarded a CDBG-NR grant, it will be necessary to implement the project in conformance with a number of compliance areas:

- Environmental review and Release of Funds and other funding conditions release;
- Citizen participation;
- Fair housing;
- Equal opportunity and procurement;
- Adoption/Submittal of a Section 3 Plan;
- Americans with Disabilities Act/Section 504;
- Submittal of a Language Access Plan;
- Complaints and grievances procedures;
- Relocation Policy;
- Labor standards;
- Completion of required reports and documentation;
- Reimbursement of financial reimbursement forms; and
- Setting up and managing financial records.

In order to continue moving forward with the project, it will be necessary for staff to work with a consulting firm with CDBG experience to prepare the grant application and administer the grant. According to CDBG guidance, a maximum of \$3,500 in CDBG planning fees may be used to cover costs of the application preparation if the grant is awarded.

Tonight's hearing is the first of two public hearings which must be held to gather citizen comments prior to submission of the application. The second public hearing is scheduled for July 9, 2019. The purpose of the second hearing would be to outline the specific project in more detail and to review the completed application prior to the July 17, 2019 submittal deadline. This public hearing was advertised in the Carteret County News Times on May 31, 2019.

At this time, Mayor Jones opened the public hearing inviting anyone who would like to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed application to come forward.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

**William F. Britt, 2600 Avery Street:** Mr. Britt questioned the average income of \$53,750 for a family of four as presented. Ms. Watkins stated that the income figures were drawn from HUD data for Carteret County. There was no data available for Morehead City specifically. Low income for Carteret County was listed at \$53,750; very low was \$33,600; and extremely low was \$25,750.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Jones closed the hearing.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were none.

No action was required or requested at this time.

#### Consider Adoption of FY 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance

City Manager Ryan Eggleston appeared before the Town Council seeking approval of the proposed FY 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance. The following summary was presented:

General Fund	\$ 15,769,703
Water/Sewer Fund	\$ 8,532,129
Sanitation [Solid Waste] Fund	\$ 1,024,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 25,326,632</b>

The proposed FY2019/2020 Budget recommends the Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$ 0.40 per \$100 property valuation, which reflects a \$.05 cents increase over the current year.

In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 159-12, the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, was made available for public inspection at City Hall and the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and posted on the Morehead City website at [www.moreheadcitync.org](http://www.moreheadcitync.org). Notice of this Public Hearing was published in The Carteret News-Times on May 24, 2019. The FY2019/2020 Budget must be approved by the Morehead City Council prior to July 1, 2019.

At this time, Mayor Jones opened the public hearing inviting anyone who would like to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed budget to come forward.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

**William F. Britt, 2600 Avery Street:** Mr. Britt said that the \$.05 cent tax increase equates to 14.7% increase, and asked for an explanation of what justifies this increase? He said this is a significant increase for individuals on fixed incomes, and hopes citizens from all income levels are being considered when making this recommendation.

**Art Gill 1201 Evans Street:** Mr. Gill stated that he does not feel this is the year to increase taxes unless reserves lack the funds to address another hurricane or major event.

**Fred Toole, 1003 Avery Street:** Mr. Tootle agree that this is not the right time for a tax increase. He and his wife are living on a fixed income and experience extensive damage during the hurricane causing them to tap into their reserves. The proposed increases, including tax, water/sewer and solid waste, are projected to cost him another \$50 per month he believes, and he does not need this additional expense at this time.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

At this time, City Manager Ryan Eggleston presented a reduced tax increase of \$.03 cents per 100 valuation, which will fund three (3) of the five (5) designated capital projects: \$116,310 for Phase I Stormwater Services, \$170,000 for Sugarloaf Island Shoreline Stabilization and Dredging, and \$300,000 for Shevans Park Playground Renovation. He shared that for a home valued at \$200,000, the proposed tax increase would equate to about \$8.08 per month increase. The revised budget also proposes that the \$857,817 will be carried over for street maintenance with the exception of \$128,600, which is suggested to be used to purchase the street sweeper. This will provide \$1.2 million in street maintenance funds for FY 2019-2020.

In response to Councilmember McCann's question, Mr. Eggleston confirmed that the tax rate today is below what it was in 1999.

Mayor Jones read a letter from Councilmember Taylor in his absence, which offered three options for addressing the City's need to provide revenue for ongoing replacements and enhancements:

1. Fund operating expenses at recommended level and transfer \$857,817 of designated street projects to meet current capital needs thus creating a shortfall in funding repair needs already identified a critical. There would be no increase in this year's tax rate.
2. Fund operating expenses at the recommended level and approve a five cent increase to create a "capital fund".
3. Approve a two-step approach with the first increase implemented with a three cent increase in the 2019-20 fiscal year and a second increase to follow in fiscal year 2020-21.

The letter further outlined four reasons for his recommendation: 1) Staff has identified and recommended needs that must be filled and an approach to pay for those additions and services, and no councilmember has challenged either the need or the need for revenue for these obligations; 2) I recognize the challenges of the storm damage caused by Florence and the need to be as considerate of citizens' financial challenges as possible; 3) I am also a person on fixed income and prefer an approach that meets needs in a gradual, planned process - a two-step approach meets that criteria versus a full five cent increase; and 4) to delay action, means no reduction in actual needs and may increase cost due to inflation without an offsetting value to be gained = the problem is simply put off another year and grows in magnitude.



In closing the letter, Councilmember Taylor expressed his preference for Option #3, the two-step approach.

Both Councilmembers Warrender and McCann expressed concern that delaying the tax increase could compound the problem and result in the need for a greater increase next year. Councilmember Warrender also expressed concern that utilizing the street maintenance funds for other projects reduces the amount available for street maintenance in FY 2019-2020 to only what is available in Powell Bill funds (\$262,000). She also cautioned that FEMA payouts are not guaranteed and should not be counted on as revenue in the upcoming year. Councilmember McCann reminded Council that staff shaved the budget this year and all those items will have to be addressed again next year in addition to the items that would routinely arise at that time. She said, "Council needs to think ahead and make increases in moderation."

Councilmember Walker stated, "It would be a travesty to raise taxes when the City has the money available today to cover the cost of all proposed projects."

Councilmember Ballou stated, "It is not the right time to raise taxes." He listed five (5) reasons that support his position: 1) the Town will have over \$3 million in the Unassigned Fund Balance when the budget is adopted. \$500,000 more than is required by the Town ordinance; 2) the Town will have a little over \$200,000 appropriated for contingency in the General Fund; 3) the Town is expecting a \$1.7 million refund from FEMA by September or October; 4) the Town has paid off \$850,000 in debt this year; and 5) the Town is carrying over \$857,817 in unallocated funds that could be funded.

Mr. Eggleston stated that he would be more comfortable with a \$4 million reserve in the fund balance with a dedicated revenue stream to support future needs. He would propose a percentage level requirement over a minimum dollar amount whereby the reserves increase as the town grows. He reminded Council that although the Town has funds sufficient to cover the five (5) designated projects; it does not address the operating costs that were removed from the budget or future expenses, such as the scheduled replacement of five (5) police vehicles per year, over a 10 year cycle at the cost of about \$2 million dollar investment; the ladder truck scheduled for replacement in a year or two at the cost of just over \$1 million dollars, and the ongoing roadway resurfacing. The Town needs a revenue source that can support capital projects and long-term operational expenses. As it stands today, without a reimbursement from FEMA, the Town could be limited in its ability to respond to another storm or other major event. The benefit of utilizing an ad valorem increase is that it spreads the burden and incrementally assesses residents and businesses fairly.

At this time, Councilmember Ballou made a motion **to adopt the FY 2019-2020 Budget as presented without the \$.05 cent ad valorem tax increase.** Councilmember Walker seconded the motion. The vote resulted in a tie vote (2-2; *McCann and Warrender were opposed*). Mayor Jones voted against breaking the tie and defeating the motion by majority vote. (2-3)

Councilmember McCann made a motion to **Adopt FY2019/2020 Budget Ordinance 2019-27 with a General Fund of \$15,622,703; Water/Sewer Fund of \$8,548,629; and**

**Sanitation (Solid Waste) Fund of \$1,025,300; for a Total of \$25,196,632 and a Tax Levy of \$0.38 per \$100 Valuation, which Reflects a \$.03 Cents Increase Over the Current Year.**

Councilmember Warrender seconded the motion. The vote resulted in a tie vote. (2-2; *Walker and Ballou were opposed*) Mayor Jones voted in favor breaking the tie and passing the motion by majority vote. (3-2)

Mayor Jones stated, "There is never a good time to raise taxes, and putting it off another year just delays the inevitable. Citizens expect a certain quality of life and such quality costs money. It is a better decision today to provide for the future of Morehead City whereby the Town can provide the quality of life and services its citizens expect." He reiterated that Morehead City is fortunate to have a large retail base that can help share the burden.

Mr. Eggleston thanked Finance Director Jewel Lasater and her finance team for all their hard work in preparing the budget.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Consider Budget Amendments and Capital Budget Ordinances**

Finance Director Jewel Lasater presented Budget Amendments 2019-23 and 2019-24, and Capital Budget Ordinances 2019-25, 2019-26, 2019-28 and 2019-29 in conjunction with the newly adopted budget.

Budget Ordinances 2019-23 and 2019-24 were reviewed by the Administration and Finance Committee, but are presented under New Business as they were awaiting final figures from the budget decision. They support the budget action taken tonight by reducing the transfers from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund for carryover street paving projects in the 2018-2019 Budget Year and to increase Appropriated Unassigned Fund Balance for the 2019-2020 Budget and reduce the proposed tax rate from \$.05 cent to \$.03 cent.

Capital Budget Ordinances 2019-24, 2019-25, and 2019-26, also provide housekeeping measures to cleanup and close some of the capital project funds. Capital Budget Ordinances 2019-28 and 2019-29 reflect the transfers into the respective Capital Project Funds for the Capital Projects authorized by the 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance.

Councilmember Walker made a motion to **Adopt Budget Amendments 2019-23 and 2019-24, and Capital Budget Ordinances 2019-25, 2019-26, 2019-28 and 2019-29 as presented.** Councilmember McCann seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

**Consider Selection of Holland Consulting Planners for Grant Application Services**

Planning Director Sandi Watkins appeared before the Town Council seeking selection of Holland Consulting Planners to work with the Town in preparing the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) application.

As shared earlier in this meeting, a consulting firm with CDBG experience will need to be selected to move forward with a CDBG application. A detailed description of the methods used by staff to select a firm were included in the agenda packet. Holland Consulting Planners scored the highest based on the criteria set out in the Request for Proposal (RFP) and is therefore staff's recommendation.

Holland Consulting Planners has experience working on CDBG-NR projects in North Carolina and their office is based in Wilmington. They have experienced staff that will help guide the Town through the application process and, if the grant is awarded, through project administration. Holland Consulting has also offered the lowest cost for the application process. If the grant is funded, there should be no cost to the Town since up to \$3,500 in fees towards application preparation could be covered under the grant. If the grant is not funded, the total cost for assisting the Town with the intake process and preparing the grant application would be capped at \$3,500 (compared to estimates of \$10,000 and \$20,000 for IBTS and Summit respectively).

Councilmember Walker made a motion to **approve the selection of Holland Consulting Planners to prepare the grant application, and if awarded administer the grant, and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Holland Consulting Planners (HCP) in the amount of \$3,500 for grant administration services for the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Program in accordance with the scope of work contained in HCPs proposal dated May 28, 2019, subject to review by the City Attorney.** Councilmember Warrender seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

### **Consider Approval of New City Logo**

City Manager Ryan Eggleston and Communication Director Alize Proisy explained that the new logo will support the City branding initiative. The new city logo will be used on all printed materials, social media outlets, and city promotional pieces. The City seal will continue to be used where appropriate.

Mrs. Proisy shared that staff worked with Rusty Hook Marketing to develop the logo designs. Staff requests Council to select the logo of choice in order to meet the June 21, 2019 website deadline. Four proposed logos were presented for consideration. One featured a rectangular shape with curved edges, while the other three feature a compass rose design. All feature a fishing boat above the city name and a marlin below the name with difference color variations. Mrs. Proisy stated that Option #1, featuring the horizontal design, expands well for larger spaces.

Seeing that there was some agreement but no clear concensus, it was decided that Council would provide their vote as to Option #1 or #4 to Mr. Eggleston by Friday, thus providing Councilmember Taylor the opportunity to have input as well. Mayor Jones suggested that staff be provided an opportunity to vote as well.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Eggleston reported that the Freeman building in the 1300 block along Arendell Street is beginning to lean. Staff is starting the process towards condemnation.

### **CITIZEN REQUESTS/COMMENTS (2 Minute Time Limit)**

**Lucine Beauchard, 221 Lands End Road:** Ms. Beauchard shared that her career was in marketing, and that the proposed logos are not a visual or emotional representation of our city. She stated that they lack excitement, inspiration and futuristic vision.

**Art Gill 2102 Evans Street:** Mr. Gill stated that the flags throughout the town are not being flown in accordance with flag etiquette, and suggested that one employee be assigned to oversee the management of flags. It was his opinion that if the Town is going to fly them, they should do it with pride. He then expressed concern over the train blocking traffic through town and suggested that it is only a matter of time before this interferes with Fire/EMS services. Lastly, Mr. Gill expressed his concern over the decision to remove Morehead City from the Beaufort/Morehead Airport Authority, but deferred to the Mayor's wisdom as to whether this was a good decision for the Town or not.

**William F. Britt, 2600 Avery Street:** Mr. Britt shared a picture of a flooded portion of Avery Street and expressed concern about children playing in this water. He stated that this area contains a hole deep enough to drown a small child. It was his recommendation that the Town erect a fence substantial enough to keep children from getting into the area. Mr. Eggleston advised that a staff member would be onsite tomorrow to assess how to properly address it.

### **COUNCIL REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

Councilmember Warrender thanked everyone for coming to hear tonight's discussion, and stated that she believes Council made the right decision for the Town.

Councilmember Walker thanked those in attendance for coming and for sharing their comments, and encouraged Ms. Beauchard to present her ideas for the logo.

Councilmember Ballou thanked the public for allowing him to serve.

Councilmember McCann thanked those in attendance for coming and for allowing them to serve, and encouraged everyone to enjoy the Big Rock Tournament.

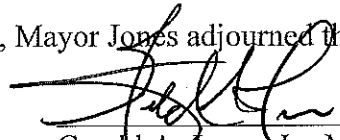
Mayor Jones also encouraged everyone to enjoy the Big Rock Tournament.

### **APPROVE AND SEAL MAY 21, 2019 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**


City Clerk Cathy Campbell presented the minutes of the May 21, 2019 Closed Session for review and approval. After a review of the minutes, Councilmember Ballou moved **to approve and seal the minutes of the May 21, 2019 Closed Session meeting as presented.** Councilmember Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to discuss, Mayor Jones adjourned the meeting 7:10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald A. Jones, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Campbell, City Clerk

