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3 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**
4 **OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
5 **TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**
6 **TOWN BOARD MEETING ROOM**
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9 **1. Call to Order**

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11 The regular monthly meeting of the Emerald Isle Board of Commissioners was called to order by
12 Mayor Eddie Barber at 6:00 PM in the Town Board Meeting Room.
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15 **2. Roll Call**

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17 Present for the meeting: Mayor Eddie Barber, Mayor Pro-Tem Floyd Messer, Commissioners
18 Candace Dooley, Steve Finch, Jim Normile and Mark Taylor.
19

20 Also, present during the regular meeting: Town Manager Matt Zapp, Town Attorney Richard
21 Stanley, Town Clerk Sarah Diehl, Finance Director Laura Rotchford, Public Information/ Media
22 Director Anna Smith, Parks and Recreation Director Alesia Sanderson, Police Chief Tony Reese,
23 Assistant Police Chief Michael Panzarella, Public Works Director Artie Dunn, Planning Director
24 Josh Edmondson, EMS Chief David Jones, Fire Chief David Walker and Ocean Rescue
25 Coordinator Billy Matthias.
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27 **3. Opening Prayer**

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29 Mayor Barber offered the Opening Prayer.
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31 **4. Pledge of Allegiance**

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33 Mayor Barber led the Pledge of Allegiance.
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35 **5. Adoption of Agenda**

36
37 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to adopt the Agenda. The Board voted***
38 ***unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***
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40 **6. Proclamations / Public Announcements**

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42 Mayor Barber announced:

- 43
 - American Red Cross Blood Drive - Friday, April 16, 2021 - 2-6 p.m. - Emerald Isle
- 44 Community Center

- 1 • Golf Cart Advisory Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 20, 2021 - 5:30 p.m. - Town
2 Board Meeting Room
- 3 • Planning Board Regular Meeting - Monday, April 26, 2021 - 6 p.m. - Town Board Meeting
4 Room
- 5 • Neighborhood Watch Board Meeting - Tuesday, May 4, 2021 - 4 p.m. - Police
6 Department Conference Room
- 7 • Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting - Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - 6 p.m. - Town Board
8 Meeting Room
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10 **7. Public Comment**

11 Mayor Barber announced there had been 14 written responses regarding paid parking. All were
12 opposed to paid parking. He asked the clerk to enter those comments into the record.

13 There was no public comment (in person) at the meeting.

14

15 **Brief Summary:**

16

17 The public will have the opportunity to address the Board about any items of concern not on the agenda. The
18 Mayor and Board welcome and appreciate all comments from the public, and will take these comments into
19 consideration as they make decisions on Town issues and provide direction to Town staff. Public comment is a time
20 for the Board to listen to the public's concerns and ideas, and is not intended for a lengthy dialogue or question
21 and answer session.
22

23 The Mayor, Board, and Town staff are happy to meet with any citizen during normal business hours or at any other
24 mutually agreeable time to discuss Town issues and answer any questions.

25 **8. Consent Agenda**

- 26 • Minutes from March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting
- 27 • Minutes from March 9, 2021 Special Budget Meeting
- 28 • NCDOT Disaster Related Debris Removal Agreement
- 29 • Amend the Fee Schedule for the Regional Access Paid Parking Fees
- 30 • Resolution Authorizing Audit Services Contract Extension
- 31 • Budget and Capital Project Ordinance Amendments
- 32 • Tax Discovery and Releases
- 33 • Resolution: Requesting the North Carolina Department of Transportation to Move the 45MPH
34 Speed Limit from Seagull Street 800 feet to the east of Blackskimmer
35

36 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Finch to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The***
37 ***Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

38 Clerks Note: Consent agenda items as noted above are incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a part of these
39 minutes.

1 **9. General Public Update: Parking in the Town of Emerald Isle**

2 a. Paid Parking Update

3 Alesia Sanderson, Parks and Recreation Director provided an update on paid parking at the 2
4 accesses. She explained that paid parking went into effect on 04/01. She and the parking
5 company (NC Parking) were working out some kinks and that they were in constant
6 communication with each other. An additional kiosk will be added at each access.
7

8 Commissioner Dooley thanked the lifeguards for risking their lives every day to protect those
9 who visit the beach. She said she loved the island and the people and the town could not spend
10 more than what they had. She hoped everyone would support this great service that is offered.
11

12 b. Digital Map of Free Parking Spaces

13 Josh Edmondson, Planning Director displayed a map of free parking spaces in town. He thanked
14 Gregg Flynn for his help in creating the map.
15

16 c. Media Campaign

17 Anna Smith, Public Information/ Media Director gave an update on the various outlets being
18 used to provide information about paid parking.
19
20

21 **10. General Public Update: 2021 Beach Safety Briefing**

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23 **a. Lifeguards**

24 Billy Matthias, Fire Marshall and Ocean Rescue Coordinator, reviewed the plans for the 2021
25 season with the Board. During the peak season, there will be 20 lifeguards, 4 roaming patrols,
26 and two stationary towers. A supervisor will also be patrolling the strand as well.

27 **b. Beach Patrol**

28 Michael Panzarella, Assistant Police Chief, explained that beach patrol had started early this
29 season ahead of the usual start date of the weekend before Memorial Day.

30 **c. EMS Update**

31 David Jones, EMS Chief, gave his update for the 2021 season. His second response unit has
32 started early this season ahead of their usual May start date.

33 **11. Presentation: Horses on the Public Beach**

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35 Police Chief Tony Reese gave a presentation for horses on the beach. He reviewed current rules
36 and regulations and the issues and concerns that had been raised. He discussed the suggested
37 changes to the current ordinance. There was no public comment.

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Commissioner Messer asked if it would be an annual fee or a daily fee. Chief Reese answered that was the desire of the Board they could do daily, annually, or both. Commissioner Normile suggested a Fee Schedule.

Motion by Commissioner Messer to approve the recommended changes to Article IV of the Town Code, Horses on the Public Trust Beach Area with one-day permit of \$10 and \$50 for an annual permit, free to EI residents who own horses, Purple Heart recipients, Handicap, etc. in keeping with the same conditions as the beach driving permit exceptions The Board voted unanimously in favor, 5-0. Motion Carried.

12. Discussion: Covid-19 Safety and Budget Impacts

Finance Director Rotchford asked for feedback for budget planning purposes regarding the fireworks and beach music. There was discussion about the budget.

There was no public comment.

a. Fireworks

Motion by Commissioner Finch to forgo the July 4th celebrations in order to provide a cost savings of \$24,000 in the FY-22 budget. The Board voted unanimously in favor, 5-0. Motion Carried.

b. Beach Music Celebration

Motion by Commissioner Taylor to forgo the Beach Music Festival in order to provide a cost savings of \$47,000 in the FY-22 budget. The Board voted unanimously in favor, 5-0. Motion Carried.

13. EI Planning Department Site Review

Planning Director Edmondson presented a site plan from Emerald Isle Realty for a driveway extension. He explained that they are working through stormwater review plans and approval would be contingent based on approval of those plans.

There was no public comment

Motion by Commissioner Finch to approve the site plan for the driveway extension at Emerald Isle Realty contingent upon final stormwater plan approval. The Board voted unanimously in favor, 5-0. Motion Carried.

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14. Presentation: Beach Driving Committee Update

Commissioner Taylor reviewed the current fee structure with the Board. After review, the committee was suggesting a \$75 increase to those residents who live outside of Carteret County.

Motion by Commissioner Dooley to recommendations set forth by the Beach Driving Review Committee and the recommended fee schedule. The Board voted unanimously in favor 5-0. Motion Carried.

15. Updates to Existing Noise Ordinances to Establish Decibel Levels

Police Chief Reese explained that the current noise ordinance does not have clear guidelines as to what constitutes a noise violation. A decibel level would be something tangible that they could measure.

Motion by Commissioner Taylor to approve amendments to Article III, Section 9-31 Noise Prohibited of the Town Code with the exception to allow businesses in the commercial district to operate at a decibel level NTE 85 from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. The Board voted unanimously 5-0. Motion Carried.

16. Discussion: Consider an update to the current Yard Waste ordinance

a. Consider an Update of the Yard Waste ordinance

Public Works Director Dunn reviewed the suggested ordinance updates with the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Messer to adopt Sec 13-8 Yard Debris Requirements. The Board voted unanimously 5-0. Motion Carried.

Public Works Director Dunn explained the rollout of a new app for the yard debris truck. Greg Flynn, who helped create the app, said that it would be able to track where the trucks are on the island and will allow for seasonal, monthly, etc, analysis. It will also be able to track and document stops in a storm event which will be helpful for FEMA reimbursement.

b. Consider Leasing a Yardwaste Truck

PWD Dunn explained the terms of the lease for a new yardwaste truck.

1 ***Motion by Commissioner Messer to approve “Resolution Authorizing the Lease of a New Yard***
2 ***Debris Collection Truck”. The Board voted unanimously 5-0. Motion Carried.***

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4 **17. Comments from Town Clerk, Town Attorney and Town Manager**

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6 There were no comments from the Town Clerk, Town Attorney, or Town Manager.

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8 **18. Comments from Board of Commissioners and Mayor**

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10 Commissioner Dooley said that tough decisions had been made during their meeting and they
11 were not done lightly. She thanked everyone for their help in raising funds for the new stage at
12 the Western Regional Beach Access in memory of her friend, Charlie Pake. She thanked the
13 Starcke family for their generous donation and Alesia Sanderson for help in bringing it all
14 together.

15
16 Commissioner Messer thanked Commissioner Dooley for executing her idea and raising funds
17 for a new stage and he thanked everyone for making the budget work.

18
19 Commissioner Taylor thanked Commissioner Dooley and the staff for their work. He said that
20 there would be six scholarships for the EI Fishing Tournament.

21
22 Commissioner Normile wished his grandchildren Kross and Brantley a “happy birthday”.

23
24 Commissioner Finch said that Emerald Isle has a great team of individuals and thanked them for
25 making it a nicer and safer town for everyone.

26
27 **19. Adjourn**

28 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted***
29 ***unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

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31 ***The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.***

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33 Respectfully Submitted:

34
35 Sarah W. Diehl
36 Town Clerk

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