

- 1 b. Future Beach Nourishment Fund
- 2 c. Bicycle and Pedestrian Fund
- 3 9. DRAFT 5-Year Capital Replacement / Improvement Program
- 4 10. General Fund 5-Year Forecast

5

6 **Potential FY 18-19 Budget Issues**

7

- 8 11. Fire Ladder Truck Replacement
- 9 12. 2018 Lifeguard Program
- 10 13. NC 58 Landscaping / Aesthetic Enhancements
- 11 14. Beach Access Walkway Ratings / Replacements
- 12 15. Sound Access Ratings / Replacements
- 13 16. Remaining Storm Water Problem Areas / Potential Solutions
- 14 17. Lee Avenue Culvert Replacement
- 15 18. NC 58 Lighting Improvements / Banners
- 16 19. New Position – Administration, Inspections
- 17 20. Retiree Health Insurance – Continued Longevity
- 18 21. Employee Compensation
- 19 22. White Oak Elementary School Resource Officer Funding
- 20 23. Other Potential Budget Items
 - 21 a. Vehicle speed monitoring devices
 - 22 b. Flashing pedestrian crosswalk signs
 - 23 c. Ice machine, associated equipment
 - 24 d. Snow removal equipment
 - 25 e. Beach vehicle ramp, park gates
 - 26 f. Expand “beach swing” program
 - 27 g. Additional street lighting on Coast Guard Road
 - 28 h. Additional Christmas decorations
 - 29 i. Pickleball court options
 - 30 j. July 4 Fireworks

31

32 **Potential Future Capital Projects**

33

- 34 24. Fire Station 1 Renovation and Expansion
- 35 25. NC 58 “Downtown” Street Improvements / Bogue Inlet Drive Intersection
- 36 26. Next Steps – NC 58 Traffic Improvements
- 37 27. Future Development of McLean-Spell Park
- 38 28. Future Bicycle Path and Sidewalk Improvements
- 39
- 40 29. Eastern EI Beach Nourishment, Bogue Inlet Realignment /Western EI Beach
- 41 Nourishment

1 **30. Eastern Ocean Regional Access Entrance Congestion**

2
3 **Other Issues To Consider**

4
5 **31. Additional / Expand Fall special event**

6
7 **Board Direction**

8
9 **32. Board Discussion, Identification of Additional Priorities, Concerns, Etc.**

10
11 Following the discussion of each agenda item with the Town Manager, and Departments heads,
12 the Town Board provided their feedback and outlined their priorities for the upcoming year.

13
14 Town Manager Rush summarized the Boards direction and priorities for formulating the FY
15 18-19 budget as outlined below:

16
17 **Budget Issues:**

- 18
19 • Highest priority – maintain current 15.5 cent (14 cents general, 1.5 cents beach
20 nourishment) property tax rate.
- 21
22 • Board was generally comfortable with all items discussed today, and would support all
23 of them if it’s possible to include them without an increase in the General Fund property
24 tax rate (highly unlikely, and choices will need to be made).
- 25
26 • Highest priority items include installation of either LED or metal halide lighting in the
27 “downtown” area, gradual installation of river rock in landscaping beds along NC 58,
28 continued progress on resolving remaining storm water concerns in various
29 neighborhoods, replacement of Lee Street culvert, additional staffing at Eastern Ocean
30 Regional Access parking lot at peak times to (hopefully) eliminate entrance congestion,
31 and construction / installation of new pedestrian bridge over Archers Creek from the
32 Community Center to the new McLean-Spell Park land. Consider Bicycle and Pedestrian
33 Fund for 50% of cost of new pedestrian bridge to McLean-Spell Park.
- 34
35 • Town staff will proceed with installation of river rock in the NC 58 median approaching
36 the roundabout, and have this in place when the roundabout is open for public use next
37 week.
- 38
39 • Board has reasonable interest in establishing retiree health insurance benefit in the
40 future. Town staff will provide detailed report about how the plan is structured at the
41 State, Carteret County, Atlantic Beach, Morehead City, and Cape Carteret (and possibly

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- 1 others) for further review. We will also develop another lower-cost alternative that
2 provides an equal benefit to for all retired employees (not tied to % of salary).
3
- 4 • Tentatively plan for 2% COLA for Town employees, depending on change in CPI as of
5 March. Also review need for other targeted salary adjustments and/or range
6 adjustments, particularly for Police positions.
7
 - 8 • Delay replacement of Fire ladder truck until FY 19-20, and perhaps longer. Re-evaluate
9 at 2019 budget planning workshop meeting, and annually thereafter as needed. Plan
10 accordingly for future replacement of EMS ambulances, and consider short-term
11 installment financing agreements for ambulances rather than “pay-as-you-go” funding
12 in one particular fiscal year.
13
 - 14 • Board is comfortable with beach access walkway recommendations for Page Place
15 (Randy’s Way), Channel Drive, and Joel Street. Board would also like to see
16 improvements to interior wooden walkways at the Western Ocean Regional Access,
17 including shower area. Depending on final outcome of Islander Drive land sale, sale
18 proceeds potentially invested in WORA walkways and other improvements.
19
 - 20 • Board is comfortable with the replacement of the Emerald Isle Woods Park pier if funds
21 permit. Where possible, Town staff should investigate additional kayak launch devices
22 on the sound.
23
 - 24 • Continue annual appropriation to enable Public Works to address remaining storm
25 water problem areas.
26
 - 27 • If budget will accommodate additional expense, consider installing 6 ft. x 6 ft. concrete
28 culvert at Archers Creek at Lee Street (~\$35,000) to promote kayak access. If budget will
29 not permit and/or if creek depths are not sufficient between Lee and McLean-Spell Park
30 land, consider 5 ft. corrugated HDPE pipe (~\$15,000).
31
 - 32 • Pursue funding for new banners to promote special events through the Tourism
33 Development Authority. Also implement program for individuals to “sponsor” a banner
34 to honor veterans and active service members.
35
 - 36 • Consider new position for Town Administration / Town Planner in the context of
37 available budget funds – if it can be accommodated without tax rate increase –
38 proceed. If not, reconsider.
39
 - 40 • Draft letter to Carteret County requesting fair share contribution toward White Oak
41 Elementary School Resource Officer.

- 1
- 2 • Invest appropriately in July 4 fireworks celebration, also pursue additional street lights
- 3 along Coast Guard Road at strategic locations, and continue “beach swing” sponsorship
- 4 program.
- 5
- 6 • Delay action on Fire Station 1 renovation and expansion for at least one year, and
- 7 perhaps longer, until different Fire and EMS service models can be considered in the
- 8 future. Focus efforts on this analysis during FY 18-19.
- 9
- 10 • Schedule small group meetings with business owners, Board members, and NCDOT
- 11 officials to review potential NC 58 / Bogue Inlet Drive improvements in March. Be
- 12 sensitive to likely access concerns from “downtown” business owners, and plan
- 13 accordingly for any detours / disruption associated with construction process.
- 14
- 15 • Continue tentative beach nourishment and Bogue Inlet channel plans as discussed.
- 16
- 17 • Continue efforts to develop fall fishing tournament, possibly in conjunction with EI
- 18 Beach Music Festival weekend or later, depending on other area events scheduled.
- 19
- 20 • Implement “welcome packet” to new residents of Emerald Isle to explain services
- 21 available in the community. Coordinate with efforts currently being developed by
- 22 Neighborhood Watch Committee.
- 23

24 **(Detailed backup information for all items are attached to and, incorporated into these**
25 **minutes.)**

26

27 The Recommended Budget will be presented to the Board on May 8, 2018, after which the
28 Board will meet to review and adjust as necessary or desired.

29

30 **Closed Session**

31

32 **33. Closed Session – Economic Development, Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4)**

33

34 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-***
35 ***318.11(a)(4). The Board voted unanimously 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

36

37 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to return to open session. The Board voted***
38 ***unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

39 Upon returning to Open Session there was no action taken by the Board as a result of Closed
40 Session.

41

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1 **Adjourn**

2

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

5

6 ***The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.***

7

8 Respectfully submitted:

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10

11

12 Rhonda C. Ferebee, CMC, NCCMC

13 Town Clerk

14

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19