

1
2 Police Chief Tony Reese introduced Police Records Administrator Helen Ramazio noting that
3 Helen grew up in Florida working in her parent's hotel in the hospitality industry. Chief Reese
4 stated that Helen graduated from the University of Central Florida with a BS Degree in Science,
5 and Business Administration Summa Cum Laude. Chief Reese noted that Helen worked in
6 Virginia for J. F. Fick, Inc., an Anheuser Busch beer distributor, for 23 years as a sales and
7 business analyst. Chief Reese said Helen had been coming to Emerald Isle for 10 years, buying a
8 vacation home here 5 years ago, and had recently moved here full time. Chief Reese stated
9 that Helen was excited to be working for the Town, and being a proud member of the Emerald
10 Isle team.

11
12 EMS Chief David Jones introduced Paramedic Amanda Popp who was originally from Chicago,
13 Illinois, moving to Beaufort, North Carolina about 7 years ago. Chief Jones noted Amanda had
14 been in EMS for the past 20 years, a Paramedic for the last 2 years, and had PRN'd for the Town
15 for the last two years as well. Chief Jones noted that of the 20 years Amanda spent 5 years in
16 EMS as a Navy Corps, she had an AS Degree in EMS, and was nearing completion of her BS
17 Degree in EMS in July. Chief Jones stated Amanda was very excited to be working for the Town
18 in her full-time role.

19
20 Fire Chief Bill Walker introduced Fire Engineer Bryan Myers who was originally from Harrisburg,
21 North Carolina and had been in Fire Service for 16 years. Chief Walker noted that Bryan came
22 to the Town from the Town of Beaufort Fire Department, holding various fire certificates
23 including Fire Officer, and Fire Instructor, and was currently enrolled in Columbia Southern
24 University studying for his BS Degree in Fire Science.

25
26 **7. Proclamations / Public Announcements**

27
28 **a. Proclamation Honoring Yardworks Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc. (18-05-08/P1)**

29
30 Mayor Barber read aloud a special Proclamation honoring Jimmy Farrington and Chad
31 MacAvery and recognizing Yardworks Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc. for their generous
32 contributions to the Town of Emerald Isle projects over the years, and for their commitment to
33 the Emerald Isle Community. Mayor Barber on behalf of the entire Town of Emerald Isle
34 expressed sincere appreciation for their exemplary community service.

35
36 Jimmy Farrington thanked everyone for the special recognition. Mr. Farrington said they were
37 a part of the Jean Preston Park including a lot of other people involved, and they liked to
38 involve a lot of people in all the projects they did. Mr. Farrington stated that Emerald Isle was
39 an absolutely beautiful place and they wanted to keep it that way. Mr. Farrington said they
40 enjoyed every project and thanked the Town for all they did and the great people who lived in
41 this community. Mr. MacAvery added that they were always here for the Town.

42

1 Mayor Barber noted the following Proclamations and public announcements:

- 2
3 **b. Proclamation – National Police Week (18-05-08/P2)**
4 **c. Proclamation – National Public Works Week (18-05-08/P3)**
5 **d. Proclamation – Safe Boating Week (18-05-08/P4)**
6 **e. Proclamation – EMS Week (18-05-08/P5)**
7 **f. Proclamation – Older Americans Month (18-05-08/P6)**
8

- 9 • **Friday Free Flick – Friday, May 11 – 7 pm – Community Center**
10 • **Police Educating the Public (PEP) – Tuesday, May 15 – 10 am – Town Board Meeting Room**
11 • **Golf Cart Advisory Committee Meeting – Tuesday, May 15 – 5:30 pm – Town Board**
12 **Meeting Room**
13 • **Board of Commissioners Budget Meeting – Wednesday, May 16 – 9 am - Town**
14 **Administration Building**
15 • **Dog Park Development Committee Meeting – Wednesday, May 16 – 3 pm – Community**
16 **Center**
17 • **American Heart Association Heart Saver CPR Class – Saturday, May 19 – 9 am – 1 pm –**
18 **EMS Station**
19 • **Golf Cart Safety / Regulations Class – Saturday, May 19 – 10 am – Town Board Meeting**
20 **Room**
21 • **Planning Board Regular Meeting – Monday, May 21 – 6 pm – Town Board Meeting Room**
22 • **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting – Wednesday, May 23 – 9 am –**
23 **Community Center**
24 • **Coffee With A Cop – Thursday, May 24 – 9 am – Emerald Grill**
25 • **Golf Cart Safety / Regulations Class – Friday, May 25 – 6 pm – Town Board Meeting Room**
26 • **Memorial Day Holiday – Monday, May 28 – Town Offices Closed, Community Center**
27 **Closed**
28 • **Neighborhood Watch Quarterly Meeting – Tuesday, June 5 – 6 pm – Town Board Meeting**
29 **Room**
30 • **Board of Commissioners Budget Meeting – Tuesday, June 5 – 6 pm – Town Administration**
31 **Building**
32 • **EmeraldFest Concert – Paul Colman – Thurs, June 7 – 6:30 pm – 8 pm – Western Ocean**
33 **Regional Access**
34 • **Friday Free Flick – Friday, June 8 – 7 pm- Community Center**
35 • **Youth Fishing Derby – Saturday, June 9 – 9 am – 11 pm – Bogue Inlet Pier**
36 • **Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 12 – 6 pm – Town Board**
37 **Meeting Room**
38

39 Clerks Note: A copy of Proclamations 18-05-08/P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, and P6 as noted above are incorporated herein by
40 reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.
41

1 **8. Public Comment**

2
3 **Brief Summary:**

4
5 The public will have the opportunity to address the Board about any items of concern not on the agenda. The
6 Mayor and Board welcome and appreciate all comments from the public, and will take these comments into
7 consideration as they make decisions on Town issues and provide direction to Town staff. Public comment is a time
8 for the Board to listen to the public's concerns and ideas, and is not intended for a lengthy dialogue or question
9 and answer session.

10
11 The Mayor, Board, and Town staff are happy to meet with any citizen during normal business hours or at any other
12 mutually agreeable time to discuss Town issues and answer any questions.

13
14 Taney Browder, 7515 Sound Drive, stated that he was currently serving on the Golf Cart
15 Advisory Committee and they were working on some places up on Ocean Drive which wouldn't
16 be intrusive to existing residences. Mr. Browder commented that the Dog Park Committee was
17 recruited to gauge community support and he presumed support had been found to review
18 potential locations, designs, funding, etc. Mr. Browder mentioned a meeting that Town
19 Manager Rush had with his neighbors where apparently the location was looking like it would
20 be in the McLean-Spell Park and he wasn't confident that the petition he had seen that was in
21 favor of the Dog Park was an accurate representation of the community support. Mr. Browder
22 said he had talked to a bunch of his neighbors and most of them were not in favor of it and he
23 felt personally it was not necessary and believed it would create a nuisance and maintenance
24 issue for the Town. Mr. Browder said anyone walking on the beaches and local streets already
25 knew there were people who didn't properly pick up after their animals. Mr. Browder noted
26 that the National Veterinarians Association recommended that you didn't take pets to dog
27 parks because of disease transmission. Mr. Browder said he was not in favor of dog parks.

28
29 Mr. Browder also commented that he heard rumblings from some of his neighbors about the
30 plans for the access for the McLean-Spell Park off the two stub streets off Sound Drive. Mr.
31 Browder said just the stub street neighbors were involved in the discussion and he felt more
32 neighbors should have been involved. Mr. Browder noted that Town Manager Rush had
33 indicated that there would be two golf cart parking spaces installed at each of the stub street
34 entries before the berms. Mr. Browder said there were berms at the back of the right-of-way
35 near the back of the property line for the adjacent owners and you couldn't hardly walk up the
36 hill. Mr. Browder felt if they put golf cart parking before the berm it would be a privacy issue
37 for the neighbors and even though they may have acquiesced during the meeting, he didn't
38 think they were altogether too happy with it. Mr. Browder felt being a neighbor he wouldn't be
39 in favor of it, and being on the Golf Cart Committee he wouldn't be in favor of that kind of
40 privacy intrusion. Mr. Browder recommended something be done about the slope of the berm
41 to solve the safety issue, and that the golf cart spaces should be tucked back in the woods
42 behind the berm.

43

1 **9. Consent Agenda**

- 2
- 3 a. Tax Releases
 - 4 b. Minutes – March 13, 2018 Regular Meeting
 - 5 c. Capital Project Ordinance Amendment – Islander Drive Land Acquisition
 - 6 d. Capital Project Ordinance Amendment – McLean-Spell Park
- 7

8 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Finch to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The***
9 ***Board voted unanimously 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

10
11 Clerks Note: A copy of all Consent Agenda items as noted above are incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a
12 part of these minutes.

13
14 **10. Presentation – FY 18-19 Recommended Budget**

15
16 Town Manager Frank Rush addressed the Board concerning this Agenda item. The following
17 excerpt from his memo to the Board is provided for additional background:

18
19 The FY 18-19 Recommended Budget is complete and will be formally presented to the Board and the public at the
20 May 8 regular meeting. In an effort to better educate the Board and the public about the Town’s budget, I will
21 make a detailed presentation summarizing the FY 18-19 Recommended Budget, and will provide handouts for the
22 public at the May 8 meeting.

23
24 I have attached a copy of the “Budget Message”, which provides a comprehensive discussion of the issues
25 associated with the FY 18-19 budget. A “Quick Summary”, “All Funds (Summary)”, “General Fund Budget
26 Summary”, and other materials are also attached. The full budget document will be provided to you under
27 separate cover, and is also available on the Town’s website.

28
29 The total FY 18-19 Recommended Budget is \$10,669,900, a \$787,733, or 7.9% increase from the adopted FY 17-18
30 budget. The Board should note that this increase is skewed by an accounting change for EMS service fees
31 (\$215,000), and also by the one-time inclusion of proceeds from the Islander Drive land sale (\$200,000) that will
32 reimburse the Future Beach Nourishment Fund. Without the inclusion of these two revenue sources, the increase
33 would be \$372,733, or 3.8%. The General Fund is the largest component of the Town’s budget, with total
34 expenditures of \$9,998,100, which is a \$543,924, or 5.8% increase from the adopted current year budget. Without
35 the accounting change for EMS service fees, the increase would be \$328,924, or 3.5%. The Future Beach
36 Nourishment Fund budget is \$939,500, which includes \$200,000 from the Islander Drive land sale proceeds, and is
37 thus more than recent years. The full amount of \$939,500 would be reserved for future beach nourishment
38 activities. Recommended appropriations are also included for the Half-Marathon Fund (\$72,000), the Beach Music
39 Festival Fund (\$55,300), and the EMS Volunteer Fund (\$5,000).

40
41 In accordance with the Board’s top budget priority, I am pleased to report that the Recommended Budget includes
42 no increase in property tax rates and most other fees. The recommended General Fund tax rate for FY 18-19 is
43 unchanged at 15.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, with 14 cents allocated for general Town services and 1.5
44 cents specifically earmarked for beach nourishment. The recommended Primary Benefit District (oceanfront and
45 inlet-front properties only; for beach nourishment) property tax rate would remain at 4 cents, and this rate, along
46 with the \$400,000 transfer from the General Fund, will enable the Town to reserve the historical annual amount
47 for future beach nourishment activities (plus the \$200,000 Islander Drive land reimbursement). There is also no

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 6 of 20

1 change in the Town's annual solid waste fee, and this fee would remain at \$228 for all developed residential
2 properties, which equates to \$19 per month for all Town solid waste services (trash, recycling, yard debris
3 collection, beach strand collection, and more). The Recommended Budget does include two relatively minor fee
4 adjustments: a \$50 annual (or \$4.17 per month) increase in all Community Center membership categories, and the
5 addition of Fridays for regional beach access parking fees. These fee increases will impact approximately 350 of
6 the Town's 7,370 real property taxpayers.

7
8 The FY 18-19 Recommended Budget includes sufficient resources to enable Town staff to maintain the high service
9 quality expectations of our residents and visitors, and includes funding to compensate Town employees fairly,
10 replace necessary vehicles and capital equipment, meet inflationary and other service demand pressures, and
11 enhance staff capabilities. The Recommended Budget includes a few notable service enhancements, including
12 funding for additional NC 58 corridor aesthetic enhancements, additional lifeguard coverage during the summer
13 season, full-year funding for the new EMS department, and the establishment of a reserve fund for future golf cart
14 path infrastructure improvements. The Recommended Budget also facilitates a major beach nourishment project
15 in eastern Emerald Isle, significant streetscape improvements along Islander Drive and improvements to the
16 Western Ocean Regional Access, and initial park improvements at the new McLean-Spell Park.

17
18 Overall, I believe the FY 18-19 Recommended Budget represents a fiscally responsible spending plan for the next
19 year, and that it addresses the Board's expressed priorities. We have tentatively scheduled two special budget
20 meetings for the Board to review and discuss the Recommended Budget. The first one is scheduled for
21 Wednesday, May 16 at 9 am in the Town Administration Conference Room, and Town department heads will brief
22 the Board on their respective budgets at that meeting. The second special budget meeting is scheduled for
23 Tuesday, June 5 at 6 pm (also in the Town Administration Conference Room), and will also include the legally
24 required public hearing. These dates and times can be adjusted, and additional budget meetings can be scheduled
25 as necessary or desired between May 9 and June 11. I am hopeful that the Board will formally approve the FY 18-
26 19 budget at your regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 12 at 6 pm.

27
28 I look forward to reviewing the Recommended Budget with you in the coming weeks.

29
30 Town Manager Frank Rush provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation of the FY 2018-19
31 Recommended Budget for the Board and public. Town Manager Rush stated that he believed
32 the Recommended Budget reflected the priorities that the Board expressed at their previous
33 workshop meetings and over the course of the past year. Town Manager Rush thanked the
34 Town staff for their hard work in putting together the Recommended Budget as it was a team
35 effort and he appreciated their commitment particularly Finance Director Laura Rotchford.
36 Town Manager Rush said he looked forward to working with the Board in the next few weeks,
37 and by law the Board was required to adopt the budget no later than June 30, and barring some
38 unforeseen circumstances he expected the Board would be in position to adopt the budget by
39 June 12, the next regular meeting. Town Manager Rush noted that the first budget workshop
40 meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 16 at 9am at the Town Administration Building,
41 another meeting Tuesday, June 5 at 6pm, which was the official public hearing. Town Manager
42 Rush said if more time was needed the Board could meet as often as needed over the course of
43 the next several weeks. Town Manager Rush reiterated again, as he did each year, that this was
44 the Town Manager's Recommended Budget developed with a keen level of attention to the
45 Board's goals and to the Board's priorities moving forward, and was put together with a lot of
46 input from Town staff and their expertise, also reflecting some of the comments and

1 suggestions heard in the community over the last year, representing our best recommendation
2 to the Board. Town Manager Rush said at the end of the day it needed to reflect the Board's
3 priorities so he hoped they had done a good job of articulating those priorities but if not that
4 the Board adjust in any way they thought more clearly reflected their priorities and vision for
5 the community.

6
7 Mayor Barber thanked Town Manager Rush for the excellent presentation, and Finance
8 Director Laura Rotchford as well for all of her hard work.

9
10 Commissioner Messer commented that for the last several years during the budget process he
11 had thought they would have to have a 1 cent or 1.5 cent increase because of salary increases,
12 insurance going through the roof, and all of the things the Town was doing but somehow or
13 other this group of people made it happen and his hat was off to them for a great job.

14
15 **11. Hurricane Preparedness Items**

- 16
17 **a. Overview – Emergency Operations Plan**
18 **b. Resolution Authorizing Emergency Operations Agreement (Off-Island EOC) (18-05-08/R1)**
19 **c. Resolution Authorizing Pre-Positioned Hurricane Debris Removal Contract (18-05-08/R2)**
20

21 Fire Chief Bill Walker, and Public Works Director Artie Dunn addressed the Board concerning
22 this Agenda item. The following excerpt from the Town Manager's memo to the Board is
23 provided for additional background:

24
25 With hurricane season approaching, I have scheduled time on the May 8 meeting agenda for the Board and the
26 public to receive a presentation from Fire Chief Bill Walker about the Town's Emergency Operations Plan.
27 Additionally, the Board will consider 2 items aimed at insuring the Town's preparedness for any hurricane threats
28 during the 2018 hurricane season.

29
30 **Overview – Emergency Operations Plan**

31 I have attached a copy of a Power Point presentation that Chief Walker will make to the Board at the May 8
32 meeting. The presentation provides a good summary of the Town's plan, and he will elaborate on the elements of
33 the plan at the May 8 meeting and be available for questions.

34
35 The Town is fortunate to have had a very good plan in place for several years, thanks largely to Chief Walker's
36 outstanding efforts in this area. The Town's plan has been in effect since 1987, and has been revised on six
37 occasions, with the most recent revisions completed in 2012. This plan has served the Town well through the
38 hurricanes of the 1990s, 2000s, and 2010s. Overall I have been very pleased with the Town's plan and the Town
39 staff's efforts before, during, and after all of the hurricanes that have impacted us during my tenure with the
40 Town.

41
42 The responsibility for declaring a State of Emergency, ordering an evacuation, and establishing a curfew officially
43 rests with the Mayor, who would issue a proclamation to that effect. The actual practice used by the Mayor for
44 previous hurricane events and the intended practice for future storm events is to operate as a team, with input
45 from the other Board members, the Town Manager, the Town staff, the other Bogue Banks municipalities, and the

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 8 of 20

1 County to assist the Mayor in making these decisions. The Town is fortunate to have an excellent working
2 relationship with the Carteret County Emergency Services Office and the other municipalities on Bogue Banks. The
3 typical evacuation decision process involves the use of a “control group” of County, municipal, and other officials
4 that convenes in the days and hours prior to a storm’s arrival to review storm scenarios and gauge the threat
5 posed. Ideally, each Bogue Banks town will support the control group’s recommendation on evacuation, which is
6 extremely helpful in public communication efforts and intergovernmental coordination. This was the case for all
7 hurricane events in the 2000s and 2010s, and we hope and expect that this cooperation will continue in the future.
8 However, if the Town determines that it is not in our residents’ best interest to proceed in the manner
9 recommended by the “control group”, the Town has the legal authority and responsibility to our residents to act in
10 whichever manner it deems best. Such a situation would likely involve extenuating or very unique circumstances
11 relative to Emerald Isle only.

12
13 The most frequent question asked during any hurricane threat is **“when does the bridge close?”**. The Board and
14 the public should note **that there is no set wind speed at which the bridge closes**. For practical purposes, the
15 Emerald Isle bridge is closed when the Town has declared a State of Emergency, issued an evacuation order, and
16 has established restrictions on the public’s movement within, into, and out of Emerald Isle. For example, the Town
17 might enact a State of Emergency that requires everyone to evacuate by 6 pm. After 6 pm, no one would be
18 allowed back into Emerald Isle (on to the island via the Emerald Isle bridge) until such time that the State of
19 Emergency is amended or rescinded. The Town has typically allowed individuals to leave via the bridge after 6 pm
20 (traveling at their own risk over the bridge) in the interest of promoting the individuals’ decision to evacuate.

21
22 Once the State of Emergency, etc. is ordered, significant authority is vested in the Town Manager until the
23 emergency situation is cleared. As Town Manager, I accept and welcome that responsibility, however, I want to
24 stress to the Board that my approach is very much a team-oriented approach, and I rely heavily on all of the
25 department heads, and the Fire Chief and Police Chief in particular. I also attempt to keep the Mayor and Board
26 well-informed, and solicit input when relevant and practical without compromising the public’s safety. I also
27 consult with the County and the other Bogue Banks municipalities in an effort to make coordinated decisions.

28
29 The Town implements a 24-hour curfew during a State of Emergency after a mandatory evacuation is complete.
30 The Emerald Isle bridge is closed to the public during the curfew, as no one should be in the Town off of their
31 private property (although, as noted above, the Town has typically allowed individuals to leave after the
32 evacuation deadline in the interest of promoting their decision to evacuate). After damage assessment is
33 complete and any safety hazards are eliminated, a decision is made to amend or rescind the State of Emergency,
34 and allow re-entry into Emerald Isle to either the general public or only those with official hurricane re-entry
35 passes. Depending on the extent of damage, the curfew may remain in effect on a full or limited basis.

36
37 After the threat has passed, and it is deemed safe to end the curfew and allow re-entry to Emerald Isle, a
38 proclamation is issued by the Mayor to rescind the State of Emergency. Again, although this responsibility officially
39 rests with the Mayor, recent practice has involved communication with the Board, Town Manager, Town staff, the
40 other towns on Bogue Banks, and the County to make a group decision. This practice has worked well for previous
41 hurricanes, and ideally this approach will continue in the future. The Board should note, however, that after
42 Hurricane Irene in August 2011, the Town actually made a decision to allow re-entry into Emerald Isle earlier than
43 the other towns on Bogue Banks due to the fact that there was less impact to Emerald Isle, and essentially no
44 reason for the Town to not allow the public to return several hours earlier than the other towns. This example is
45 somewhat of an anomaly, and generally speaking we would expect all 4 of the towns on Bogue Banks to allow re-
46 entry at the same time.

47
48 The Town continues to use the permanent hurricane re-entry passes assigned to each property owner in 2000.
49 These passes are permanent and should be transferred with the property upon sale. Replacement or additional re-
50 entry passes may be purchased by residents and property owners at a cost of \$25 each. The hurricane re-entry

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 9 of 20

1 passes are only used in the event that there is major damage and/or unsafe conditions in the Town and there is a
2 need to allow property owners only into the Town before conditions are safe enough to allow the general public
3 into the Town. A similar re-entry pass system is used by the other municipalities on Bogue Banks. Fortunately, we
4 have not had to utilize the re-entry passes for the hurricane events during the 2000s and 2010s, as none of these
5 events caused significant damage that warranted limiting access to Emerald Isle property owners only. In all of the
6 events of the 2000s and the 2010s, the damage was relatively minor, and decisions were made to open the island
7 to all persons at a particular time.

8
9 For the past several years, the Town has entered into pre-positioned debris removal, storm water pump, and
10 electric generator contracts in late spring / early summer so that the Town is prepared prior to hurricane impacts,
11 can respond as quickly as possible after the storm, and to promote full reimbursement of storm-related expenses.
12 These pre-positioned contracts are only activated if the Town is impacted by a hurricane, and in most cases the
13 costs associated with these contracts are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Town
14 has utilized the debris contract and storm water pump contracts in the past, but has not had to activate the
15 generator contract due to the quick return of electric power to the Town after recent hurricanes. The Board will
16 consider a new pre-positioned contract for debris removal at the May 8 meeting. The Town previously executed
17 (2-year) pre-positioned storm water pump and electric generator contracts in 2017, and these contracts remain in
18 place for the 2018 hurricane season. These pre-positioned contracts will save the Town valuable time and trouble
19 if the need for these contracts arises this year.

20
21 The Town also places a high priority on keeping our residents and property owners well-informed about hurricane
22 threats, impacts, and other pertinent issues. Regular updates are posted on the Town's website before, during,
23 and after hurricane events, and we also send the same updates to all subscribers to the Town's email newsletter.
24 We also send Twitter messages with this same information, post information to the Town's Facebook page, issue
25 "push" notifications via the Emerald Isle App, and send out text message alerts to keep the public informed. All of
26 this information is also provided to local and State media outlets. We also make special arrangements to man the
27 Police Department's administrative phone line (354-2021) for extended hours before, during, and after a hurricane
28 event.

29
30 For paper conservation reasons, I have not attached a copy of the Town's Emergency Operations Plan. Please let
31 me know if you need a copy of the entire plan and I will make sure you receive it as soon as possible. It is also
32 available online at <http://www.emeraldisle-nc.org/Data/Sites/1/media/employees/Emerald-Isle-EOP.pdf> .

33
34 Resolution Authorizing Emergency Operations Agreement – Off-Island EOC

35 The Board of Commissioners is asked to approve the attached Resolution Authorizing Emergency Operations
36 Agreement to formally renew a relationship with McNeill's Golf Management, Inc. for the use of the Silver Creek
37 Golf Club clubhouse building as an off-island emergency operations center (EOC). The attached agreement is
38 identical to an agreement first executed by the Town in 2012 and renewed several times since 2012. Fortunately,
39 the Town has not had the need to utilize the Silver Creek Golf Club facility for previous hurricane events.

40
41 For Category I, Category II, and (some) Category III hurricanes, the Town's emergency operations center is
42 technically the Town Administration Building, but is essentially decentralized to the various Town departments
43 located at the Town Government complex. The Town would utilize the off-island EOC only if the Town is
44 threatened and/or impacted by a Category III hurricane or larger and it becomes necessary to relocate all essential
45 personnel from the island for safety reasons. The Town's emergency operations plan stipulates that a decision for
46 essential personnel to evacuate the island for a Category III storm is a judgment call (may remain or may leave,
47 depending on the circumstances of the particular storm), and stipulates that essential personnel will evacuate if
48 the Town is threatened by a Category IV or V hurricane.

49

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 10 of 20

1 Under the attached agreement, Town public safety personnel (Police, Fire, and EMS) and other essential personnel
2 (Town Manager and certain employees in other Town departments) would relocate to the Silver Creek Golf Club
3 clubhouse, located in Peletier just off of NC 58, along with the strategic relocation of key Town vehicles and
4 equipment. The golf clubhouse facility has ample room for Town staff inside the building, and there is significant
5 parking available for Town vehicles and equipment. The Town's intent would be to remain at this facility during
6 the storm, return to the island for damage assessment as soon as possible after the storm, and relocate all Town
7 operations back to the island as soon as safe and feasible. The attached agreement allows the Town to remain at
8 the Silver Creek location as long as necessary, and Town staff would obviously be working to minimize the length
9 of stay.

10
11 McNeill's Golf Management, Inc. has again offered to make this facility available at no cost to the Town, however,
12 the agreement does include a provision for the payment of rent if the duration of the Town's stay exceeds 1 week.
13 In this event, it is very likely that FEMA would reimburse the Town for such rental expenses. The Town greatly
14 appreciates the community spirit of Eddie McNeill, the owner of the Silver Creek Golf Club, in making this facility
15 available to the Town.

16
17 The agreement stipulates that the Town will be responsible for any damages to the facility caused by the Town's
18 use, and also indemnifies McNeill's Golf Management, Inc. from any claims arising out of the Town's use of the
19 facility.

20
21 Fire Chief Walker and Assistant Chief Askew previously completed a through review of potential off-island EOC
22 locations in western Carteret County, and believe that the Silver Creek location best meets the Town's needs in the
23 event of a potentially catastrophic hurricane event. The Silver Creek location is approximately 5.2 miles from the
24 Emerald Isle side of the NC 58 bridge, and has an elevation of approximately 32 feet above sea level. The
25 clubhouse building appears to be sound construction, has ample room for Town staff, and also includes cooking
26 and bathroom facilities. We believe this location is a much better alternative than the previously identified Bogue
27 Sound Elementary School on NC 24 near Broad Creek. That location is approximately 8.8 miles from the Emerald
28 Isle side of the NC 58 bridge and is at an elevation of approximately 21 feet above sea level. In addition, it is a
29 much larger building than needed by the Town and involves a larger public organization with more complex
30 decision-making processes.

31
32 The agreement has an initial term of slightly more than 6 months, through November 30, 2018, in order to extend
33 through the 2018 hurricane season. The agreement will be evaluated on an annual basis thereafter, and extended
34 with mutual consent. It is important to note that the Silver Creek Golf Club clubhouse is not currently equipped
35 with an emergency generator, however, the Town previously financed the installation of a transfer switch at the
36 building to enable the connection of a portable generator. If needed, the Town will relocate an existing portable
37 generator to the Silver Creek facility, and will be able to provide electricity for basic needs only.

38
39 I recommend approval of the attached resolution. I am thankful that we have not had the need to use an off-
40 island EOC in the past, and I hope that we never need to utilize the Silver Creek location in the future, however, it
41 is obviously prudent to have this arrangement in place prior to the actual need.

42
43 Resolution Authorizing Pre-Positioned Hurricane Debris Removal Contract

44 The Board of Commissioners is asked to approve the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute
45 a pre-positioned disaster debris removal contract with Santee Modular Homes, Santee, SC. This contract would
46 only be activated if a hurricane strikes and the Town needs outside assistance to remove storm debris.

47
48 The Town is wise to enter into a pre-positioned contract for debris removal, as it fosters a quick response in the
49 event that a storm does strike Emerald Isle. It also allows us to resolve contractual issues up-front, without the
50 stress of responding in the immediate aftermath of a hurricane. The Town has entered into a pre-positioned

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 11 of 20

1 contract for the past several years, and fortunately has only had to actually activate the contract twice. The Town
2 activated its contract with Tarheel Specialties, Linden, NC, in 2005 due to debris generated by Hurricane Ophelia,
3 and activated its contract with Disaster Recovery Group and Tree Services, Arden, NC, in 2011 due to debris
4 generated by Hurricane Irene. The pre-positioned nature of the contract enabled these contractors to begin work
5 almost immediately after the storm, and also saved Town staff valuable time to devote to other storm-related
6 issues. I am hopeful that we will not be impacted by a storm this year and will thus not activate the debris
7 contract, however, I am pleased that we will be prepared ahead of time. The proposed contract with Santee
8 Modular Homes requires debris removal operations to begin with 48 hours of notice to proceed.
9

10 Barry Johnson, the Town's FEMA consultant and Artie Dunn, Public Works Director, coordinated the bid process for
11 this pre-positioned contract. We received bids from 5 firms, and Santee Modular Homes is determined to be the
12 overall low bidder. Unit price costs are as follows:
13

14	Construction and Demolition Debris Removal	\$63.50 per ton
15	(disposal at CRSWMA facility in Tuscarora, NC)	
16		
17	Construction and Demolition Debris Removal – Beach	\$73.50 per ton
18	(disposal at CRSWMA facility in Tuscarora, NC)	
19		
20	Vegetative Debris Removal	\$7.50 per cubic yard
21	(disposal within 30 mile round trip)	
22		

23 As noted in the attached letter from Barry Johnson, the Town's FEMA consultant, the determination of Santee
24 Modular Homes as the low bidder is based on an assumption of the amount of debris generated by a Category 2
25 storm, as calculated based on Federal guidance and outlined in the Town's bid documents. As noted on the bid
26 tabulation, Santee Modular Homes is the low bidder for two of the three categories, and the application of the
27 FEMA model results in Santee Modular Homes being the overall low bidder. Barry Johnson has completed a
28 thorough evaluation of Santee Modular Homes, and is confident in their ability to complete the work in a timely
29 and quality manner.
30

31 The Board should note that the bid process was based on assumptions that the construction and demolition debris
32 will be disposed of at the Coastal Environmental Partnership's facility in Tuscarora, NC, however, if Carteret County
33 establishes a closer facility in the aftermath of a storm this strategy and pricing will be re-evaluated. The bid
34 process also assumed that vegetative debris would be disposed of at a County vegetative debris disposal facility
35 located on NC 58 near Peletier. All costs for hurricane debris removal should be eligible for FEMA reimbursement
36 if Carteret County is declared a disaster area.
37

38 In the past, there has been some question about whether NCDOT or the Town should be responsible for debris
39 collection along NC 58. This issue is resolved as a result of a previously executed Disaster-Related Debris Removal
40 Agreement with NCDOT, which allows the Town to collect debris along NC 58 and remain eligible for FEMA
41 reimbursement. The Town is likely better equipped than NCDOT for a more timely response, and will have greater
42 flexibility to insure that customer service and community aesthetics goals are met.
43

44 Unfortunately, the Board should again note that FEMA continues to assert that the Town will not be reimbursed
45 for collection of debris from private streets. Our intention for private streets after future storms is to collect all
46 debris in the same manner as the rest of the Town. Depending on the nature of the storm and the volume of
47 debris, Public Works may be directed to collect from private streets or the Town's contractor will be dispatched to
48 private streets at Town expense. We may also take a "hybrid" approach by having Public Works collect the debris
49 from the private streets, deposit the debris on public streets, and have the contractor collect from the public

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 8, 2018
Page 12 of 20

1 streets (which is reimbursable). This “hybrid” approach was utilized after Hurricane Irene in 2011. I feel strongly
2 that we owe the same level of service to our citizens who live on private streets as we offer to all other residents.

3
4 The attached resolution also authorizes the execution of a contract with Custom Tree Care, Topeka, KS, as the
5 Town’s second call contractor at specified unit prices. Custom Tree Care was the second overall lowest bidder in
6 the Town’s recent bid process. The contract with Custom Tree Care would only be activated if Santee Modular
7 Homes fails to perform under the contract.

8
9 A copy of Barry Johnson’s debris contract recommendation and the complete bid tabulation are attached for the
10 Board’s information.

11
12 I recommend approval of the attached resolution.

13
14 Chief Walker, Artie Dunn, and I look forward to reviewing these items with the Board at the May 8 meeting.

15
16 Fire Chief Bill Walker provided a PowerPoint presentation giving an overview of the Town’s
17 emergency operations plan for the Board and the community.

18
19 Commissioner Taylor asked about the setup time at the Off-island Silver Creek location. Fire
20 Chief Walker stated that Public Works put in a transfer switch and they had a generator they
21 could trailer and take to that location. Public Works Director Artie Dunn stated they could be
22 set up for operations in a couple of hours. Commissioner Taylor asked if they ever ran a drill to
23 see how everything would work. Public Works Director Dunn said they did not, and Fire Chief
24 Walker said the good thing was that in the 31 years he had been with the Town they had never
25 had to leave the island but the year before he came he remembered they had gone off-island to
26 Blackbeard’s that used to be across the bridge on Highway 58.

27
28 Town Manager Rush spoke about the Resolution authorizing the off-island Emergency
29 Operations Agreement. Town Manager Rush said the Town had an agreement for the past
30 several years with Silver Creek Golf Club to go there. Town Manager Rush said if it were a
31 Category 1 or 2 they were staying in Emerald Isle, Category 4 or 5 they were going to Silver
32 Creek, Category 3 they would make a judgement as to whether to stay or go. Town Manager
33 Rush said that the owner Eddie McNeill allowed the Town to use that facility free of charge so
34 he would ask that the Board approve the Resolution authorizing the off-island agreement.
35 Town Manager Rush noted there was a provision that if the Town had to stay there for more
36 than a week that they would negotiate a rental fee compensation.

37
38 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Finch to approve the Resolution Authorizing Emergency***
39 ***Operations Agreement (Off-Island EOC). The Board voted unanimously 4-0 in favor. Motion***
40 ***carried.***

41
42 Public Works Director Dunn discussed the Pre-Positioned Hurricane Debris Removal Contract
43 the Town enter into annually. Public Works Director Dunn stated that this year they received
44 five responses with one of those disqualified as being received late. Public Works Director

1 Dunn said the remaining four bids were vetted through a very thorough process by the Town's
2 Disaster Consultant and it was determined that Santee Modular Homes, Santee, SC was the
3 lowest overall bidder, and Custom Tree Care, Topeka, KS was the second lowest overall bidder.
4 Public Works Director Dunn noted that Custom Tree Care held the current debris contract that
5 would expire June 30, 2018. Public Works Director Dunn noted that in the event the contract
6 was activated the primary contractor would have 24 hours to arrive and begin removing debris,
7 if for some reason the primary contractor was unavailable or failed to perform their duties the
8 secondary contractor would be brought in to complete the debris removal. Public Works
9 Director Dunn noted that the Town also entered into an emergency stormwater pump and
10 generator contract to go along with the debris contract and those contracts were on a two-year
11 cycle and those contracts would expire June 30, 2019.

12
13 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to approve the Resolution Authorizing Pre-***
14 ***Positioned Hurricane Debris Removal Contract. The Board voted unanimously 4-0 in favor.***
15 ***Motion carried.***

16
17 **Clerks Note:** A copy of Resolutions 18-05-08/R1, and 18-05-08/R2 as noted above are incorporated herein by reference and
18 hereby made a part of these minutes.

19
20 **12. Adopt a Street / Adopt a Beach Program**

21
22 Town Planner Josh Edmondson addressed the Board concerning this Agenda item. The
23 following excerpt from the Town Manager's memo to the Board is provided for additional
24 background:

25
26 The Board of Commissioners is asked to consider establishing a new "Adopt a Street" and "Adopt a Beach"
27 program at the May 8 meeting. The program is modeled after successful cleanup programs offered by the NC
28 Department of Transportation and similar municipal programs, and is aimed to keeping Emerald Isle as clean and
29 litter-free as possible.

30
31 Town Planner Josh Edmondson will brief the Board on the new programs, and would be charged with managing
32 the program for the Town if approved by the Board of Commissioners. In short, the program would work as
33 follows:

- 34
35
- 36 • any interested business, organization, or group of individuals could volunteer for either program, and
37 would make a three-year commitment,
 - 38 • the group would be required to clean the designated street or designated beach access and beach strand
39 segment at least four times per year,
 - 40
 - 41 • each street segment would be at least one mile in length, or the entire length of a particular street,
42
 - 43 • for the beach program, the group would clean a specific public beach access area, along with the beach
44 strand segment immediately adjacent and to the west,
45

- 1 • the Town would provide trash bags, and would also remove the filled bags upon completion of the clean-
2 up, and
3
- 4 • the Town would recognize participating groups with a small sign indicating the group's participation,
5 either on the street segment or near the public beach access, and a certificate of appreciation.
6

7 All public streets and public beach accesses maintained by the Town are eligible for the new program. NC 58
8 would not be included in this program (separate program managed by NCDOT), nor would private streets or beach
9 accesses. A volunteer group could be assigned a stretch of beach strand in front of a private subdivision.

10
11 The Town would be responsible for coordinating the clean-up areas, providing trash bags, providing safety vests,
12 collecting the filled bags, and providing signs. We expect the Town's cost to be minimal, and the benefits of the
13 program will significantly outweigh the Town's cost and Town staff effort required. In addition to keeping Emerald
14 Isle's streets and beaches clean, the program will also help to promote an overall sense of community
15 responsibility and also likely make it easier for Town staff in the long run.
16

17 I recommend approval of the new programs, and applaud Josh Edmondson's efforts to develop the new program.
18

19 Town Planner Josh Edmondson discussed with the Board a new program that would allow
20 businesses, organizations, or groups of individuals to volunteer to clean a particular street
21 segment or beach access and adjacent beach strand segments. Town Planner Edmondson
22 outlined the Group/Business responsibilities, Town responsibilities and safety requirements for
23 both the Adopt a Street and Adopt a Beach Programs. Town Planner Edmondson noted that
24 these programs were modeled after several other programs around the State as well as
25 NCDOT's Adopt a Highway Program. Town Planner Edmondson noted that these programs
26 would continue to enhance Emerald Isle, promote a greater sense of community responsibility,
27 and ultimately make it easier for the Town staff to maintain these areas.
28

29 Commissioner Taylor said he liked the programs a lot and wondered if they could add adopting
30 a section of the bike path. Town Planner Edmondson noted that the bike path was in the
31 NCDOT right-of-way and covered under the NCDOT's program. Town Planner Edmondson
32 stated that the program applied to any Town maintained street that would exclude NC 58 as
33 that would fall under NCDOT's Adopt a Highway program. Town Manager Rush said they would
34 certainly encourage anyone who wanted to pick up trash on the bike path to do so but the
35 Town wouldn't have the ability to put a sign up for them.
36

37 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor to approve the establishment of a new Adopt a***
38 ***Street / Adopt a Beach program. The Board voted unanimously 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.***
39

40 **13. Comments from Town Clerk, Town Attorney, and Town Manager**

41
42 There were no comments from the Town Clerk or Town Attorney.
43

44 Town Manager Frank Rush noted that they would be closing on the land purchase on Friday,
45 May 11 at 9am, and were tentatively scheduled for a Grand Opening on Monday, June 11.

1 Town Manager Rush stated that the Lifeguards would be on the beach on May 23 and he was
2 happy to report they were now certified by the US Lifesaving Association. Town Manager Rush
3 said he hoped to bring the Board a menu of streetscape improvements for Islander Drive later
4 in the summer. Town Manager Rush spoke of his request to NCDOT to install traffic cameras
5 that would help residents and visitors monitor traffic over the internet, he had learned that
6 NCDOT was working on a camera at the NC 24/58 intersection which would be a big help also.
7 Lastly, Town Manager Rush noted Town Planner Edmondson had been working with the
8 owners of the old Circle Pizza building at the dogleg and he had reported encouraging
9 conversations with the owners and their attorney. They were hopeful they could effect a
10 positive change informally without going through a legal process; hopefully culminating with
11 the owners fixing the building up or potentially tearing it down.

12

13 The following is an excerpt from the Town Manager Comments memo to the Board providing
14 additional background information for all items of importance:

15

16 **Lifeguard Services Begin May 23**

17 The Town has hired 15 lifeguards for the summer season, and lifeguard services will begin on Wednesday, May 23.
18 We will generally have a total of 6 lifeguards on duty each day throughout the summer until mid-August, when
19 staffing levels will be reduced due to the fact that many on the lifeguard staff will be returning to college. Fixed
20 lifeguards will be in place at the Western Ocean Regional Access and the Eastern Ocean Regional Access, and 4
21 roving lifeguards will provide service on all-terrain vehicles.

22

23 The entire Fire Department lifeguard team, along with the Police Department's beach patrol officers, will be
24 formally introduced to the Board and the public at the June 12 Board meeting.

25

26 **Town's Lifeguard Program Now Certified by USLA**

27 We recently received notification that the Fire Department's lifeguard program is now certified by the US
28 Lifesaving Association, the leading certification program for open water lifeguard services in the United States.
29 The achievement of this certification is significant, and is the result of a significant effort by Fire Department staff
30 in recent years. Emerald Isle is the first lifeguard program in Carteret County to achieve this certification. Other
31 certified programs in our region include Nags Head, Wrightsville Beach, and Myrtle Beach.

32

33 **Rescue Tubes to Be Re-Deployed Next Week**

34 Town staff will be re-deploying rescue tubes at all public beach access locations in the next week. The public is
35 advised to first call 911 to dispatch Town responders, and be certain they are capable of responding before
36 entering the water to assist a swimmer in distress.

37

38 **August Regular Meeting Date**

39 The Board's regular meeting in August is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14. Due to a conflict in Mayor Barber's
40 schedule, this meeting will be rescheduled for 6 pm on Monday, August 13.

41

42 **McLean-Spell Park Land Closing**

43 The Town will take title to the McLean-Spell Park property on May 11. Federal REPI grant funds (\$1.5 million) will
44 be released at that time, and the Town will "up-front" the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF -
45 \$545,000) and NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF - \$500,000) grant portions, and then immediately file
46 for reimbursement. We hope to receive the reimbursements prior to June 30 for proper inclusion in the Town's
47 annual financial report.

1
2 Although the Board and the public don't see the behind-the-scenes work, this effort has required a great deal of
3 coordination and hard work by many in recent weeks, including staff at the US Department of Defense, CWMTF,
4 PARTF, The Conservation Fund, Town Attorney, Richard Stanley, BB&T, Finance Director Laura Rotchford, and
5 others. I am pleased that this 17-month land acquisition process is coming to an end, and that the Town's share of
6 the total land acquisition cost is only approximately 17%.

7
8 **McLean-Spell Park Official "Grand Opening" Ceremony – Monday, June 11**

9 Although the new park is open for public use now, The Conservation Fund and the Town are planning a special
10 "Grand Opening" ceremony for Monday, June 11, likely at 10 am.
11 I expect many involved in this project to attend, including the Federal and State grant funding partners, MCAS
12 Cherry Point officials, Representative McElraft, the family members of the original land owners, and others.

13
14 **Planned Pedestrian Bridge Over Archers Creek from Community Center to McLean-Spell Park**

15 After further consideration, we are pivoting away from the idea of a pre-fabricated pedestrian bridge at this
16 location, and will be working toward the on-site construction of a wooden pedestrian bridge (that is handicapped
17 accessible) sometime this fall. We expect the construction to be of a similar quality standard as the Town's beach
18 access walkways, and of sufficient design to allow a utility vehicle to cross. The new walkway will be 12 – 15 feet
19 wide, and will become the primary entrance to the new McLean-Spell Park.

20
21 **Fishing Tournament Committee**

22 Thus far, the Town has received emails from 7 individuals expressing interest in serving on the fishing tournament
23 committee. We will continue to solicit for individuals interested in serving on the committee through May 25, and
24 present a list of applicants to the Board at the June 12 meeting.

25
26 **Meeting with Islander Drive Property Owners**

27 I will be scheduling a meeting with adjacent property owners along Islander Drive in the coming weeks to solicit
28 their input on the planned Islander Drive streetscape improvements. I hope to secure valuable input from
29 adjacent owners and then proceed with professional design services later this summer. A proposed design will be
30 presented for Board consideration later this summer or early fall, and I hope to complete construction prior to May
31 2019.

32
33 I will also be working to incorporate "Charters of Freedom" monuments into the planned Islander Drive
34 streetscape / Western Ocean Regional Access improvements. Local residents Doug and Erin Starcke continue to
35 express interest in a significant contribution toward these monuments, which include inscriptions of the
36 Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

37
38 **Bundled (Gigabyte Level) Broadband Fiber To The Home**

39 Commissioner Normile and I recently attended a State-wide meeting highlighting strategies to expand gigabyte
40 level fiber connections to rural areas of NC. Emerald Isle is currently served by fiber connections through
41 Spectrum, however, the fiber does not typically extend to individual homes and thus does not provide as fast,
42 reliable, or sufficient capacity of service as necessary or desired. We will be exploring different strategies, both by
43 the private sector and through any potential public partnerships, to promote additional competition in this market
44 in Emerald Isle in the future.

45
46 **NC 58 Traffic Cameras?**

47 I have been working toward the installation of traffic cameras - to enable our residents and visitors to monitor
48 traffic conditions over the internet - along NC 58 for several years, but have been unable to make this goal a
49 reality. I recently submitted a new request to NCDOT to install a traffic camera near the base of the Emerald Isle
50 bridge on the Emerald Isle side, and hope to gain some traction on this request in the coming months.

1
2 NCDOT staff recently informed me that they are currently working on the installation of a traffic camera at the NC
3 58 / NC 24 intersection, which would also be helpful to our residents and visitors.
4

5 **New Fireworks Company for July 4 Fireworks**

6 We have executed a contract with Class A Fireworks, based in eastern NC, for the July 4 fireworks show from
7 Bogue Inlet Pier. The Town's long-time contractor, East Coast Pyrotechnics, a SC company, recently informed the
8 Town it can no longer provide services.
9

10 **NC Commissioner of Insurance Negotiates 5.5% / 12% Increase in Homeowners Insurance Rates; Dwelling Rate**
11 **Request Still Pending**

12 The NC Rate Bureau (the entity representing insurance companies in North Carolina) requested a 25%
13 (homeowners) and 40% (tenants and condominiums) increase in insurance premiums for permanent homes in
14 Emerald Isle in late 2017. After reviewing the request and considering significant public input, NC Insurance
15 Commissioner Mike Causey approved a 5.5% (homeowners) and 12% (tenants and condominiums) rate increase
16 for Emerald Isle in April.
17

18 I am pleased that the approved rate increase is significantly lower than requested (5.5% and 12% is certainly better
19 than 25% and 40%), but continue to have concerns about the overall unfair rate structure used in North
20 Carolina. Because Commissioner Causey essentially approved a similar increase for nearly all areas of NC, Emerald
21 Isle property owners (and those in other barrier island communities) will continue to pay insurance premiums that
22 are 4 - 5 times higher than many other communities in NC. The Town recently hosted top staff from the NC
23 Department of Insurance in Emerald Isle, reiterated these concerns, and again requested that Commissioner
24 Causey work with the NC General Assembly and others to implement a fairer rate structure.
25

26 A separate rate increase request for second homes and vacation rental units (nearly 40%) is still pending a final
27 decision by Commissioner Causey. I remain hopeful that this requested increase will also be rejected or
28 significantly reduced. A final decision on this request is expected sometime in the coming months.
29

30 **NC Wildlife Resources Commission Indicates Insufficient Depths in Alternate Channel from Archers Point to**
31 **AIWW**

32 I have attached a recent channel survey completed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), which
33 shows depths mostly ranging from 2.6 feet to 3.9 feet, with most in the 3 ft. +/- range. NCWRC staff indicated that
34 they are not comfortable relocating the navigation buoys to this area, and ideally would like to see a consistent 3.5
35 feet at low water.
36

37 This channel, which has been informally marked by local residents (with white PVC poles), is approximately 3,900
38 linear feet. Assuming a constant dredge depth of 5 feet, with an initial width of 30 feet (that would likely
39 equilibrate to approximately 20 feet wide), the total dredge volume would be approximately 7,000 cubic yards.
40 Depending on the type of dredge and the spoil disposal site, a dredging effort could range anywhere from
41 \$100,000 - \$250,000. I believe the Town would have a reasonably good chance of securing significant State grant
42 funds for this effort, however, permitting is likely to be very challenging and potentially expensive.
43

44 I plan to investigate this issue further in the coming months, and may present additional strategies and
45 recommendations to the Board in the future.
46

47 **Town Planner Working With Owner of Old Circle Pizza Building Near Ocean Drive 'Dog-Leg'**

48 Town Planner Josh Edmondson has had encouraging discussions with the owner of this abandoned building in
49 recent weeks. The owner is working to secure appropriate assurances regarding the future use of the existing on-
50 site wastewater system, and assuming this system can be re-used in the future, the owner has indicated a

1 willingness to remove the abandoned structure and restore the property to vacant status. We will continue to
2 pursue this outcome, and will update the Board accordingly in the coming weeks.

3
4 **Final Roundabout Markings, Additional Roundabout Street Lights**

5 All permanent pavement markings and signage have been installed at the NC 58 roundabout, and the new traffic
6 feature is working well.

7
8 I have ordered new decorative street lights (5 total) to be installed around the outer perimeter of the roundabout,
9 and Carteret Craven Electric Cooperative is attempting to install these lights prior to or soon after the Memorial
10 Day holiday weekend. The new lights should improve night-time visibility in this area.

11
12 **New Lighting Along Coast Guard Road Bicycle Path**

13 Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative will soon be installing new street lights (traditional, pole-mounted lights)
14 along the Coast Guard Road bicycle path between Deer Horn Drive and Wyndward Court. I expect the new lights
15 to be in place before Memorial Day weekend.

16
17 **Coast Guard Road Clearing for New Electric Pole / Line Installation**

18 I continue to work with Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative on a plan to install new mulch, trees, and ornamental
19 plantings in the areas most impacted by recent clearing for a new electric poles and lines along Coast Guard Road.
20 Parks Maintenance staff have recommended plantings for the area near Spinnakers Reach and along the back of
21 Dolphin Ridge that were most severely impacted, and I am attempting to have Carteret-Craven Electric
22 Cooperative fund the cost of materials, and would then direct Parks Maintenance staff to install the new plantings.

23
24 **New Welcome to Emerald Isle Signs**

25 The new sign near the base of the Emerald Isle bridge was recently installed, and we are awaiting delivery of a
26 smaller sign with an identical design to be installed at the eastern Town limits. We hope to have this new sign in
27 place before or shortly after Memorial Day weekend.

28
29 **NC 58 Uplighting Near Bridge**

30 Town staff have received NCDOT approval for the planned installation of uplighting of certain trees in the NC 58
31 right of way near the base of the Emerald Isle bridge. We are hopeful that these lights will be functional sometime
32 in June, and will enhance the entrance to Emerald Isle during night-time hours.

33
34 **NC 58 / Bogue Inlet Drive Intersection Improvements**

35 NCDOT and their consultants are working to refine the preliminary design of planned NC 58 / Bogue Inlet Drive
36 intersection improvements after receiving helpful input from “downtown” business owners earlier this spring.
37 NCDOT and their consultants are working toward a design that involves lane improvements between the Welcome
38 Center and the US Post Office, but without significant median features that caused concern among business
39 owners in this area. I am scheduled to meet with NCDOT staff and their consultants later in May to review their
40 latest ideas, and will then coordinate additional review by “downtown” business owners.

41
42 Regardless which improvements are ultimately selected, I remain hopeful that the Town will be able to benefit in
43 some way from NCDOT funding to improve traffic flow at this intersection and also improve the aesthetics of NC
44 58 in the “downtown” area. If NCDOT, the Town, the “downtown” business owners, and the general public are
45 unable to identify a workable design, it is likely that no improvements will occur in this area for many years. At a
46 bare minimum, I remain hopeful that the end result of this process will at least include more attractive traffic
47 signal poles at this intersection.

48
49
50

1 **Representative McElraft Working on State Beach Nourishment Funding Request**

2 With the NC General Assembly's short session beginning on May 16, Carteret County Shore Protection Officer Greg
3 Rudolph and I recently provided potential bill language and revenue estimates to NC Representative McElraft to
4 assist her in securing State funding for the Town's (and Pine Knoll Shores' and Indian Beach's) planned beach
5 nourishment project this coming winter. I am encouraged by recent conversations with Representative McElraft,
6 and remain hopeful that she will be successful in securing State funding for these important projects. The Town's
7 total State funding request is \$4.6 million, and would be matched with \$4.6 million from the County and the Town.

8
9 **Bogue Inlet Navigation Dredging**

10 The navigation channel from the AIWW to the ocean bar in Bogue Inlet is in generally good condition, with only a
11 few shoaling areas in the marked navigation channel. We are awaiting an updated channel survey from the US
12 Army Corps of Engineers in the next week or two, and upcoming dredging activities will be dependent on the
13 survey results. I am hopeful that the US Army Corps of Engineers will perform touch-up dredging prior to
14 Memorial Day weekend, but it is more likely that this work will occur sometime in early June.

15
16 **Dog Park Advisory Committee Focusing on McLean-Spell Park**

17 The committee reviewed 5 Town-owned locations that may be suitable for a future new dog park, and is now
18 focusing on a 1 – 2 acre area in the new McLean-Spell Park. The committee will be reviewing more specific
19 locations in the new park in the coming weeks, generally on the southern edge near Archers Creek and in close
20 proximity to the Community Center and planned new pedestrian bridge. Any new dog park facility will be located
21 as far from adjacent homeowners as possible, and designed in such a manner that no storm water runoff enters
22 Archers Creek. I expect to schedule Board review of the committee's preferred dog park location at an upcoming
23 Board meeting.

24
25 **Beach Access Walkway Construction**

26 The new beach access walkways at West Landing Drive, Fairfax Drive, and Beachview Drive are complete, and the
27 Town's contractor is currently working on the Whitewater Drive beach access walkway. We expect this walkway to
28 be complete before Memorial Day weekend. Following completion of the Whitewater Drive walkway, the Town's
29 contractor will be constructing new steps at the Lee Avenue soundside access.

30
31 **NC 58 Flashing Pedestrian Crosswalks**

32 NCDOT will be installing three new crosswalks on NC 58 near the Ocean Drive 'dog-leg', at the Town Government
33 Complex, and at Islander Drive. Preliminary work has begun, and NCDOT hopes to complete all three locations
34 within the next several weeks.

35
36 The planned crosswalk at the Town Government Complex will also have a concrete "refuge island" for pedestrians
37 in the center turn lane, similar to the feature at the new NC 58 roundabout.

38
39 **Wyndward Court Storm Water Improvements**

40 Public Works has completed this new system, which will relay storm water from the Wyndward Court cul-de-sac to
41 the Town's large storm water pump on Island Circle.

42
43 **Sunset Lane Storm Water Improvements**

44 This project is in a holding pattern due to permitting issues, and Town staff are awaiting further input from the
45 adjacent property owner's engineer and NC Division of Coastal Management staff before constructing any
46 improvements.

47
48
49
50

1 **Public Works Touching Up Crosswalks, “Downtown” Curbing**

2 Public Works crews continue to repaint various sidewalk and bicycle path crosswalks in an effort to have the Town
3 looking as attractive as possible for the prime summer season. I expect most of this work to be complete prior to
4 the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

5
6 Public Works will also again be repainting the “downtown” curbing in mid-May to provide a fresh, clean
7 appearance in this area. Additionally, the Town’s contractor recently repainted the pavement markings on Bogue
8 Inlet Drive between NC 58 and Bogue Inlet Pier.

9
10 **Emerald Isle Beach Music Festival – Saturday, September 29**

11 Town staff will soon begin planning efforts for the 3rd annual (renewal) of the Emerald Isle Beach Music Festival –
12 which is now less than 5 months away.

13
14 **14. Comments from Board of Commissioners and Mayor**

15
16 Commissioner Dooley thanked Laura and Frank for their hard work on the budget and that it
17 was exactly what she envisioned.

18
19 Commissioner Taylor echoed Commissioner Dooley’s comments saying it was amazing as a
20 newcomer to see what they could do with balancing the budget and congratulated them on
21 their efforts and great job.

22
23 Mayor Barber thanked everyone for attending and thanked Frank and Laura for their hard work
24 on the budget.

25
26 **15. Adjourn**

27
28 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted***
29 ***unanimously 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

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

31 Respectfully submitted:

32
33
34

35 Rhonda C. Ferebee, CMC, NCCMC
36 Town Clerk