

MINUTES  
OAK ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 8, 2019 – 6 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - OAK ISLAND TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Mayor Cin Brochure, Mayor Pro Tempore Jeff Winecoff, Council members John. W. Bach, Sheila M. Bell, Charlie K. Blalock and Loman Scott, Town Manager David Kelly and Assistant Manager/Town Clerk Lisa P. Stites, MMC. Mr. Edes was delayed by a federal court proceeding and arrived at the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Mayor Brochure called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff thanked everyone for coming, and said he had been encouraging people to attend Council meetings to find out what is going on with Town business. He said that hearing input from citizens helps the Council members do their job. Council Blalock gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff moved the Consent Agenda to before the Town Hall portion of the meeting. Councilor Bach removed Item 5-Approval of Amendments to the Fee schedule and Item 6-Approval of Amendment to Development Agreement with Halpern Development Co (Publix) from the Consent Agenda. **Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilor Bach seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

II. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. December 11, 2018 (Public Hearings & Regular Meeting)
2. Approval of Mutual Aid Contract with Brunswick County
3. Approval Moffatt & Nichol Contract
4. Approval of NCDOT Encroachment Agreement (for Publix)

**Councilor Bach made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

5. Consideration of Amendment to the Fee Schedule: Councilor Bach asked Mr. Kelly if he was satisfied with the ordinance as it was approved; Development Services Director Steve Edwards said that he was. He said that this action was to formally approve the Fee Schedule amendment. Councilor Bach asked who enforced these regulations. Mr. Edwards said it was the Zoning Department. **Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff motion made a motion to amend the Fee Schedule as presented. Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

6. Approval of Amendment to Development Agreement with Halpern Development Co (Publix): Council will discuss once the Town Attorney arrives.

III. TOWN HALL MEETING (this section included Public Comments)

a. Beach projects – Johnny Martin with Moffatt & Nichol: Johnny Martin gave a presentation on all the various beach projects the Town has in progress. A copy of the presentation is attached and is hereby made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Martin first gave a recap of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Wilmington Harbor project, which placed sand from the east end of town to 58th Street East, and which was completed this past summer, placing approximately 640,000 CY of sand. Mr. Martin also spoke about the Town's efforts to obtain an SDI-5 permit, which another consultant is working on; the latest timeline for potential approval is late January/early February. Mr. Martin said the Town is also working with the Corps on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Crossing dredging project, which is scheduled to

place sand on the west end of Oak Island. The contract has been awarded, and the Corps will check with the contractor to see if the Town can pay additional money to dredge additional material for sand placement. The Town of Holden Beach has also requested this extra sand, and if it is available, there will be a meeting scheduled with the two towns. Regarding the Lockwood Folly Inlet, Mr. Martin said that the Corps is showing projects using the sidecaster dredge, which does not allow for placement of dredged sand. He said that the Corps was reminded that the local funds match was contingent on beneficial sand placement; it will be summer or next fall before a project could be done there. Dawn York spoke about the Dune Monitoring project the Town was required to do following the FEMA Emergency Dune Project after Hurricane Matthew. Ms. York explained the monitoring process for evaluating the temperature, grain size and color of sand. Temperatures in the dune replacement area were approximately 1 degree higher. Mr. Martin spoke about the annual monitoring survey done for the entire beach; this was completed just prior to Hurricane Florence. Another monitoring study was done following the storm. The Town has had its initial meeting with FEMA representatives, and it appears the Town may qualify for another Emergency Dune Project. Mr. Martin also spoke about the Sea Turtle Habitat restoration Project, another FEMA project approved following Hurricane Matthew. There are a couple of alternatives possible to extend the project beyond the planned distance (63<sup>rd</sup> Street East to East 19<sup>th</sup> Place), if the Town can put in additional money. This project should be done in January to May of 2020. Regarding the Master Plan for beach nourishment, Mr. Martin said that they will have to find 10-15 million CY of sand for the initial project and planned maintenance. Mr. Martin gave an overall summary and reviewed a spreadsheet timeline showing the work being done.

Leon Hicks, Barnes Bluff: Mr. Hicks complimented Mr. Martin on the presentation. He asked if the dune monitoring would continue. Ms. York said that monitoring was completed.

Nancy McMurray, 6607 West Beach Drive: Ms. McMurray asked if something would be placed on that section of the beach before turtle season, and why the Sea Turtle project never went to the west end. Mr. Martin said that the west end would get sand this year; he gave kudos to Mayor Brochure and Mr. Kelly for their efforts to secure sand from the Corps' Waterway dredging project for the west end. There should be a 75-foot berm with this project. Mr. Martin said that the Turtle Habitat Project was originally done on the east end of town as that area was likely in need of sand of that time.

Jim Aroner, NE 34<sup>th</sup> Street: Mr. Aroner asked about dune placement. He said it seemed the dunes were placed in a high tide area and wondered if it needed to be moved back. Mr. Martin said that the project allowed for putting the dune back where it was because that was the quickest permit path. Part of the discussion we have been having with FEMA is the lack of berm on Oak Island's beaches; they have been telling FEMA that we need to put dunes on a pad of sand.

Helen Cashwell, 3407 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Cashwell asked if there was any possibility of the Town pushing sand as other towns have been doing. Mr. Martin said that the sand that is offshore is about 10 feet under water; he hopes some of that will wash back naturally. He also said where there isn't a dune already, sand pushing can be helpful, but it also makes the water come in closer, so it's kind of a balancing act. Mr. Kelly conformed that the Town does have a sand pushing permit.

Bettie Thorne, 2501 E. Beach Drive: Ms. Thorne asked where the sand would come from for the upcoming FEMA Emergency Dune Project. Mr. Martin said if we can tie it to the Turtle Project, we could use the dredge material. If it is not, it will likely mean more testing before doing a truck-haul project so that the same issues are not repeated. Ms. Thorne asked if there is more material at the site previously used and if it is a lighter color. Mr. Martin said he's been told there is, but that it would require more testing. He said the material used at first was lighter but that the contractor got into a bad section and was told to move to another area in the borrow pit.

Martyn Hawkins, 107 NE 34<sup>th</sup> Street: Mr. Hawkins said he saw an old photo at the west end that showed groins. He asked if they were still there and why Oak Island could not do groins like Bald Head Island had done. Mr. Martin said he does not know if the groins are still there, but if they are at all, they would be pretty “beat up.” Mr. Martin said that the State does allow terminal groins, but that it is pretty controversial. When used around a shallow inlet, the effects felt around it may be greater. Mr. Martin said that was something that engineers would look at.

b. Discussion of Paid Parking:

Gerald Edwards, 108 NE 47<sup>th</sup> Street: Mr. Edwards read written comments provided as follows: I have two issues I'd like to speak about tonight. The first one is regarding the issue of paid parking. There is at least one of you that think residents do not pay enough. I have an issue with that. We pay plenty, Oak Island has the highest tax rate of any beach town around here (with the exception of BHI). There have been discussions of awarding a five-year contract. Five years is a long time, especially if this experiment does not work out. I don't think the pay back will come anywhere close to being worth the cost of implementation. Hundreds of signs erected, parking enforcement, dealing with irate people, loss of patrons for local businesses, people calling the police department and having to be redirected to parking enforcement, people getting creative and parking at unoccupied beach houses, people parking at the tennis courts and behind city hall, on and on. As I understand it, the idea would be to yield \$100,000 a year which would be \$1,000,000 in ten years. That's not very much for all the infrastructure required to implement this. We are not Wrightsville or Carolina Beach (and don't want to be). I strongly urge you not to go forward with paid parking.

Bettie Thorne, 2501 E. Beach Drive: Ms. Thorne said the bid opening would be next week. She asked if this discussion wouldn't be better to have after there was more information about revenues, etc.

Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that a lot gets blown out of proportion. He said if they can hear questions and concerns now, it would be helpful as Council considers the proposals. He said beach nourishment is expected to cost \$40 million, and that all of that would have to be paid by taxpayers if other funding doesn't become available. He said that nothing is set in stone, but that they wanted to look at any way to collect revenue to help pay for the beach. With all of the FEMA projects being done, it may turn out that beach nourishment will cost less.

Mike Defeo, West Yacht Drive: Mr. Defeo said he had a lot of concerns about the infrastructure. He asked what types of payments would be available. Mr. Kelly said that we asked for the companies to propose their methods and equipment to be used. Mr. Defeo also asked Council members for their opinions on what types of payment methods would be acceptable. Mayor Brochure said that there is a lot of new technology available. Councilor Bach said that the Town is growing, and we've seen an increase in visitors and vehicles. He said traffic safety was a major issue, and we needed to preserve private property rights, and if we could do all of that while creating a revenue stream, that would be a good goal. He said previous proposals included high management costs, and he hoped the proposals coming in would be better. Most of the vendors he has seen online use digital payment collections without a lot of meters needed. He said that it was worth a look and that we needed to suspend our previous conceptions about visitor parking. Councilor Bach said that it was clear we needed each nourishment and that we needed funding. Mayor Brochure said that she did not envision that our citizens would be charged for paid parking. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that he thought once residents have a decal, that should entitle them to parking. He also said he'd like to see more parking be made available for residents.

Martyn Hawkins: Mr. Hawkins said that people from other area towns come to the beach, leave their trash behind and leave residents with the bill.

Nancy McMurray: Ms. McMurray said that she is not sure about the new rules for the right-of-way and how that fits in with paid parking. Councilor Bell said that the Town has always had an ordinance that prohibits items in the right-of-way. Mayor Brochure said that there were changes to the right-of-way ordinances being considered that could affect parking, but she wanted to make sure everyone understood that it hadn't been changed at this point. She said that if paid parking were implemented, it would mean an end to right-of-way parking except on the Place streets or where marked otherwise; she just wanted to clear up the idea that people could plant things 8 feet from the right-of-way. Councilor Bach said the right-of-way rules and paid parking were related, but that Council has not made any final decisions about the right-of-way or paid parking. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that the elected officials and staff had made many trips to Raleigh to try to get the State to understand that the beach is actually infrastructure. He said the Town had also approached the County about participating in beach nourishment as well. He said they were still working as hard as they can to bring in additional revenue. Mayor Brochure said that most people didn't understand that their tax dollars pay for the extra trash collection in summer, extra staff, etc. She said a lot of towns use accommodations taxes to pay for those things, but that it is meant to be used for the beach and marketing.

Leon Hicks: Mr. Hicks asked if Council was thinking of creating a new parking area for visitors. Mr. Kelly said that the Town bought 604 Ocean Drive, and that there would be a parking lot put there.

Charlie Alexander, NE 41<sup>st</sup> Street: Mr. Alexander said that he opposes charging residents to park.

Elwood Shughart, 1205 E. Oak Island Drive: Mr. Shughart asked if they were using fly ash (coal ash) in the concrete for the new bridge.

Bill Craft, 204 Barbee Blvd: Mr. Craft asked if he had heard an indication that yellow bumpers would be installed on yards. Councilor Bell said that what was referred to was the side streets.

Liz Carolan: Ms. Carolan asked who would be responsible for delineating between weekly renters and daytrippers. She asked if the weekly renters would get some kind of pass. Mayor Brochure said she wasn't sure we could answer that until the proposals were received. Mr. Kelly said that was something that would be considered, though the Town would probably set those rates if a pass were to be made available for weekly rentals.

Julie Tucei, Roanoke, Virginia, written comments provided as follows: The proposed beach parking rates are ridiculously high. I mean \$18 PER DAY???? That is despicable. Council is going to make it so that middle class couples and families (your "bread and butter" tourists) can no longer afford to come to your beach. This would be a real shame. I love Oak Island, but I cannot afford \$18 PER DAY to park to visit the beach after paying all the other trip expenses such as prime season rental fees, gas, food, etc. Nope... my budget cannot afford it. Council needs to seriously reconsider this issue. Not everyone can afford to rent on the beachfront or a block over. Walking to the beach from a rental, say over near Yacht Drive, is not feasible with the amount of stuff you need to take with you to the beach. And not to mention there are NO bathroom facilities at the beach so you will have to leave and then pay to park again to go use the bathroom back at your rental. And what about the days when rain is forecasted? Do you go pay the meter and hope you don't get rained out and waste your money? This is such a RIDICULOUS and SAD proposal. If you proceed with this, you will be taking away one of the most attractive features of your beach that draws tourists in, and will become just like Myrtle Beach, SC or Virginia Beach, VA. In fact, the free beach parking was one of the main reasons we visited Oak Island for the first time several years

ago, and what kept us coming back. I have no doubt this WILL hurt your bottom line when it comes to drawing in tourists like us to stay in your town, eat in your town's restaurants, patronize your town's small businesses, and contribute tons of money to your local economy. I would like to respectfully ask that you: **JUST SAY NO TO PAID PARKING!**

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Deb Faus, 105 SE 58<sup>th</sup> Street, president of the Oak Island Beautification Club: Ms. Faus said that the Club has been maintaining the triangle on Country Club Drive. She said that they are looking for help in excavating and installing electric. She said they had approached NCDOT about installing a fountain. She said there would have to be an encroachment agreement. Ms. Faus said that the Town of Oak Island website lists 17 parks. She said that she visited 14 of them last week and that the majority of them are in need of a facelift. She said the Arboretum is not even listed, but that it also needs work, as it is a mess. She said the Heron Overlook needed stones. She said that she had a solution – regular community work days to have volunteers help clean up the parks.

Helen Cashwell, 3407 E. Yacht Drive: Ms. Cashwell said that lots of work had been done responding to flooding responding to hotspots. She said that no matter how much is done, there is still more to do. On Holly Street, she said that she still sees flooding and water not moving in ditches. She said that there were repairs signed off on by the Town and yet a week later, a water spout erupted, and water continues to pool across the street. She said to forget about the beach and to start cleaning out the storm drains in a systematic way rather than responding to call-ins. She asked why the Town couldn't hire a contractor to come in and fix the ditches. Ms. Cashwell said that in February, there was a sinkhole and that there was a stormwater pipe that had never been connected though it was 10 years old. She asked the Town to let the citizens know what the plans were for fixing the stormwater.

Gerry Hardee, here for the Beach Preservation Society: Mr. Hardee said that there were two well-qualified applicants for the open position. There was a recent resignation on the Board and they hoped that Council could appoint both applicants to the Board. There are eight bike racks that need to be replaced; the cost is \$165 to sponsor a rack.

Paula Chambers, 608 E. Beach Drive: Ms. Chambers said that she serves on the Board of Adjustment, which she said is mandated by State law and that the Board of Adjustment's decisions are binding and can't be overturned by Council. She said that it was her understanding that Council had the responsibility and authority to approve or deny special use and conditional use permits. The Board of Adjustment has responsibility and authority to approve or deny variance request and appeals. Ms. Chambers said that she read the Department reports included in the agenda packet and asked about the Zoning report, saying it said that no appeals were submitted in 2018, though many were promised. She said that was her first concern. If the Board of Adjustment handles appeals, she was not sure what these promises are that are being made outside the Board. Secondly, it said that appeals seem to go to Council rather than the Board of Adjustment. She said she was seeking clarification and that she takes it seriously. Ms. Chambers said that people making promises would not end well and that if an appeal comes before Council, she would ask that it be referred to the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Edes said that there are certain appeals that go straight to the Board of Adjustment, and then the applicant can appeal that decision to Superior Court. Ms. Chambers said that she didn't know what the report referencing "promises" meant. Councilor Bell said those weren't the kind of appeals the Board of Adjustment handles. Mr. Vares said that by "promised," he meant that citizens often say they will appeal a staff decision involving a code enforcement issue but never actually file the appeal. Mr. Edes told Ms. Chambers that the phrase she was referencing was not something the Town was promising; it was something that people who subject to a code enforcement interaction assert that they're going to appeal. Ms. Chambers said that she had not read

it that way. She again asked that appeals be referred to the Board of Adjustment rather than Council. Mr. Edwards said that staff would explain the process again to Ms. Chambers. Councilor Bach said that clearer wording in the report might clear up the confusion.

Gerald Edwards: Mr. Edwards read written comments provided as follows: The second issue I wanted to bring up is the lake in the road at Oak Island drive and North East 11th Street. There is going to be a bad accident there due to people swerving around the water or from someone hydroplaning. This situation seems to have existed since hurricane Florence. I realize Oak Island Drive is a state highway. The city needs to bring some pressure to bear on the NCDOT to fix this problem. There has to be an engineering solution to this. We need to put some pressure on DOT. It's gone on too long. Additionally, this island badly needs stormwater issues fixed in a lot of locations.

Pete Key, 5007 E. Yacht Drive: Mr. Key read written comments provided as follows: Good evening Council and Mayor, Our core purpose, drive and heart here in Oak Island is to be a beach town and destination. A place for people from all over our nation to come and enjoy the place where the sea meets the shore. A pristine place of impeccable beauty. Oil companies say they want to create jobs and security. There are already 57,000 jobs and \$2.5 billion in revenue that we create in NC from Tourism. Brunswick County's five beautiful beaches earned the second most visited coastal county in NC behind Dare County. How many jobs will offshore drilling bring to Brunswick County when NJ already has an oil-ready port? If not NJ then Norfolk. Both are better suited, and at what permanent expense if they did build one here. The infrastructure would be abandoned when the oil is gone. Once we spoil the coast it will never be pristine again. You can't get that back. A claim to National Security? We haven't touched our strategic reserve in ten years. As of 2018 we are the top oil producing nation in the world and broke from an import nation to an export nation. We export more oil than we bring in. If we create more supply it won't stay here, it will go abroad. How does that create more security for America's future? It creates dollars for mostly foreign corporations today. Not a future for tomorrow. On 4/29/2014 Oak Island passed a resolution against seismic blasting and concern about drilling. Then on 9/8/2015 we revised our position after doing our research and issued a resolution against seismic and drilling. At that time we had done all we thought we could do. Speak up and tell the Federal Government we don't want it even though we know they can do whatever they want outside our states waters. Now we have an opportunity to put teeth behind our request. We don't stand helpless any longer. Sixteen SC municipalities, ten state Attorney Generals, and a number of NGO's have sued the Fed in court to stop a violation of the Marine Mammals Protection Act. Deep geology Seismic Mapping is dangerous to all ocean life from the smallest plankton to the largest whale, but especially to marine mammals because they all use sound to hunt, find mates and communicate. The deafening blast emitted in a survey occurs every ten second, twenty-four hours a day for months at a time. Potentially by up to five ventures at once. This sound can be heard as far away as 2200 miles away. That's New York to LA. Imagine that sound blasted in the air at that frequency off the coast of Brunswick County. It would wreak havoc on our lives. The opportunity exist for us to join one of these law suits, via an Amicus Curiae Brief. I strongly encourage the Council to consider doing this. I have the contact information needed to do so. Thank you.

Council recessed from 7:56 p.m. to 8:11 p.m.

Removed from Consent Agenda: 6. Approval of Amendment to Development Agreement with Halpern Development Co. (Publix): Councilor Bach asked if the Town was being asked to make additional concessions and if that was specific to the development of Publix or if it was to the corporation. Mr. Edes referred Councilor to the Development Agreement, which specifically lists a shopping center. Councilor Bach said that was comforting. Mr. Edes said the Development Permit was ready. Scott Cook, with Publix, said that they are hoping to begin construction this summer and they generally like 270 days to build a store. Site work will begin within the next 6-8 weeks. Councilor Bach asked, given the feedback

about Dollar General, if the Town could use aesthetic zoning. Mr. Edes said within reason, yes. Councilor Bach said that maybe Council could consider including some kind of aesthetic quality for the business district. Mr. Edes said the more detailed the Town could get, the more difficult it could be to defend; he referenced Hilton Head, SC as an example of a town with aesthetic requirements. Mr. Edes said that any new rules put in place would not affect anything under construction. He also said that a Development Agreement could include some of those items. Mayor Brochure said that maybe Council could review some of the possible zoning tools available. Regarding the proposed change to the Development Agreement, Mr. Edes explained that the amendment would give a one-month extension for time to install the road that was required by the Development Agreement. Mr. Edes recommended approving the amendment. **Councilor Scott made a motion to amend the Development Agreement with Halpern Enterprises LLC as presented. Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

#### IV. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

1. Board of Adjustment (one unexpired term ending March 2020): **Council unanimously appointed Ed Hardy.** Applicant Mike Pratt was not appointed.
2. Par 3 (two terms ending January 2022, both for residents of South Harbour-one may be from a community also included as part of the South Harbour Master POA): **Council unanimously reappointed Jim Cross. With votes from Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff and Councilor members Bell, Blalock and Scott, Steven Byrd was appointed.** Applicant Edward Baxter was not appointed. With one vote from Councilor Bach, Ronald Kracht was not appointed.
3. Beach Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Board (one unexpired term ending Sept. 2019): **Council appointed Toni Ann Chandler. Council also appointed Karen Linn to a recent vacancy (term ending Sept. 2021) that had not been advertised yet, contingent on it being advertised and placed on the February agenda for confirmation.**
4. Appointment of a Chairman for the ABC Board: Councilor Bach said that in the past, Council has not made this appointment; he asked Mr. Edes if Council could delegate that to the ABC Board, or was it something that Council had to do. Mr. Edes said that he would not be comfortable giving an opinion without having the chance to review the documentation. **Councilor Bell made a motion to appoint Willie Williams as Chairman for the ABC Board. Councilor Blalock seconded the motion. The motion failed 2-3 with Councilors Bell and Blalock in favor and Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff and Councilors Bach and Scott opposed.** Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that he thought they should vote like they do on committee appointments. Mayor Brochure asked if the ABC Board had already chosen a Chairman. Ms. Stites explained that the NC General Statutes state that the “appointing Authority” is supposed to select the Chairman. The Town Charter also says that the Town Council is to select a Chairman. The Town’s ordinances state that for all of the boards, the boards themselves select their own Chairman. Ms. Stites said that the ABC Board had selected Mr. Williams to serve as Chairman, though it was not a unanimous vote. Mr. Edes suggested that Council first decide whether it would use a formal motion to appoint a Chairman or if Council wanted to use the same nomination process for making a committee appointment. **Councilor Bach made a motion to appoint Joe Stanton as Chairman. The motion died for a lack of second. Councilor Scott made a motion to appoint Jack Moore as Chairman. Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff seconded the motion and it passed 3-2, with Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff and Councilors Bach and Scott in favor and Councilors Bell and Blalock opposed.** Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said that there should be an amendment to allow the ABC Board to select a Chairman just like the other boards; Council concurred. Councilor Bach asked if Council could defer the appointment of Mr. Moore to next year. Mr. Edes said that the Town would not want chaos or professional rivalry on that board. **Councilor Bach made a motion to honor the current Chairman, as selected by the ABC Board, which has been past tradition, and that we set the appointment of Mr. Moore for the**

**next year. Councilor Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.** Mayor Pro Tempore Winecoff said he thought that was fair to everybody.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Town Manager: Mr. Kelly said that the Request for Proposals had been sent out for paid parking and for management of the Pier Complex. The paving RFP will go out this week; staff has asked the engineer to look at some additional locations which have been affected by water sitting on the road, etc. Staff is working with NCDOT to alleviate stormwater problems at SE 11<sup>th</sup>; piping will be installed to drain it to Davis Canal. Staff continues to work on stormwater projects; there were 168 after the storm, and staff has already addressed 66 or those. The additional employees have been hired for Public Works. Councilor Bach said that he noticed the number one medical call for the Fire Department was responding to falls and suggested the Town do more to educate people about tripping hazards, etc. Councilor Scott said that he saw in the Department Reports that police made 36 narcotics arrests in December and 24 of those were felonies. He said he thought that sent a clear message that if anyone wanted to go to prison, they could come to Oak Island to sell drugs.

a. Department Reports: Department reports are attached and are hereby made a part of these Minutes.

2. Town Attorney: No report.

VI. CLOSED SESSION: Consensus was that the Closed Session was not needed.

**Councilor Bell made a motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. Councilor Blalock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

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Cin Brochure, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa P. Stites, MMC  
Assistant Manager/Town Clerk

*Clerk's Statement: Minutes are in compliance with the open meetings laws. The purpose of minutes per the open meetings laws is to provide a record of the actions taken by a Council or a Board and evidence that the actions were taken according to proper procedures. All actions of the Council are recorded in the official minutes. Not all portions of Town of Oak Island meetings are recorded verbatim in the official minutes, with general discussion items, reports, presentations, and public comments being paraphrased or summarized in many instances. Public comments in writing should be submitted to the clerk via hard copy, electronic mail, or other means so as to ensure an exact verbatim account. The Town of Oak Island provides full coverage of meetings on Government Channel 8 so that the Citizens and the Public may view and listen to the meetings in their entirety.*