



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, • 6:30 pm.

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Hellyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mayor Hellyer, Mayor Pro Tempore Scoles, Councilmembers Dietrich, Drake, Holder, Pellegrino, and Keating were in attendance. Others present Interim Administrator Duckett, Town Attorney Crosby, and Town Clerk Sheri Medina.

2. **INVOCATION; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- A. Invocation: David Pellegrino gave the invocation.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Hellyer led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING** – None

4. **MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA** - None

5. **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for August 25, 2020, and August 28, 2020. Councilmember Dietrich seconded. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only**

- A. An email comment was read.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS** - None

8. **BUSINESS**

a. **Award bid contract for the Surfside Beach Pier Restoration Project.**

Mayor Hellyer stated Thursday, we had a workshop with the Engineers and Architects. We also had the Finance Director come and talk to us. At this workshop we found out that we do have enough money to build the Pier. All bidders are qualified, but our Engineer and the Architect said that they had some unanswered questions. They were to request this information and needed to provide it to us by close of business on Friday. They sent us that additional information, along with their recommendation letter. I'm going to ask the Interim Town administrator to read parts of that letter so that everybody understands why this decision is being made the way that it is.

Mr. Duckett stated, Mayor and members of Council and other distinguished people here tonight. That afternoon at 3:45 PM, we received a packet of information electronically from Johnathan Sigman from Collins Engineering. I think it answered the questions that anybody would have had. He talked about a discussion that he had with Intercoastal Marine. The seven bullet points from the discussion are:

- 1. They are a subsidiary of Smith Rowe, which is a larger company that has performed projects at \$25M for their portion of the work.
- 2. They recently constructed a 475-foot timber pier off Wilmington over the ocean.
- 3. They performed repair work on the Myrtle Beach State Park pier, which required driving piles through a coquina layer.
- 4. They have built multiple bridges over 600 feet long.
- 5. They've installed over one thousand drilled piers, which is a similar construction technique to rock socketing to be used on our pier.
- 6. They will begin construction at the landside, creating the podium, while building the Access Trestle and demolishing the remains of the Existing Pier. They will build the Pier while the buildings are constructed.
- 7. The anticipated construction duration from the start of a project to completion appears to be 16 to 18 months, based on this information.

According to the engineer, Intercoastal satisfies the requirements of the lowest qualified bidder for this project

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61 Councilmember Pellegrino stated, I spoke to Mr. Duckett many times since Thursday, and also the architect and engineer,
62 because there was a lot of information lacking on Thursday. They did get better information as far as job experience and
63 references and followed up to make sure that they qualify. Also, we have a consultant through a company called Haggerty,
64 who is our direct contact with FEMA. And if we were not to pick the low bid, it is incumbent on us to prove that the low bidder
65 is not qualified. The engineers and architects did their due diligence, and it came out that Consensus is qualified to do the job.
66 So that's the direction I'm going to vote tonight.
67

68 Councilmember Keating stated I want to caution everyone that there are still a couple of open issues. We have to embark on
69 drafting and negotiating the contract. We need to choose which design we want to go with. Everyone is assuming that the
70 design choice is the concrete and steel alternative as being cheaper is the best way to go. But, now that we have a better
71 handle on the finances and what will be available to us, we need to consider some of the suggestions that have already been
72 made for Value Engineering and other potential minor design changes for cost improvement type of items. We may want to
73 consider the all concrete design with those design changes at the same price as the alternate design. That's not something
74 that's decided here tonight, but that is something that we need to keep in the back of our mind as we go through the contract
75 negotiations. And also, understand we still have a decision point to make on who will be the town's representative as a full-
76 time project manager for the project in total.
77

78 Councilmember Pellegrino made a motion to award the pier construction project to Consensus Construction. Mr. Drake
79 seconded. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**
80

81 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Town Services or Business Conducted - None**

82 **10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS**

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- 84
- 85 a. Councilmember Holder stated it's great to see everyone here tonight. I'm glad we got the Pier moving for now. It has
86 been coming for a long time. It's nice to see that we can get the Pier built as soon as possible. Thank you, and have a
87 good night.
88
- 89 b. Councilmember Keating stated I want to thank everyone for coming out, and also everyone that's on the phone and
90 listening on I'm Fired Up. This has been quite the project, but the hard work starts now. I don't want people to breath too
91 big of a sigh of relief because we've got a lot of work ahead of us. We've got 18 months of a significant construction
92 project that will disrupt the town to some degree. So, we continue to ask for your support, your patience as we step
93 through this very complex project. There are a few other things that I would like to see on our agenda at future
94 meetings to discuss, such as saving some of the Pier boards, and some of the equipment that has been in the restaurants
95 to generate some memorabilia for some of the people that may want to have tokens of their memories of the original Pier
96 as it has existed in Surfside for many years. There are a few other things that I think we can do. If we can make some
97 connections with some of the artsy people in town that are so skilled at their craft to paint our logo on it. I think if we
98 can, and maybe our ladies from Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee could lead this project. I think there's a lot of
99 interest out there that I've heard for pier memorabilia that we need to work with our contractor to make sure he's
100 amenable to saving some of those boards and facilitating that project. There are other things that maybe our Public
101 Works can do with building benches out of some of the structural components or featuring it on some of the benches. I
102 think it would be nice to memorialize the Pier we've had for so many years, so just some crazy thoughts off the top of my
103 head. So, again, thanks to everybody for coming out. I appreciate it.
104
- 105 c. Councilmember Dietrich said thank you all for coming out tonight. I can't speak for all Council, but I'll speak for myself.
106 We needed to get here. I would have loved to have gotten here a long time ago, but it just didn't work out that way. So
107 let's get it done. We can all sit here a couple of years and enjoy it all over again. Thank you all for coming out.
108
- 109 d. Councilmember Pellegrino stated thanks for coming tonight. The this is a big step forward for the town for the second
110 time, but we got it for good this time hopefully so that it is positive, we can start to look at some of the details Ms. King
111 was talking about, start looking at the deployment and mobilization and moving forward. And I want to commend
112 Council, because it's been years getting to this point, especially the last few months have been very interesting, but we,
113 we came together tonight, and we made the right decision for the town. So, now we can move forward, but thanks for
114 coming. Thank you.
115
- 116 e. Councilmember Drake stated thanks for coming out and tuning in tonight. I want to thank Mr. Duckett for his leadership,
117 what he's done in the past couple of weeks, and stepping up to bat; it's been a nice change, thank you. I'd like to thank
118 all the Council members for their hard work and pulling this together. It's been a long road, we're here, and we're going
119 to move forward with it. Thanks very much.
120
- 121 f. Councilmember Scoles stated I'd like to thank everyone in Chamber tonight and those that called in and look forward to
122 starting this project and moving forward with the Pier. Long time coming, everyone be safe and have a good evening.
123 Thank you.

124 g. Mayor Hellyer stated we still have a whole lot of work to do. This is the first step in what we've got going on. We still
125 need to negotiate the contract. We still need to find a town representative to supervise the contract. I think that
126 everybody has done a great job, so far. I want to thank the interim town administrator for his work that he's done in the
127 last 12 days. It's been remarkable that we've been able to put this together and get the bid and put it to bed. So
128 hopefully, we can move on. We do have a lot of work to do to get this accomplished. So, thanks. Thanks for everybody
129 that gave us support; you have a good evening.
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132 **11. ADJOURNMENT** Councilmember Keating made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm. Councilmember Holder seconded.
133 All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**
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137 **Surfside Beach Town Council**
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140 Robert Hellyer, Mayor
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143 David L. Pellegrino, Town council
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143 Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council
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146 Cindy Keating, Town Council
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146 Michael Drake, Town Council
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149 Debbie Scoles, Mayor Pro Tempore
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149 Paul Holder, Town Council
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151 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded, and is not intended
152 to be a complete transcript. Appointments to hear recordings may be made with the town clerk; a free copy of the audio
153 will be given to you provided you bring a new, unopened flash drive. In accordance with FOIA §30-4-80(A) and (E),
154 meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties via the town's email subscription
155 list. The agenda was posted on the entry door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town
156 website at www.surfsidebeach.org and the town's LED marquee.
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