

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2015**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Voveris called the February 9, 2015, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Council Members Sue Callaway, Tony Caputo, Jim Gross, Tim Saxton, and Mayor Pat Voveris; Town Manager Melvin Cusick; Code Enforcement Constable Joseph Hinks; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith

PRESENT BY REMOTE ACCESS: Councilman George Junkin

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Councilman Al Rae

APPROVAL AND VOTE OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Gross, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to approve the agenda as published. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councilpersons Callaway, Caputo, Gross, Junkin, Saxton, and Mayor Voveris

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Voveris read into the record the following which was received in an email from a property owner to which a number of property owners signed onto:

Mayor Voveris,

We, property owners on the east side of Ocean Drive, want to let the Town Council know that we hold them responsible for the damaging reversal of the BFE on our properties. We are expecting that all avenues necessary, both in time spent by board members and any funding needs, will be taken to reverse the BFE to the 10' originally submitted by FEMA.

The BFE was increased to 13' following George Junkin's submission to FEMA (with Council's knowledge). The submission and the correspondence that followed, including a letter sent from Attorney Barrett Edward to FEMA on behalf of the Council, was done without conversation with the public. No written notification nor town meeting was called regarding the FEMA recommendation of a 10' BFE nor the Council's plan to reverse it.

We understand item 5 on the agenda for the meeting Monday 2/9/15 is to vote on the next step, reaching out to US Congressional Reps to help the Council work with FEMA to get our BFE back to 10'.

We want the Town Council to know that we expect them to vote in favor of item 5. The property owners listed below also vote yes to item 5 by endorsing this email.

Regards,

*Robin and Larry Greenhall
400 S. Ocean Drive*

*Sherrie I. Mitchell
Charles F. Mitchell
200 South Ocean Drive*

*Mark and Janet Dyer
506 S Ocean Dr.*

*JTM Realty Inc.
604 S. Ocean Drive
Rob and Terri Sarisky*

*Skip Hartman
1106 South Ocean Drive*

*William & Katherine Shaw
104 S. Ocean Drive*

*David Kunko
304 South Ocean Drive*

Mayor Voveris added that follow up endorsements were received from:

Martin and Isabelle Snyder
602 S. Ocean Drive

Charles Rankin
300 S. Ocean Drive

Jeanne Ridgeway
600 S. Ocean Dr.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO DELAWARE'S UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNING THE PROPOSED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS FOR OCEAN DR.

Council had a copy of the letter the Town Solicitor drafted to send to Delaware's United States Congressional Representatives.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilman Gross, seconded by Councilman Saxton, that a letter be sent as mentioned on the agenda.

Discussion: Councilman Junkin reviewed the history of this issue regarding FEMA's preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for South Bethany. For clarification purposes, a discussion on the history ensued.

Council discussed the contents of the letter.

During discussion Council agreed to add the following to the letter:

- Ask our legislators to contact FEMA
- Support our town in asking FEMA to remove what they are calling an appeal.
- Once removed FEMA would revert back to their VE10 classification as shown on the FIRM of August 2, 2013.
- Time is of the essence.
- Mayor Voveris' contact information.

The letter will be sent by email and overnight mail. Mayor Voveris will follow up on the letter by contacting the representatives' offices by phone on Wednesday.

Amended motion: A motion was made by Councilman Gross, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to send a letter as agreed upon at this meeting after review by the attorney.

The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councilpersons Callaway, Caputo, Gross, Junkin, Saxton, and Mayor Voveris

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON AN ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE DECEMBER 12, 2014, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY AMENDED AND ADOPTED AT THE JANUARY 29, 2015, TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Page 14 of 14: Mayor Voveris said she would like to amend the minutes because after considering Ed Bintz's concern the Town did not send the letter to Mr. Bintz.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Caputo, seconded by Councilman Gross, to annotate the December 12, 2014, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes to reflect the fact that the letter was not sent.

The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councilpersons Callaway, Caputo, Gross, Junkin, Saxton, and Mayor Voveris

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Gross, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to adjourn the February 9, 2015, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 10:22 a.m.

The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councilpersons Callaway, Caputo, Gross, Junkin, Saxton, and Mayor Voveris

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.