



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011, 7:00PM**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Don Glander; Commissioners Ray Lehr, Sandy Miller and Sheila Young; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; and Building Official Tim Evans.

Mayor Holden asked for a moment of silence and then called the meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Motion by Commissioner Miller to approve the agenda as written; second by Commissioner Lehr; approved by unanimous vote.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion by Commissioner Miller to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 11, 2011 as amended (Commissioner Miller asked to add no action was taken when discussing the meeting date of the Board's November meeting; second by Mayor Pro Tem Glander; approved by unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

John Lytvinenko (President of the Holden Beach Property Owners Association) stated in September he visited a client in Iowa and drove by beautiful wind turbines. He was very impressed. He stated he was within 30 – 50 yards and there was no noise. Mr. Lytvinenko took pictures of the information boards. The chart shows that 12 mph is enough power for 5,000 homes and 33 mph is enough for 20,000 homes. He went to a community forum on offshore wind at UNCW. He stated it was a really good forum. He invited everyone to have an open mind.

**OFFSHORE WIND PRESENTATION – NORTH CAROLINA SIERRA CLUB**

Carina Barnett-Loro, North Carolina Sierra Club and Zak Keith, Oceana gave background information on the Sierra Club and Oceana. Ms. Barnett-Loro explained that the title of their presentation is "First in Flight, First in Wind." She stated North Carolina has an opportunity to be a leader again because of our strong wind resources. Offshore wind has been operating for about 20 years in Europe. They have over 3,000 MW of capacity. 1 MW of offshore wind would power about 300 homes in North Carolina. The offshore wind industry employed over 34,000 jobs in Europe. It is projected to provide 293,746 jobs in Europe by 2030. It takes 8,000 component parts to make an offshore wind turbine. The United States has abundant wind resources; the coast of North Carolina is classified as outstanding and superb. North Carolina has the best offshore wind resources of any state on the east coast. If all of the resources are developed you would have 140 GW. North Carolina has the third highest electricity use. North Carolina has low energy costs, which is a challenge because offshore wind will be a little more expensive. Ms. Barnett-Loro explained it is also a benefit because the construction costs will be low. North Carolina was named the least expensive state to construct offshore wind in the country. Ms. Barnett-Loro explained that a North Carolina Task Force was formed to determine the most appropriate places to develop offshore wind. After the lease blocks are announced, interested developers will respond. She showed a slide with potential offshore wind leasing blocks. Mr. Keith explained that other states have created incentives for

offshore wind energy to come to their area. Manufacturing facilities follow the energy supply chain. He explained the Dutch Government published a study in July analyzing the environmental effects of offshore wind and found no negative effects on wildlife living in the area between offshore wind installations.

Mayor Pro Tem Glander asked how long it takes for a single unit to pay for itself or break even from a cost standpoint. Ms. Barnett-Loro stated it is a more expensive way of getting power. She stated the Department of Energy has put together an aggressive program for bringing down the costs of offshore wind. She believes the goal is to have these wind farms pay themselves back within 15 years. Dolly Mitchell asked if there have been any studies on how these would withstand hurricanes. Ms. Barnett-Loro explained there are test drive facilities that are researching that. Ben Baker stated that someone on CNBC stated solar power is four times as high and wind is eight times higher than conventional energy. Ms. Barnett-Loro stated those numbers sound high. John Lytvinenko read from the information he has on turbines and hurricanes. He stated it would be interesting to obtain the environmental impact studies Pete Peterson completed. Mr. Lytvinenko stated there will be a cost increase. He compared TV and radio and stated they changed the way of life. He stated electric usage is skyrocketing, wait until we have electric cars. Mr. Lytvinenko stated we need to look for alternative energy. Sarah Sue Ingram stated she likes the idea, but doesn't want to see them looking offshore. Mr. Keith stated lease block one is about 5 – 7 miles offshore and lease block 2 is 10 – 15 miles. Building Official Evans stated wouldn't it be more inviting to put them closer to shore because of cost. Mr. Barnett-Loro stated you would have to balance the cost factor, versus the strength of the winds and other factors. Bill Cohen inquired on the total cost of a turbine, including the construction of it. Ms. Barnett-Loro stated she will get him her card so they can discuss that.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BARBARA LOWELL'S RESIGNATION FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Mayor Holden read Ms. Lowell's resignation. It is very sad to have this resignation.

*Motion by Commissioner Miller to accept Ms. Lowell's resignation; second by Commissioner Young; approved by unanimous vote.*

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 11-15, RESOLUTION HONORING VETERAN'S DAY**

Town Manager Hewett read the resolution.

*Motion by Commissioner Young to approve Resolution 11-15; second by Commissioner Lehr; approved by unanimous vote.*

#### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Completed two project worksheets with the FEMA beach technical advising consultants. Submitted the two grant reimbursements for approval. The first one is for a nourishment project in an amount estimated at \$448,000. The second one is for replacement of sand fence and vegetation that was damaged during Irene in the amount of about \$189,000.
- Mosquito spraying permit expired on October 31<sup>st</sup>. There are new EPA criteria, but as yet no template for the state has been developed. That means the Town cannot legally spray.
- Provided the Board with an article on the beach club taxation bill. Chris May (Cape Fear Council of Government) is trying to arrange a meeting with the state representative that stymied the bill last session.
- The HBPOA article deadline is November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor thanked Town Manager Hewett and Town staff for reaching out and chasing the FEMA money. He explained this is the money Holden Beach is getting to rebuild our beach because of the hard work of the staff. Not all of the beaches are getting this. Mayor Holden stated he understands that the sand fence will go from end to end of the island as determined by the engineer.

## **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

- Appreciates everyone being here.

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Glander

- Commended Town Manager Hewett, Parks & Recreation Coordinator Rose and staff for pulling off the triathlon. Thinks it was a brilliant idea and it was well done. Town Manager Hewett participated. There was a young lady from Philadelphia who came down for this. She went to a restaurant and went to a wine tasting. She is a member of a club and wants to bring all 30 of her members back next year. Talked to the event organizer and was told the event could probably max out at 300. It is well worth the effort if we can get people coming to Holden Beach.
- Thanked Barbara Lowell for her service to the community. She did a very good job.

Commissioner Lehr

- No comment.

Commissioner Miller

- No comment.

Commissioner Young

- Thanked Barbara Lowell for her service and thanked the people for being here. Thanked voters for voting in this election and for allowing her to try and represent them.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON GENERAL ITEMS**

Nydia Glander stated several people have come to her and they are waiting for a report on the Recreation Master Plan survey.

John Lytvinenko thought the triathlon was well done. He thanked the volunteers that showed up. He also talked to the lady from Philadelphia and others that echoed the same thing. He stated that Jeremy, the organizer, thought of moving it up two weeks earlier, which would be a good thing. Mr. Lytvinenko congratulated Town Manager Hewett on completing the triathlon. He also congratulated all of the candidates. He thinks it takes a lot of guts to run.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Commissioner Miller to adjourn at 7:51 p.m.; second by Mayor Pro Tem Glander; approved by unanimous vote.*

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J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather Finnell, Town Clerk