

**MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

**9:00 A.M. – WORKSHOP MEETING – TED C. COLLINS LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER  
10:00 A.M. – MEETING – TED C. COLLINS LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

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 **Roll Call.**

Present: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
Absent Mike Lowder.

**CALL TO ORDER**.....9:02 A.M. Workshop


 **Motion:** To Enter Closed Session to discuss 1) Campground pending litigation, and 2) City Manager contract, **Moved by** Mike Philip N. Render **Seconded by** Michael Chestnut.

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

9:03 A.M.

 **Motion:** To Exit Closed Session, **Moved by** Jackie Hatley, **Seconded by** Philip N. Render.

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

9:26 A.M.


**CALL TO ORDER**.....10:00 A.M

**INVOCATION**.....Councilwoman Hatley

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**.....Councilwoman Hatley

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**.....

 **Motion:** To Approve, **Moved by** Philip N. Render **Seconded by** Gregg Smith.

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....January 25, 2022

 **Motion:** To Approve, **Moved by** Michael Chestnut **Seconded by** Gregg Smith.


 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

**PUBLIC REQUESTS, PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, MEMORIALS:**

1. Public Information Update – PIO Staff

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS FROM PUBLIC.....30 Minute Time Limit**

 Jo Cooper discusses issues she feels is taking place on the Boardwalk. She reads an email sent to Council. (Attached)

**CONSENT AGENDA – *The Consent Agenda covers items anticipated to be routine in nature. Any Councilmember may ask that an item be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for lengthier discussion, items remaining on the Consent Agenda will be briefly described by staff.***

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resolution R2022-7 approving settlement and release of claims against US Specialty and authorizing execution of settlement documents.**

*The City of Myrtle Beach (the "City") is engaged in litigation with U.S. Specialty Insurance Group relating to insurance coverage. As such, the City Attorney is authorized to execute and deliver all documents and undertake such acts as are necessary to effectuate the settlement and to comply with the terms of settlement.*

**Motion M2022-18 to approve a Special Event Permit to Joe Goodwin of MB Volleyball Club to host Volleyball tournament March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 from 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM. The City Manager is authorized to make changes to these plans as he deems necessary in keeping with the nature of the event and as circumstances dictate.**

*MB Volleyball Club is proposing to hold this event on existing courts and the beach between 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, placing up to 8 nets if necessary, safety netting required on Ocean Boulevard side to keep balls from entering the road.*

**Motion M2022-19 to approve a Special Event Permit to Lynn Makris/ BEI-Beach, LLC for the Market Common Valentine Carriage Rides, to be held February 14, 2022, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The City Manager is authorized to make changes to these plans as he deems necessary in keeping with the nature of the event and as circumstances dictate.**

*The event includes allowing a Horse Drawn Carriage to carry guest through Market Common. The promoter is asking permission to close two parking spaces on Howard Avenue in front of Dolce Lusso Salon for Carriage pick up and drop off. Expected attendance is 100 per evening.*

**Motion M2022-20 to authorize the City Manager or his designee to accept a grant from Horry County First Steps for School Readiness Local Partnership in the amount of \$8,900 to continue the outdoor Story Walk project; to record the appropriation of such grant funds in the amount approved, and to execute and deliver the grant agreement and such related documents as may be required to put the grant into effect. No local match is required.**


*First Steps is a statewide organization serving all 46 counties in SC helping parents and families prepare their children for school and life success. A Story Walk has been installed in Grand Park featuring a fun, educational activity that places a children's story along the multi-use trail by the lake.*

**Motion M2022-21 authorizing the City Manager or his designee to accept a grant in the amount of \$6,500 from Palmetto Pride to purchase portable cameras to assist in Solid Waste Management enforcement efforts, to record the appropriation of such grant funds**

**in the amount approved, and to execute and deliver the grant agreement and such related documents as may be required to put the grant into effect. There is no match requirement.**

*This grant will allow the Solid Waste Management staff to monitor illegal dumping activity in the Solid Waste facility for enforcement efforts.*

 **Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda, Moved by Jackie Hatley Seconded by Philip N. Render.**


 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).  
**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

**1<sup>ST</sup> Reading Ordinance 2022-3 to annex 2801 N. Oak Street (PIN# 424-06-04-0003) and rezone from Horry County HC (Highway Commercial) to City of Myrtle Beach MU-M (Mixed Use/Medium Density).**

*The applicant, Oak Street Group Limited Partnership, wishes to annex this parcel into the City and rezone the property to MU-M to be consistent with the zoning of the surrounding properties. The Planning Commission unanimously recommends approval (9/0).*

 **Motion: To Approve, Moved by Jackie Hatley Seconded by John Krajc.**


 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).  
**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

## **APPROVED 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Ordinance 2022-4 to annex the northwest corner of Mr. Joe White Avenue and Robert M. Grissom Parkway (PIN# 425-12-04-0040) and rezone from Horry County NC (Neighborhood Commercial) to City of Myrtle Beach MU-M (Mixed Use/Medium Density).**

*The applicants, Aspen Asset Group, LLC, wishes to annex this parcel into the City and rezone the property to MU-M to be consistent with the zoning of the surrounding properties. The Planning Commission unanimously recommends approval (9/0).*

 **Motion: To Approve, Moved by Jackie Hatley Seconded by John Krajc.**

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).  
**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.  
**Absent:** Mike Lowder

## **APPROVED 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**Motion M2022-22 to enter to a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Myrtle Beach Police Department and Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.**

*The goal of this project is to provide use of the equipment for Partnering Agencies. Partnering Agencies will share the Cellebrite Premium Extraction Software Program (PREM), and its application and use. This program will have the capability to assist in entry into the mobile phones where security measures have blocked entry into the phone for investigative purposes to retrieve data evidence.*



**Motion: To Approve, Moved by Michael Chestnut Seconded by Jackie Hatley.**



**Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).**

**Yes: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.**

**Absent: Mike Lowder**

**APPROVED**

**Motion M2022-23 to appoint/reappoint two members to the Housing Authority.**

*The terms of John Leiter and Anne Futrell expired on December 9, 2021. Both wish for reappointment. There are no new resumes on file. Both terms will expire December 9, 2026.*



**Motion: To Reappoint John Leiter and Anne Futrell, Moved by John Krajc Seconded by Gregg Smith**



**Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).**

**Yes: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.**

**Absent: Mike Lowder**

**Motion M2022-24 to appoint/reappoint one member to the Standard Code Board of Adjustments and Appeals.**

*On file is the resume for Richard L. Berry (non-resident) this term will expire on April 26, 2024. This seat requires member to be an Architect/Engineer, which Mr. Berry is.*



**Motion: To Appoint Richard L. Berry, Moved by Gregg Smith Seconded by John Krajc.**



**Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).**


**Yes: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.**

**Absent: Mike Lowder**

**Motion M2022-25 to declare certain vehicles abandoned or derelict pursuant to the authority of Article 41 of Title 56 South Carolina Code of Laws 2001.**

*This declaration is an effort to improve the appearance of both commercial and residential neighborhoods. This report includes vehicles that staff has tagged as abandoned or derelict. Council's approval allows these vehicles to be towed from their private property locations to a tow yard where they may be reclaimed by the current owner upon payment of the applicable towing and storage fees. If the vehicles are not claimed by the owner within 30 days of the required notice, then the tow company may sell the vehicle and keep the proceeds as compensation.*

 **Motion:** To Approve, **Moved by** John Krajc **Seconded by** Michael Chestnut.

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.

**Absent:** Mike Lowder


**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session which are deemed to be “emergency” concerns.

***Note:*** South Carolina law requires that Council’s business is conducted in public with limited exceptions known as “Executive Sessions”. Subjects eligible for Executive Session include:

- ***Personnel matters.***
- ***Negotiations concerning proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property.***
- ***The receipt of legal advice relating to:***
  - ***A pending, threatened, or potential claim.***
  - ***Other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.***
  - ***Settlement of legal claims, or the position of the City in other adversary situations.***
- ***Discussions regarding development of security personnel or devices.***
- ***Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.***
- ***Matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses.***

***Motions to go into Executive Session must be made in public and specify one or more reason above. Council can take no votes or take action in Executive Session.***

## **ADJOURNMENT**

 **Motion:** To Adjourn, **Moved by** Philip N. Render **Seconded by** Michael Chestnut.

 **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 6).

**Yes:** Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.

**Absent:** Mike Lowder

10:33 A.M.

ATTEST:

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BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

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JENNIFER ADKINS, CITY CLERK

## Jennifer Adkins

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**From:** Jo Cooper <jocooper.mb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 7, 2022 6:29 PM  
**To:** Dear City Council  
**Subject:** [External]The Myrtle Beach Boardwalk

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening unsolicited attachments or clicking links. Please forward suspicious mail to [spam@cityofmyrtlebeach.com](mailto:spam@cityofmyrtlebeach.com) for review.**

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I have been asked by literally dozens of people to bring this before council. I do not live in the city limits of Myrtle Beach, but I am even MORE invested because my children and grandchildren do! I hope that you will read this, and know I am writing this STRICTLY addressing your jobs as elected officials, and not you personally. This was written on January 24th, it has over 500 "likes", comments, and 255 shares and I am not going to let this rest, because this is my home.

In case you wonder, I don't walk with money, jewelry or a cell phone.  
This is a REAL problem, and it needs addressed and remedied!

I took the notion to get my daily walk in on the Boardwalk today. I parked at 2nd Ave Pier and walked south to the end of the Boardwalk. It was a glorious day! The bluest sky, the ocean was sparkling, and the air was chilly, with a little breeze rustling the palm trees. My hometown. My favorite spot in the world, taking it all in at 1pm in the afternoon. As I got parallel to the Holiday Sands N properties, a man pushing a buggy full of belongings and walking a dog asked me to buy a drone. He needed money for him and his dog to eat. I looked him in the eye, and as nicely as I could say, I told him I wasn't interested. He insisted. I said no and kept walking. He persisted, getting angrier and louder with every reason why I needed a drone. He kept walking south, and I continued north, more than just a little put out. I looked back, and he was telling a couple about his drone, and they were trying to get around him. I noticed men coming out from under the beach accesses, women camped out on the steps, and was approached for money three more times. One woman just walked behind me, dropping the "F-bomb" continuously and saying, "I bet you've never heard that word before!" C'mon, lady. Most of our population now use the F bomb in every part of speech.

I only walked to the Sky Wheel, but the groups of homeless were on almost every bench and beach access. On my way back south, a man on the corner of 8th Ave. N and Ocean Blvd was screaming to the top of his lungs, ranting, kicking the restroom, and pounding on the walls. A man in front of me approached a couple walking north and asked them for money. The man said, "No." and the homeless man asked again. The other man became angry and told him to "get off the crack, get a job, and stop begging!" This made the homeless man angry and belligerent. I dropped further back from him, but he ranted and cursed until he cut over to the Blvd. Leaving the parking lot, I was so mad and so upset I couldn't hardly stand it! I crossed 3rd Ave S, and Hwy 17, and behind the gas station was a body laying in the empty lot. I pulled over to make sure it wasn't just clothes, but no....it was somebody and they weren't moving! I drove 15 minutes home to Forestbrook and my husband was home eating lunch. Oh, and it's not the first body I've seen laying around Myrtle Beach, so yes, i drove home. I told my husband about the walk and the "body" I saw. He rode from Forestbrook over to the beach, and sure enough, there was a body, so he called the police and met them there. By this time, 45 minutes had passed. How many others (or police) had driven by. He was out in the open.

To the mayor of Myrtle Beach and to every single city council member:

I don't care what marvelous "things" you are doing building-wise and asthetically. When people can't enjoy a glorious day like today on one of the most iconic strips along the entire east coast of the United States without being accosted multiple times, **YOU ARE FAILING US MISERABLY!** You are nothing more than pimps and you have made Myrtle Beach your prostitute! You should **ALL** be ashamed! If you aren't, I am ashamed for you! And I'm ashamed of you! Our city deserves better! Our visitors deserve better, and each one of you owe us the right to safely walk any street in this town. Especially the Boardwalk. Especially in the middle of the day! Out of curiosity, just what is your definition of a "family beach"?

Very, Very Sincerely,  
Jo Cooper