MINUTES

TOWN OF KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL

117 Settlers Lane • Kure Beach, NC 28449



Dean Lambeth, Mayor Chuck Keener, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dugan, Commissioner Barry Nelder, Commissioner Tim Fuller, Commissioner Kaysie Pralle, Town Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 3, 2010 at 6:30 PM

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct interviews of interested applicants to the Citizens Finance and Budget Advisory Committee.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor

Dean Lambeth

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Keener

Commissioner

Jim Dugan

Commissioner

Barry Nelder

Commissioner

Tim Fuller

STAFF PRESENT:

Town Clerk

Kaysie Pralle

There was a quorum of the Town Council present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lambeth called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Mayor Lambeth delivered the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION - Commissioner Fuller MADE THE MOTION to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Keener from tonight's meeting. Commissioner Dugan seconded the motion. THE VOTE OF APPROVAL WAS UNANIMOUS.

Mayor Lambeth - The Town has had a finance committee in the past.

Commissioner Fuller – No member of the Council is a finance expert. They think it is helpful to get objective analysis of Town finances. First duty of this committee is to draw up a mission statement. At the January 19th regular Council meeting there was a handout that is incorporated into these minutes by reference.

Two of the applicants cannot be here, Lisa Humphries and Michael Bunting for personal reasons. We will call applicants up in alphabetical order to answer questions from the question sheet.

Commissioner Dugan - Noted that even though Council may not select one applicant or resident, that does not mean their input during the budget process and for financial advice is not valued or accepted by Council.

APPLICANT INTERVIEWS

Larry Aultman

He is a full time resident, an independent business man, served 12 years on Board of Education in Caldwell County. He feels that getting a broad spectrum of people from the community would best serve the interests of the Town. The Town has to be fiscally responsible with the Town's finances.

Commissioner Fuller – Is there anything that would prevent you from participating in the meetings February through June.

Mayor Lambeth - What was the school board budget when you were on board?

Aultman - Around 25 million.

Commissioner Dugan - Is there any experience with government finances, grants, etc.

Aultman - He worked with grant funding and the accountant on a regular basis.

Candace Clark

Interested in the committee because of the view of how she thinks town finances should run. Like a family, not a business. I have no accounting experience. I have been a statistics professor for quite some time and worked with the deans of schools during the budget process. I have a real estate business. I am a volunteer tax preparer for the IRS. I have been involved in the KB Beautification Committee. I would be interested in finding out the financial situation of the Town. The goal would be a balanced budget. I will be available during the times available.

Commissioner Dugan - What involvement during government budgets, if any, do you have?

Clark - I helped Deans prepare school departmental budgets.

Vinny Doran

He has been a permanent resident since 2003. I will be gone two weeks in February and two weeks in March.

Commissioner Fuller – Even during the off months there will be monthly reports and the audit in December.

Doran – Has a degree in accounting, audited for Yonkers, NY for three years. He was in public accounting for three years. Went from cost accountant, to VP of finance. I was a group controller. In Chicago he ran a company for 15 years. The company went from 15 million to 55 million in sales during that 15 year time span. Has been on the Stormwater Committee, helps with the Street Festival. He is retired so he is available most times.

Mark Ferrer

He graduated with a dual degree in Business Administration and Accounting. He started his own investment advisory firm. He specializes in planning & advising. He has one office in Kure Beach and one in Albany, NY. I tried to give residents as much business as possible. Would like to see some of his expertise used for the benefit of the Town. He has been an advisor for some local businesses, Granny's Kitchen, Airlie Gardens. Has no experience with Kure Beach's budget. He is available, although February through April is his busy season. There is not a bad time during the day. He is a planner for short and long range goals.

Commissioner Dugan - What experience with government budgets?

Ferrer - Worked with NY State corrections on budgetary retirement. Municipal underwriting in Albany.

Grace McGee

She is a CPA on inactive status. Worked with Mobil. Would like to see everyone using the financial data available to the Town. I could help provide clarity on the numbers. She would like for everyone to be using the same set of numbers. There should be a five year plan to at least meet basic needs. Town employees, health benefits, pension, etc. All departments should have their needs covered. The data is in a usable form for those who do not have an accounting background. I am the accountant for two home owners associations here in Kure Beach. She would work toward providing non-political numbers for the Town.

Bill McGee

He worked for a government accountability office. He advised the congress so they could adopt legislation to move forward with those recommendations. He recommends having two committees; a budget committee and a financial advisory committee. Financial advisory committee would be a year round. Budget advisory committee would be more active during the budget process. He is involved with the Street Festival Committee. During the election I was asked to look at the Town's records. He looked at the metrics against the LGC's metrics. He found that our debt is manageable.

Commissioner Nelder - The League is beginning a tool that will allow comparison of municipalities' statistics against others.

McGee - The LGC offers a wealth of data. There are no metrics that evaluates the size of a municipality's debt.

Eric Vann

He wants to contribute to the Town. He has served on the Stormwater, Ocean Front Park and Economic Development Committees. He does not want to have any more surprises. He has an Engineering Degree and an MBA. He was responsible for budgets, capital expenditure budgets to include a five year plan, did all budgets for company with 190 million in sales. He is familiar with the town budget to a degree. He has no direct experience working with municipal accounting. Has a part time job in March and April on

Thursdays and Fridays. He would like to see a major expenditures plan. At some point we need to talk about raising taxes. If the committee makes that recommendation that will take the pressure off of the Council. He prefers an earlier part of the week for meetings.

Ferrer - He is assuming that Council is bonded, and would like to know if there is an insurance that would cover the committee as well.

Commissioner Dugan - Since you will be advisory to Council, we will make the decisions therefore taking the liability off of you.

We want to thank you for taking the time and considering volunteering for the Town.

Commissioner Fuller – Thanks to all those who applied. He knew that he would need help in this process.

Commissioner Barry – Thank you and you will get an investment in your community by seeing it come to fruition.

Commissioner Fuller – Would like to recommend that the questions and write up to Lisa and Michael and give them a chance to respond in written form so that Council may consider their applications. Need to decide how many people on this committee. Perhaps we should form one committee with two subcommittees. We will make appointments at the February regular council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION – Commissioner Nelder MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Commissioner Dugan seconded the motion. THE VOTE OF APPROVAL WAS UNANIMOUS.

Dean-Lambeth, Mayor

Kaysie Pralle, Town Clerk

NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by Council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting. Persons wishing to hear the recording of this meeting may request to do so by contacting the Town Clerk.