



# TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

## EMERGENCY MEETING

October 1, 2, 5 & 6, 2015

The mayor called for an emergency meeting to be held on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 4:30 p.m., for the purpose of discussing when and if a State of Emergency should be declared pending the approach of Hurricane Joaquin. The official meeting notice was posted at 9:30 a.m. in keeping with the six-hour minimum notice requirement for emergency meetings.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Dean Lambeth

Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Craig Bloszinsky (not @ 10/5/15 mtg)

Commissioner Emilie Swearingen

Commissioner/Emergency Manager (C/EM) David Heglar

### COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Steve Pagley

### STAFF PRESENT

Building Inspector – John Batson

Public Works Director – Sonny Beeker

Town Clerk – Nancy Avery

Finance Officer – Arlen Copenhaver (not at 10/1/15 mtg)

Deputy Town Clerk – Nancy Hewitt (not at 10/5/15 mtg)

Public Works – Jimmy Mesimer (at 10/1/15 mtg)

Police Chief – Dennis Cooper (at 10/5/15 mtg)

Police LT – Mike Bowden (at 10/1/15 mtg)

Fire Assistant Chief – Ed Kennedy (at 10/1 & 10/2/15 mtg)

Fire Captain – Daniel Russell (at 10/5/15 mtg)

### CALL TO ORDER

MPT Bloszinsky called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The mayor joined the meeting via phone. A quorum of council was present.

Commissioner/Emergency Manager (C/EM), David Heglar, stated that information gathered from the 2:00 p.m. advisory from the National Weather Service says Hurricane Joaquin is projected to turn to the east and pass Kure Beach about 80 miles offshore between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. He said the issue for Kure Beach will be the chance of getting tropical storm winds and significant beach erosion. He said that the governor declared a State of Emergency, probably due to the chance of significant inland flooding, much like occurred with Hurricane Floyd. He said that Warrant Lee, Director of the New Hanover County Emergency Operations Center (NHC EOC), is waiting to see the progression of the storm and will hold a meeting tomorrow morning to decide on any protective actions they recommend.



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Public Works Director Beeker said his crew has started preparing the generators for the wells and has tied things down and removed things that could possibly blow around.

Assistant Fire Chief Kennedy said they have generators set up and ready to go, and he and Captain Ford will be removing some lifeguard towers from the beach.

Building Inspector Batson said he has asked building contractors to clean up their job sites and secure things like construction materials and porta-johns. He said he has talked with people on the Storm Damage Assessment team to make sure they will be available, and he has also been in touch with his contacts from NHC. He said that quite a bit of sand has already been lost from the beach, especially around the 1600 and 1700 buildings of Ocean Dunes. He said that only two dune crossovers look to be in bad shape.

C/EM Heglar said that he will have Assistant Chief Kennedy and Captain Ford inspect the dune crossovers while they are riding the beach and will have them barricade any that are damaged.

Commissioner Swearingen asked if anyone from Kure Beach will be going to the NHC EOC, if the storm worsens.

C/EM Heglar said that he has two people identified to do this and will talk to them tonight. He recommended that council wait until tomorrow to see the projection of the storm. He said he will be in touch with the NHC EOC to see what their recommendation is after their morning meeting tomorrow.

1LT Marcus Myles, Deputy Director of the Fort Fisher National Guard Training Center, reported that they are shutting down the Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area at 12:00 p.m. tomorrow.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar moved to continue the emergency meeting until 12:00 p.m. on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, at which time he will present further updates.

VOTE – Unanimous

## CONTINUATION OF MEETING

At 12:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 2015, MPT Bloszinsky called the continued emergency meeting to order. The mayor joined the meeting via phone. A quorum of council was present.

C/EM Heglar stated that, although the hurricane is tracking to the east, NHC is declaring a State of Emergency effective at 6:00 p.m. today, due to flooding across the county. He said the county recommended that their four municipalities do likewise.



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Assistant Fire Chief Kennedy said that the lifeguard towers have been removed from the beach and the only dune crossover that was damaged was at Ocean Dunes which was already taped off with caution tape; part of it has washed away.

Director Beeker said that part of the damaged crossover will probably wash up on the rocks at Fort Fisher. He said that low areas in Kure Beach are getting flooded and that they are pumping the main lift station as quickly as possible.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar moved to declare a State of Emergency beginning at 6:00 p.m. tonight, to be in line with the county and state’s recommendations, with no protective actions recommended at this time.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

Said State of Emergency declaration is hereby incorporated as part of these minutes.

C/EM Heglar instructed the department heads to keep track of any storm-related expenses they incur after 6:00 p.m. tonight, until the State of Emergency is lifted, in case the town is able to get reimbursed by FEMA. He requested that an email be sent through the town’s email distribution list to notify the public of the State of Emergency, noting that there is no mandatory evacuation nor curfew, and that town services will continue as usual.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar moved to continue the emergency meeting until 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

## CONTINUATION OF MEETING

On Monday, October 5, 2015, Mayor Lambeth called the continued emergency meeting to order. The start of the meeting time was delayed until 9:20 a.m., while the mayor and emergency manager took a status update call with the NHC EOC. A quorum of council was present.

### Department Reports:

- FD Captain Russell said that they are continuing to monitor water levels.
- Public Works Director Beeker said that the water system is doing fine, the sewer is pumping hard to Carolina Beach and his staff is picking up garbage when and where they can.
- Finance Officer Copenhaver reminded the department heads that any storm-related expenses since Friday at 6:00 p.m. need to be tracked and reported to him.



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- Building Inspector Batson stated he is compiling a list of properties with damage and would like an announcement of this on the town's emergency alert email.

C/EM Heglar said that, per the last update call with NHC EOC, more rain is expected through Tuesday morning.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar moved to continue the State of Emergency and to continue the emergency meeting until 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

## CONTINUATION OF MEETING

On Tuesday, October 6, 2015, Mayor Lambeth called the continued emergency meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. C/EM Heglar joined the meeting via phone. A quorum of council was present.

C/EM Heglar gave a brief overview of certain areas of town that had issues and, after talking with the NHC EOC, he recommended that council lift the State of Emergency at 5:00 p.m. today. He reminded the department heads to report all of their storm-related expenditures to the finance officer by 12:00 p.m. today, and they can add anything else before 5:00 p.m. in order to meet the county's deadline for submitting this information by 5:00 p.m.

MOTION – MPT Bloszinsky moved to lift the State of Emergency at 5:00 p.m. today, October 6, 2015.

SECOND – Commissioner Swearingen

VOTE – Unanimous

Public Works Director Beeker said that he only knows of about three houses that had water in them.

Inspector Batson told Director Beeker he got a complaint about one more house this morning that has water in it, and he is getting ready to go there now.

C/EM Heglar said that the town's storm water system did better than the local area storm water systems.

Commissioner Swearingen said she had gotten a couple of emails asking what the town was going to do about drainage.



# Town of Kure Beach

## DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION 15-2

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to New Hanover County Code Chapter 17, Article III, Section 17.71 and Section 17.72, and North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 166A and Article 36A, Chapter 14, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners has determined that a State of Emergency as defined in the New Hanover County Code Section 17.71 exists in New Hanover County; and

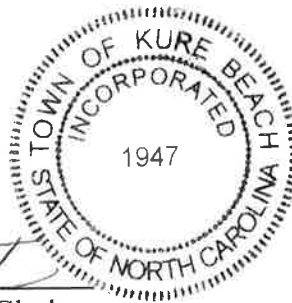
**WHEREAS**, The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners hereby orders all county law enforcement officers, employees and all emergency management personnel to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the county emergency ordinances, which are set forth below, as follows:

- Evacuation. *To be announced as necessary.*
- Curfew. *To be announced as necessary.*
- No Alcoholic Beverages. *To be announced as necessary.*
- No Firearms, Ammunition, or Explosives. *To be announced as necessary.*
- Execution of Emergency Plan. *All persons and emergency management personnel within New Hanover County are ordered to comply with the emergency plan.*
- Public Shelters. *To be announced as necessary.*

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Kure Beach Town Council, meeting in emergency session, does hereby proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the Town of Kure Beach due to the approaching Tropical Storm (possible hurricane) "Joaquin," and hereby orders all Kure Beach officials and agencies to cooperate in the implementation of the provision of this Declaration and the provision of the New Hanover County Emergency Operations Plan and the Kure Beach Emergency Operations Plan beginning 6:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 2015.

Declared this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2015.

  
Craig Bloszinsky, Mayor Pro Tem



ATTEST:   
Nancy Hewitt, Deputy Town Clerk



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C/EM Heglar said he'd be happy to talk to them but, if the water is on their property, the town's ordinance says that the property owner is responsible for that; but the town is willing to work with them to help.

Director Beeker said that there are some drainage issues on the roads that can't be helped without mechanically pumping. He said they had certain issues this time that hadn't come up in the past that he will take a look at.

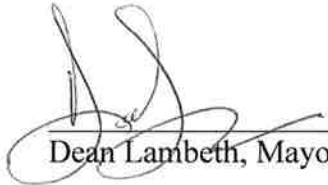
C/EM Heglar said that he is sympathetic to the property owners' plight, but the storm water system did what it was supposed to do and the town fared better than many others.

MOTION – Commissioner Heglar moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – MPT Bloszinsky

VOTE – Unanimous

The emergency meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

  
Dean Lambeth, Mayor



  
Nancy Hewitt, Deputy Town Clerk

NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting.