

MINUTES
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BOARD RETREAT
JANUARY 12, 2016

Mayor Blair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of Town Hall.

Attendance: Mayor William J. Blair III, Mayor Pro Tem Darryl Mills, Alderman Elizabeth King, Alderman Henry E. Miller III, and Alderman Lisa Weeks; together with Town Attorney John C. Wessell III, Town Manager Timothy W. Owens and Town Clerk Sylvia J. Holleman.

BOARD ROOM UPGRADES

Design:

Mr. Owens stated that the Town had hired the services of Big Sky Design to bring back a conceptual design to update the look and function of the Boardroom. He said they were supposed to make a presentation at the Retreat but since they were unable to get to where we needed to be on the cost, the Board would have to review their proposal at a later date.

Audio / Visual Equipment Upgrade:

Information Technology (IT) Manager Raquel Ivins reviewed the following three options for upgrading the audio and visual equipment in the Boardroom: 1) Two 55"-65" monitors in the corners and two 49'-50' tilt mount monitors on the audience walls (\$22,194-\$23,398); 2) Take out the two monitors in the corners and replace them with one 90" monitor in the center (\$25,820-\$28,269); and 3) Take out the two monitors in the corners and replace them with one 75" monitor in the center (\$20,770-\$23,126). Mrs. Ivins said the gooseneck microphones would be replaced with tabletop microphones and a ceiling mounted microphone would be included to catch the audio when meetings are held in the middle of the room. She noted that all equipment would be controlled by a touch panel controller. Mrs. Ivins stated that the tabletop computer would be replaced with a laptop computer in a box on the wall. Mr. Owens stated that the budget was \$25,000 and the monitors could be purchased from Wal-Mart.

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the possibility of holding Board meetings in the Public Safety Training Room, there was Board consensus to keep the Board meetings in Council Chambers (because the Fire Department uses the other room for training at least four nights a week); to do the whole upgrade at one time that would include two monitors in each corner and two on each side for the audience. Fire Chief Frank Smith asked the Board to also consider the safety issues with the current setup that places people and easels in the exit aisle.

Paperless Agenda:

Mr. Owens stated that there was a cost-free alternative (Agenda Free) if the Board wanted to go to a paperless agenda. He said the agenda packet would be scanned and given to the board digitally. Mrs. Ivins noted that if the Board used iPads, they would be able to highlight information on the screen. When asked if there would be an additional fee for internet service, she said the room already had WiFi so there would be no extra cost. Following a brief discussion regarding whether the Board members should use their personal iPads, there was Board direction to move forward with the purchase of uniform iPads or tablets to be under uniform control by the Town.

When asked if the Planning Board should also go paperless, Mr. Owens said he thought the Board of Aldermen should try it first and see how it works before trying it on the Planning Board.

FY2016/17 BUDGET PROCESS AND DIRECTION.

Finance Officer Erica Walters stated that as of December 31, 2015, all revenues and expenditures should be at 50%, but as a whole, the General Fund was at 53% for revenues and the Water and Sewer Fund was at 49%, which was slightly below projected because we only bill every other month. She stated that there were a couple of departments that were above the 50% rate with expenditures but, as a whole, the General Fund was at 42% and the Water and Sewer Fund was at 39%. She then gave a recap of the Fund Balance and the CIP Balance for Fiscal Years 2013-2015. Mayor Blair asked if there was a way to know from the CIP Balance recap what impact we had from the water rate increase. Mr. Owens said all of that went strictly into the fund in the CIP. He referenced the \$500,000 in the SSWWTP and said we took money from that to do some infrastructure upgrades. He said the Board would review that in the budget process. A brief review of the Budget Calendar followed.

BOARD DIRECTION

Merit Implementation:

Mr. Owens said, “In this budget year, we had a 1% COLA that was effective July 1, 2015; everybody got a 1% pay increase. We had another 1% loaded into the budget that the Board would decide on at the end of the year. 1% of the General fund budget is approximately \$35,000 and 1% of the Water and Sewer Fund budget is roughly \$3,500. Option A would be a merit salary increase – not a bonus; Option B would be a bonus; and Option C would be no merit raises in FY15/16 and reconsider for FY16/17. If you decide on Option A or Option B, we would implement in April.”

Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that we had improved ourselves significantly in the last couple of years and he was in favor of a merit increase. He said he was open to considering more than 1%.

Alderman Weeks stated that there had been a flattening of the salaries within the departments because of so little change in salaries over the last ten years. She said since we are in a better position and we finally pulled out of the recession, she was in favor of getting salaries back in line.

Mayor Blair agreed that the General Fund balance was better than anticipated. He said if they were looking for percentages, he thought they should consider 1% to 1.5% or something higher than that on a merit basis because we had a good year. He said merit and COLA were two different things to him and he thought this would be based on performance.

Alderman Miller stated that he liked the 1.5% versus the 1% in the form of a merit bonus but he was not sure he agreed with where the economy is.

Alderman Weeks noted that they had talked about this being a “bell shape” within departments because one person may get 2% and one person may get nothing but the total for the department would not go over the amount.

Mr. Owens stated that some employees would not qualify because they have been here less than a year. He said a merit salary increase would do more towards competition between Wilmington, New Hanover County and Carolina Beach.

Mayor Blair stated that he was suggesting a 1.5% merit “bonus”. Alderman King clarified that he was talking about a “bonus” and not a merit “salary increase”. Mayor Blair said he was proposing a merit “bonus” for this. Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that we had a good year and he felt staff should share. He said he had no problem with 1.5% bonus. There was Board consensus to give a 1.5% bonus. Mr. Owens stated that he would place that on the Board’s next agenda.

Town Operations Audit / Pay and Classification Study / Personnel Policy Review

Mr. Owens said, “A lot of folks around us have done a pay and classification study and have implemented some or all of it. The Town’s last pay and classification study was completed in 2004. The Board talked about an operations or efficiency study. The last time we bid this out, the vendor cost ranged from \$35,000 to \$125,000. At that time, it seemed to be something new to local governments but with the economy, I think more and more local governments have done an audit or efficiency study. So, if you were to go with Municipal Solutions at some point, I think we could do the project for \$30,000 to \$35,000. That would be an operations audit; they’d come in and look at your departments and look for ways to be more efficient and save money. You may or may not use Municipal Solutions or you may send each facet out for an RFP. I’m guessing the cost of that pay and classification study would be around \$15,000. Then there’s a personnel policy review that would be about \$10,000. We could undertake all of this now or we could talk about it during the budget process.”

Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that he wanted to make sure everyone understood that the Town would be paying somebody up to \$15,000 to do a pay and classification study that we could do in-house if we made it a priority. He said an efficiency study was different. Mr. Owens said we could do it in-house but he liked the objectivity of somebody from the outside doing it.

Mayor Blair referenced the upcoming department head retirements and said he felt we should have the new department heads onboard before moving forward with an efficiency study. Mr. Owens suggested putting \$35,000 in the budget and talking about it during the budget process. Mayor Blair stated that he would be fine with leaving the pay and classification study in the budget if the Board could get better information than Municipal Solutions. He said he was not interested in getting information from towns in Florida and Texas; he felt we should be within our region. He said he would be in favor of putting the efficiency study on hold until we’re ready. Mr. Owens stated that staff would bring this back during the budget process.

CONSIDERATION OF CHANGES TO THE PIER AND DOCK ORDINANCE

Mr. Wilson reviewed proposed changes to the Pier and Dock Ordinances that staff felt needed to be made. One of those changes was to Section 150.12 to add an exception that would be made in unusual cases to require adjacent property owners to sign off on any pier, dock or piling closer than fifteen feet instead of having to come to the Board of Aldermen for approval of that exception. He said staff would like to bring back a text amendment for Board approval in March or April.

Mr. Owens stated that staff wanted to make things a little more consistent with what CAMA will allow. He said they were not proposing any changes to the Pierhead Line. Mr. Wilson said most of the things coming before the Board recently had been the nonconforming piers and staff felt that definitely needed to be looked at.

Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that he thought this would simplify everybody's life but he wanted to make sure Mr. Wessell was okay with the proposed changes. Mr. Wessell said he thought a lot of time is wasted on the fifteen-foot restriction when neighbors are onboard with it. Mr. Owens said, with Mr. Wessell's help, staff would draft an ordinance and bring it back to the Board at a later date.

FUTURE COASTAL STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION FUNDING BY THE TOWN

Mr. Owens said, "The Board recently put another \$37,500 away to increase the amount of funding for the year to \$437,500. If the Town places this amount in a CIP account each year, the Town should be able to sustain funding for a \$10 million dollar beach project every four years with 17.5% funding coming from the Town and the remaining funding from the ROT funds. Federal and state funding is becoming more difficult to come by so the burden will be on us."

Mayor Blair stated that he met with Senator Richard Burr last Tuesday and it was clear that federal funding was going away completely at some point. He said the Town needs to plan to manage that financial burden, along with the County, and if we're going to use parking revenues, we need to be hard on parking because the burden is going to be big. He referenced the upcoming parking workshop and said some things would be presented that would keep this moving forward, unless the Board wants that to be managed through property taxes. Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that he had gotten the same signals from Congressman Rouzer.

REVITALIZATION PLAN FOR BUSINESS DISTRICTS ON WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

Ms. Sue Bulluck said, "I was here last year at the Retreat; we talked about putting together a collaborative effort to plan for revitalization in our business district. As we approached the election, the Board and I made a decision to pull that request off and not involve the issue of height or changes in zoning and all of those issues in the election process because whatever we do has to be collaborative. I surveyed the downtown (Salisbury, Old Causeway and Marina) and we have more nonconforming than we have conforming. We probably have ten owners that actually have property that can be rebuilt. The problem is that the owners versus the businesses that operate within those buildings and the Chamber are at a point where, along with two of the property owners downtown, we will be sending out one last letter which says basically, "If you're an owner and you want a future for your business, you need to step up to the plate and begin to look at the issues of FEMA, and the cost of making a new building water tight or water resistant. We need the owners as well as the business operators. The Chamber is willing to put in some money. I've approached the Foundation; they would be willing to put in some money. We would look at the Town to come up with some money when we get to the point of asking for a real revitalization study. But until the owners and businesses step up; until they decide whether they want to be businesses or whether they want this as a residential beach, there's really not any point to having us go out and implement a plan for them. So, we're going to spend our time looking at FEMA, beach nourishment and what we can do collaboratively, go out-

side the state and lobby at the national level where we can make a difference for that sporadic funding. As far as our research, we're probably looking at a seven to ten million dollar bullet every four or five years, if we have good times with no hurricanes or anything else. So, folks here, businesses and residences better get prepared and that's to say nothing of our infrastructure or other issues. The Chamber is willing to work with the different groups but until we've got some interest from the owners of the buildings, there is not much point in pushing ahead."

Mayor Blair said, "We had a group in the state last year trying to make a run on our sales tax distribution monies. According to everyone I've talked to, it appears that they will make another run at it." Ms. Bulluck said it was already in construction at the Legislature. She said, "We're willing to help but we're facing beach reconstruction, infrastructure, FEMA, all kinds of sales tax, and revenue stream from the County. Folks who have had the privilege of living here with relatively low tax rates comparatively may have to get prepared unless we have some very different legislative action. We will continue to work with you. I asked Layton Bedsole for all of the ownership lists of all of the owners that have properties here that live outside of New Hanover County and outside of the state. They need to be leveraged and talked to about who they go to in their particular congressional district. We can't do it alone; we can't do it without leveraging those other folks. And if we have a hurricane, we have nothing planned. So it would be at minimum, eighteen months or two years before anybody would rebuild anything. We'll all work together and keep pushing the rock uphill." The Board expressed appreciation to Ms. Bulluck for her hard work.

LONG-RANGE TRAFFIC FLOW / PEDESTRIAN / BIKE PLAN

Mr. Owens reviewed a list of prior recommendations of the Community Transportation Plan and the Salisbury and Pelican Street Bike and Pedestrian Plan as well as several other projects identified in the area between Waynick Boulevard and Columbia Street. He said the Town had only one plan in the Cape Fear Transportation Plan and that was bike and pedestrian improvements on Causeway Drive (considered a low priority for funding). He noted that having named projects in the Transportation Plan is tied directly to future STP-DA funding.

Alderman Weeks referenced a roundabout that was planned for the area across the drawbridge and expressed concern that something needed to be done to help with that traffic flow. Mayor Blair said when he was on the Transportation Advisory Committee, he got the sense then that the transportation guys did not think a roundabout was a solution. Alderman Weeks said there had been a modification with the previous supervisor where the outer lane would continue to go across the bridge and not be part of the roundabout. Mayor Blair said he thought the transportation people should be able to give us their thoughts on if that would be good or bad. Alderman Weeks said it is dangerous on Causeway Drive when you're riding a bike because you're weaving in and out between the parked cars. Mayor Blair said, "We have some people on Causeway that are not in favor of putting a bike path on their side because of cars having to back out into the lane." Alderman Weeks said she had talked to people that said it was more dangerous for them to look around parked cars to see cars that are pulling out. Mayor Blair asked if there was a way to canvas what the people on Causeway think about having a bike lane. Mayor Pro Tem Mills said Seapath people want the parking to go away but that would impact everyone.

Mr. Owens expressed the need to have a public hearing on a bike lane to help the Board decide what is best for the Town. Alderman Weeks said, “Just a wide shoulder along the Loop beside the sidewalk and a wide shoulder on the opposite side. There are very few parking places along there. I’m trying to look at the greater good. It is safer on Salisbury now than it has been in the past. I biked from Poe’s the other night and had to weave in and out of parked cars and I think that is more dangerous. Mayor Blair expressed the need to have some way of knowing that they would not be creating a safety problem with all of the driveways on Causeway Drive.

Following a brief discussion regarding roundabouts in other areas and the bike lane on Eastwood Road that is not being used by cyclists, Alderman Miller and Alderman King expressed concern with any future plans for Waynick Boulevard with regard to bike lanes. Alderman Miller asked the Board to let him talk to Mike Kozlosky to see if any funds were available. Alderman Weeks asked him to tell Mike Kozlosky that the modified roundabout made more sense and also to keep in mind Harold King’s alternative route off the beach.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE PROJECTS AND GRANTS

Mr. Owens presented the following list of projects that could be considered for grants or that the Town might wish to pursue without grant funding:

PROJECT	NOTES
1. Coral Drive Sidewalk	We just got the signed contract back for Coral Drive; we will move forward on that within the next week.
2. Mid-Loop Crossing and other amenities	Multiuse connection from Causeway to Salisbury; could undercut some of the brush for better views; could have education component; could have memorial bricks to pay for matching amount; could potentially hire a landscape architect to help.
3. Additional Parking on Old Causeway	Options: 1) provide 35 additional spaces and retain the bike lane – encroachments would be needed from NCDOT; 2) provide 39 spaces instead of 15 with limited involvement from NCDOT (bike lane cannot remain but you could have sharrows). Mayor Blair asked if that could be turned over to Parking to review what that would do to revenue.
4. Additional Parking Near Shell Island	The Town has lost some land at the north end. Additional consultation with NCDOT would need to occur. Three options: 1) provide 44 parking spaces within the NCDOT and land owned by the Town (probably the most feasible option); 2) provide 55 parking spaces; and 3) provide 75 parking spaces (probably the least feasible).
5. Wrightsville Beach Street Banners	Now that the Town has a truck with a lift, we could consider installing WB street banners, welcome banners, or seasonal banners in strategic areas of Town. The cost of the project would not be covered by any grants. The cost for 20 banners and hardware is approximately \$5,000.
6. Trolley Stop Bathrooms	The Town applied for a CAMA grant which scored well but there were limited funds available. If the Board wishes to consider this, a public hearing or open house is recommended for the property owners surrounding the facility to give their input. Then we could apply for the next CAMA grant with an estimated cost of the facility of \$220,000.

PROJECT	NOTES
7. Bridge Signage	This has been discussed with NCDOT but we do not know the feasibility. Staff feels having an NCDOT and Wrightsville Beach carved sign on the bridge tower would be a welcome addition.
8. Parks and Recreation Master Plan	There are a lot of recommendations that came out of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2013: 1) Land Acquisition; 2) Area and Facility Development; 3) Program and Service Development; 4) Policy and Procedure Considerations; and 5) Personnel Considerations.
9. Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Recommendations	Recommendations for future projects (some may likely be eligible for grant funding and some may not: 1) Fitness Equipment along potential multiuse trail (\$1,200-\$5,000/unit); 2) Tennis Court Lighting (\$53,000 with approximately \$1,200-\$1,500 annual expense); 3) Landscaping on Back Side of Tennis Court Fence (\$3,000); 4) Pedestrian Lighting Around Tennis Court Walkways (\$6,500); 5) Pickleball Courts (\$70,000 – does not include engineered plans and sand removal); 6) 100 W. Salisbury Street Property for Park with Kayak, Paddleboard Launch (\$1,500,000 – property asking price only – does not include development).
10. Other Projects	Future Streetscape Improvements: 1) East and West Salisbury Street; 2) Lumina Avenue from Salisbury to Latimer; 3) Waynick Boulevard; and 4) Keel, Marina, Short Street, Old Causeway Commercial Area. These improvements should be pre-planned for the entire Town and in the context of a Master Development Plan/Streetscape Plan. The additional benefit to this type of pre-planning is that NCDOT may implement some of the improvements when resurfacing or allow the Town to partner with them and possibly save money.

The Board briefly discussed the additional parking near Shell Island. Mr. Owens stated that the NCDOT wants the Town to maintain all the way to Salisbury Street. He said they were hesitant to come out and say yes because part of the project would be in their right of way. Mayor Blair asked staff to “run this up the flagpole” to see what problems we find and to see if we can do it. When he expressed the need to have committal from NCDOT, Mr. Owens said he would check with them.

Meeting recessed at 4:35 p.m. and reconvened at 4:40 p.m.

WATER AD HOC COMMITTEE ACTION

Mr. Owens gave the following update on the Water and Sewer Ad Hoc Committee: “Their last meeting was a joint meeting with the Board of Aldermen on August 25, 2015. Since that time, I’ve tried to meet with the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) a couple of times to discuss the different scenarios because most of the scenarios, at some level, involve their guys. The Water and Sewer Ad Hoc Committee has a meeting next Tuesday, January 19th, to systematically go through the different options we have and try to get a final list to bring back to this Board. One of the items that I think we need to do immediately, because we have an interconnection with CFPUA for emergency purposes or maybe for a portion of our water supply or maybe all of our water supply – we just don’t know that yet – I think we need to have that system modeled along with our system because their pressure is so much different than ours. We also have different types of water quality and different kinds of chemicals. In my opinion, we need to hire somebody to model the system and figure out what happens when we turn that valve on. The second phase of

the study will be to inventory and assess the condition of the Town's water and sewer infrastructure. We should, 1) inventory all assets of the system; 2) determine the value of all assets; 3) identify the overall condition of the system; 4) identify needed or required infrastructure improvements and estimated costs; and 5) create a ten-year CIP to implement needed infrastructure improvements. I would be ready to move forward with the modeling. If the Board wanted to do that, on the upcoming agenda, we could exempt ourselves from the qualification-based process that engineers would have to go through. When you approve the exemption, I will send it out to a couple of engineers in town. I think we need to do this regardless of whether we deal with CFPUA or not. You have an emergency access over there and if you ever decide to turn it on, you need to know what will happen. Their pressure is 75psi and ours is 35-45psi." Mayor Blair expressed the need for Mr. Owens to give the Board a plan and a price. Mr. Owens said, "The ad hoc committee is meeting on the 19th of January and it's my hope that by the end of February, you will have their recommendations to begin pondering. I realize this is a priority of the Board and the goal is to get moving on this as quickly as possible."

SANITATION / CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Mr. Owens reviewed the following information: Curbside Recycling: "Whether in-house or contracted, it would result in an additional nominal monthly cost for residents but it would be more convenient and would likely divert more waste flow from the landfill. There are some logistical hurdles for whoever we would hire to do this like having to back down a lot of streets." Recycling Convenience Center: "At the request of the Board of Aldermen, the County took over the operation of our Recycling Center. During the Board discussion, we conservatively estimated that the cost savings was around \$40,000 but when you start looking at wear and tear on vehicles, wear and tear on dumpsters, tires, gas going to and from the landfill, etc., we are probably closer to \$60,000-\$80,000 savings." Sanitation: "If you did outsource Sanitation, you'd still have to have some function where you're picking up vegetative debris and all the trashcans we have around Town. I'm estimating 5,000 man hours to provide all those peripheral things to the daily duties besides commercial and residential trash pickup. So that would be a cost addition to going out for bids."

Mayor Blair expressed the need to wait until the new Public Works Director is onboard before making a decision.

Alderman Weeks stated that she thought the County would be willing to partner with us in a recycling project because they want to keep the tonnage down in order to extend the life of the landfill. She said our Sanitation rates have not gone down since 2009; we are still paying \$22.50 a month without curbside pickup based on a \$65 tipping fee but the tipping fee is now \$52. She noted that Carolina Beach is paying \$21.75 per month and that includes curbside. Mr. Owens stated that the Board could address the rates during the budget process. A brief discussion followed regarding why our previous sign-up program with Green Coast did not work and the issues we faced with comingling our recycling. Mayor Pro Tem Mills agreed with Mayor Blair that the Board should not make a decision until the new Public Works Director is onboard and can be included in the process. He said, "We get consistently high marks for Sanitation and we need to be careful before we tinker with that."

BEACH AMBASSADOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Owens said, “We did this program in 2013-2014. Generally, the program would cost from six to eight thousand dollars and we were using TDA funding to pay for that. It provided a service from Stone Street to Salisbury Street but it was hard to quantify what the benefits of that program were.”

Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated that he thought we had the program when the Town was going through some changes relative to smoking on the beach. He said just because we’ve done it once, it shouldn’t go on forever. He said, “Once it serves its purpose, you stop and look for a better use of those resources. The seriousness of this whole sand and beach re-nourishment thing can’t be overstated. We’re going to have to look for ways to fund that. The Beach Ambassador Program is one example of something that is not necessary and can be stopped. I talked to Shannon (Slocum) about this and he tends to agree that it served its purpose with regard to educating people about not smoking and drinking on the beach. We have signs in place and if there are consistent and constant violations with that, then we might look at it.”

Alderman Miller concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Mills and said he thought it was an enforcement issue. He said he couldn’t see people walking up and down the beach telling people what they should and shouldn’t do. Alderman King said it was her understanding that one of the reasons we stopped it was because we had trouble with the ambassadors not showing up for their job and when asked questions, some were not clear on the answers. Mr. Wilson stated that the first year was shaky but the second year was better; then questions came up about how you measure the success of the program. Mayor Blair said, “If you could come up with a way to quantify the effort, then I would be more than happy to support the program but not to just keep throwing money at something.” Alderman Weeks agreed and said this program would be nice to have but we need money for what we’re facing.

Ms. Bulluck said, “The Hospitality Division at UNCW may well be an intern site for folks and that may be a summer avenue to gain some free service. I’m not a big fan of seeing our ROT money go for ambassadors. I think if we can find a vehicle for interns in providing information through some other vehicle, that’s good.” Mayor Blair asked if Ms. Bulluck would get that information to Mr. Owens.

YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS.

Program Supervisor Katie Ryan said, “We have received some emails from people who have participated in our youth basketball league and a few emails from residents wanting more youth programs in basketball and soccer. Our six-week youth instructional basketball league in the spring and fall were well attended by residents.” Ms. Ryan then reviewed possible opportunities for adding instructional programs for soccer and flag football. Mr. Owens stated that he thought instructional programs work well for us because our fields are not set up for leagues.

Alderman Weeks said more and more of her constituents and friends do not want to go across the bridge. She said they like the basketball program so adding soccer and flag football would be good. Mr. Owens said we would move into the new programs and see how well they do.

HAWK LIGHT DISCUSSION.

Mr. Owens reviewed the lighting sequence of the HAWK light on Causeway Drive and said some people don't know you can continue when it is blinking red. He said he was not sure the D.O.T. would change that but he could ask that question. He suggested adding signage to better explain the light or asking the D.O.T. to help make the existing signage clearer. Alderman King asked if they could go back to blinking yellow. She said people do not continue when the light is blinking red because the signs say "Crosswalk – Stop on Red."

Alderman Weeks said when we install the sidewalk on Coral Drive, it would make more sense to have the HAWK light there and not so close to the bridge. Mr. Owens said the problem was that most folks are coming down Live Oak and they would have to go back up. Alderman Miller said he thought the purpose of the light was for school crossing. Mayor Blair said, "Let's get the Coral Drive sidewalk in and get the current signs cleared up."

LED LIGHTING IMPLEMENTATION BY DUKE ENERGY.

Mr. Owens said, "We talked about LED lighting implementation probably two years ago. There are about 400 street lights in Town. We could save close to \$10,000 if we changed them all to LED. We decided to do the Town Hall Complex about a year ago. I think it's clearer, brighter, safer and cheaper. Duke Energy did move forward on some of the other areas – about 50 lights mainly along North Lumina Avenue from Stone Street to just past Seagull Street. I only got two complaints; one issue was resolved; the other one would like to see a shield placed on the light or the old light put back." Mr. Owens noted that Progress Energy used to put shields on these lights but Duke Energy doesn't do it now. He also noted that the Town has been asked to put street lights by Poe's on Old Causeway Drive.

Mr. Owens said, "I need direction from the Board. Are we going to put up LED lights everywhere or just use them in certain areas?" Following a brief discussion, Mayor Blair said, "I say you proceed on with it and just manage it as you go." Mr. Owens said he thought it should be all or nothing. He asked if the Board wanted this placed on a future agenda for further discussion. There was Board consensus to just do it and not put it on a future agenda.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia J. Holleman
Town Clerk