

Bald
Head
Island

Village's Voice

A NEWSLETTER FOR BALD HEAD ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS



October 18, 2019

Dear Residents, Property Owners and Friends:

Fall temperatures have arrived and we are closer to wrapping up the 2019 hurricane season.

Potential Tropical Cyclone #16 (PTC16)

Currently, the Village is monitoring Potential Tropical Cyclone #16. PTC16 is in the Gulf of Mexico and is expected to become a tropical or subtropical storm before making landfall Saturday morning in Florida. The storm should lose tropical characteristics as it moves across Georgia and the Carolinas Saturday through Sunday.

Potential impacts to Bald Head Island: Wind and rain impacts are expected to be minor. The potential impacts across the coastal waters are winds of 30 to 40 knots, seas 6 to 10 feet, and possible waterspouts.

Ferry Service: There is a possibility that ferry runs will be impacted Saturday evening or Sunday morning. If you have travel plans that require ferry service, you may want to adjust your plans. The Village is in contact with Bald Head Island Transportation, Inc. and will send out any notifications received. You can also check for updated announcements [HERE](#).

10/15/19 COUNCIL MEETING

If you were unable to attend the October Council meeting, here is an update on several agenda items that were discussed at either the work session or regular meeting:

Chapter 28 Ordinance (Transportation Ordinance)

Council conducted the second of two public hearings to receive input from the public on the proposed re-write of Chapter 28, *Traffic & Vehicles*, as recommended by the Transportation Committee. After hearing from the public, Council unanimously adopted the re-write of the ordinance. A copy of the full ordinance can be found [HERE](#). A summary of the changes can be found [HERE](#).

Noise Ordinance

Council conducted a public hearing on the draft noise ordinance at its September meeting and based on public feedback directed staff to include an exemption for island clubs,

restaurants, non-profits etc. from the “at ALL times” provision since these entities have events during these times including at night and to maintain the current 11:00 p.m. end time. The noise ordinance was adopted unanimously. The adopted ordinance can be found [HERE](#).

Approval of Bald Head Island Subdivision Request

Council unanimously approved a subdivision request from Bald Head Island Limited to subdivide lot 4000, Commercial tract 4 of Cape Fear Station, from one 4.47-acre lot into three residential single-family lots. The lots are oceanfront and there is a conservation easement on the ocean side of the lots which will require structures to be built landward of the easement.

Planning Board Appointment

Council appointed Scott Gardner to the Planning Board. Mr. Garner previously served on the Broadband Committee and the Hurricane Florence Task Force. There is still one vacancy on the Board of Adjustment (meets as-needed). If you are interested in serving, please pick up an application at Village Hall or download an application ([here](#)). The deadline for submission is November 4, 2019. Completed applications shall be returned to Daralyn Spivey, Village Clerk in person at Village Hall or emailed to dspivey@villagebhi.org.

Media Relations & Social Media Policies

During the morning work session Council discussed media relations and social media policies. The Media Relations Policy sets guidelines for Staff and Council to effectively communicate and publicize news about the Village of Bald Head Island and designates the Village spokespersons (PIO, Mayor & Village Manager). Since it pertains to Council, the Council formally adopted the Media Relations Policy at the regular meeting. The Social Media Policy outlines the best practices and guidelines for Village Staff in their use of social media. Both policies will be included in the Village’s personnel policy manual.

OTHER ITEMS:

Coyote Management Plan

The Council continued discussion of the plan. The suggested timeframe for trapping is between January 1 and March 1. Village Staff is still researching a few items such as trapping and euthanasia methods. The Conservancy has not given up on finding a better way to keep the coyotes out of the turtle nests. There was discussion about having plenty of time to do more research prior to January. Council may revisit the topic in December.

Contractor Services

Village Staff are moving forward with initial efforts on improvements to the Contractor Services lot. There will be a phased approach which includes clearing out the existing Contractor Service building and old and dilapidated storage units, while relocating others for temporary use until new storage units are constructed. The preliminary work is estimated to cost \$175,000 with most of the cost associated with relocating the fuel pump/gas dispenser.

The Village will be getting cost estimates for the demolition of the Contractor Services building and the earthwork required prior to constructing the storage units. The Village also needs estimates for the design/architectural/civil work and construction which will be bid out for the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

Drones

There was discussion about what the Village can do to curtail and/or ban the use of recreational drones on Bald Head Island. Staff will be looking into what legal options the Village has in order to enforce the use of drones. In the meantime, residents should report any issues to the Public Safety Department.

Public Comment Placement

Staff recommended placing the “public comment” agenda item during “regular” Council meetings at the beginning of the meeting agenda. This will afford the Council an opportunity to hear from the public prior to any other items on the agenda. Council agreed and amended the regular meeting agenda accordingly. Staff is preparing a draft public comment period policy for possible adoption at the November regular council meeting.

Frying Pan Shoals Borrow Site Permit

Village Staff continues to pursue a permit for the Frying Pan Shoals borrow site. Village Staff, along with the Village’s coastal engineer and environmental consultant recently met with regulatory agencies for the “scoping meeting” for Frying Pan Shoals.

Hurricane Dorian Vegetative Debris

Village Public Works & Island Contracting continue to remove debris from the right-of-way. Public Works indicated that they are about 70 percent through the first pass. Moving forward, if you are planning on using a contractor to collect the debris on your property, your contractor **is required** to take the debris to the Timber Creek Mulch Site. Property owners who are removing their own debris must have their debris to the right-of-way by **November 1, 2019** – this is the deadline to have your debris out for collection. Last week, the Village learned that Hurricane Dorian has been declared a Federal disaster for public assistance reimbursement. Staff will be working to submit all required documentation regarding debris removal for potential FEMA reimbursement.

Duke Energy Capital Improvement Project Status Update

Duke Energy completed boring the first section along Federal Road which will be worked in three sections. As of this week, crews were completing some work in the marina/harbor and will be back on Federal Road at the beginning of next week with the same traffic control pattern in place due to the required road closure. As Duke provides further information on routes and timing for completion, updates will be communicated via the Village’s Voice.

Public Scoping Meeting for NC State Ports Study

Village Staff and legal counsel representing the Village attended the Army Corps of Engineers’ public scoping meeting and have since submitted formal comments on the NC State Ports Authority Section 203 Study and Integrated Draft Environmental Impact

Statement. At some point the Village may be asking residents for support in reaching out to members of Congress like in years past.

EVENTS:

Southeastern Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Meeting - Tuesday, October 22nd from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the New Hanover County Northeast Library (1241 Military Cutoff Road, Wilmington, NC 28405). If you cannot attend with this meeting, one way you can participate is by completing [THIS SURVEY](#). The 2016 plan can be viewed [HERE](#).

Winter Passenger Ferry Schedule Effective November 1, 2019 – Beginning on Friday, November 1, 2019, the Regular Passenger Ferry will not make the 11:30 a.m. departure from the Island or the 12:00 p.m. departure from Deep Point, Monday through Saturday. Go to www.baldheadislandferry.com and click *Passenger Schedule* for full details.

NC Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association 2019 Annual Conference – Tuesday and Wednesday, November 12 & 13, 2019 – Holiday Inn Resort in Wrightsville Beach, N.C. More information [HERE](#).

NC Coastal Conference (Hosted by NC Sea Grant) – Tuesday and Wednesday, November 19 & 20, 2019 – More information [HERE](#).

As always, if you have any questions or comments feel free to e-mail, call, or stop by Village Hall. If you know of anyone who may find the Village's Voice message of interest, but are unsure if they are a current subscriber, please forward this message to them and let them know. Getting on the e-mail distribution list is as simple as filling out the online request form [HERE](#).

Thank you,



Carin Z. Faulkner
Village Public Information Officer
cfaulkner@villagebhi.org
(910) 457-9700 x 1025