

**RELEASED AT THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

**PERSONNEL SECTION REGARDING RETIREMENT OF RECREATION DIRECTOR  
LOUISE HUGHES AND BUILDING INSPECTOR RICK SCHULTZ RELEASED NOVEMBER  
12, 2013**

**APPROVED AND SEALED AT THE  
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**CLOSED SESSION MINUTES  
MOREHEAD CITY, N.C.**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2009**

The Council met in CLOSED SESSION in the Municipal Chambers at 202 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Morehead City, N.C., following the Special Meeting/Work Session of the Town Council held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, at 1:00 p.m., to discuss contract negotiations as per G.S. 143.318.11[a][5]. Those in attendance were: Mayor Gerald A. Jones, Jr., Councilmen George W. Ballou, Paul W. Cordova, David Horton, John F. Nelson, Demus L. Thompson, City Manager R. Randy Martin, City Clerk Jeanne M. Giblin, and Finance Director Ellen Sewell.

#### **Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction Fire/EMS Services Contract Negotiations**

Manager Martin reported that he met early in the budget process with County Commissioners Greg Lewis and Chairman Doug Harris to discuss Fire/EMS district budget considerations. Discussion on changing the way the allocation of funding and services for these fire districts with each separate municipality has been a topic of the Carteret County Commissioners lately. Manager Martin commented that discussion centered on the difference between a district that the county creates, i.e., Wildwood Fire District, and those areas outside a city which a city has a contract with the county to provide fire and EMS coverage for the county. Manager Martin reported he explained to the County Commissioners Lewis and Harris that Morehead City needs to know what specific tax rate Carteret County sets on those districts serviced by Morehead City Fire/EMS services in order for Morehead City to set their own budget and that he recommended funding remain at the present levels until if and when a new contract is negotiated. He also commented that Morehead City does not want to give the county any authority over the Morehead City budget other than what the county provides for our contracted Fire/EMS services to the county areas outside the City. He further commented that there is always an uncertainty in our budget process when addressing this funding since the tax rates for the district are set by the County Commissioners.

Manager Martin reported he recently met with the entire Board and communicated to the County Commissioners that any potential formula whereby the county share of the revenue for these services provided by Morehead City would go down while the City's share would rise is unacceptable under the current contract unless all parties agreed to new terms. He further explained that the contracts under which Morehead City and Carteret County operate regarding Fire/EMS services have been very basic over the years and do not address how to arrive at a mutually satisfactory budget allocation for both entities.

Manager Martin further explained that the county agrees that Morehead City is meeting its service obligations and there have been no complaints. The county's share of the percentage has not changed significantly and Morehead City's percentage share of the Fire/EMS budget is not a lot different than ten [10] years ago. Manager Martin felt that this should be a basis by which a formula for financing is determined. He continued that the majority of the Carteret County Board of Commissioners is willing to negotiate reasonable revisions to our contract to address mutual concerns. Morehead City does not have a Fire/EMS tax per se for those residents within our boundaries and is under no obligation to serve the district areas outside the City. He reported that the County Board Chairman had suggested a cut in Morehead City's funding for Fire/EMS services by \$225,000 based upon a formula he devised.

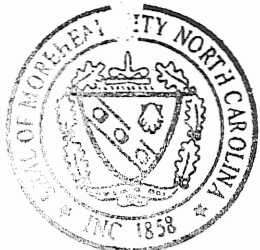
Manager Martin explained that Morehead City started collecting EMS fees in the early 2000's and this has kept the tax rate for these services down. Morehead City retains 100 percent of these funds and the county would like to see a percentage of these revenues credited for meeting budget obligations for those who pay taxes in the district outside Morehead City.

Manager Martin advised that he would recommend a contract that reached mutual goals and is fair in the way the funding is distributed. He would recommend no change in funding contract provisions for this year, but work on fine tuning future contracts for a period of three [3] years with a set fee. He also recommended setting funding aside for a reserve fund for future capital needs. He also advised that the county wants to negotiate a contract for Morehead City to possibly in the future provide services to the Wildwood Fire District. Manager Martin advised that incrementally over the next three [3] years the City could lessen the county's percentage slightly and increase Morehead City's share without significantly impacting our budget. There is a desire from the county for Morehead City to have a contract which could serve as a model for the rest of the Carteret County townships.

Manager Martin commented that he would begin negotiations to reach a fair contract that retains Morehead City budget autonomy, at a set percentage of funding for a set period of years.

The Council concurred with the City Manager's approach to resolve the matter.

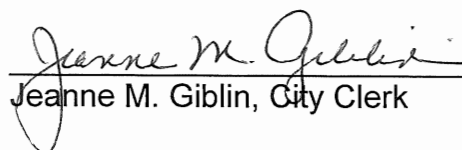
***Councilman Thompson MOVED, seconded by Councilman Ballou, and carried unanimously, to return to OPEN SESSION.***



Town of Morehead City

  
Gerald A. Jones, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

  
Jeanne M. Giblin, City Clerk