

City of Boiling Spring Lakes Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes September 4, 2018 City Hall – 6:30 pm

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES

1. Call to Order ~ Mayor Craig Caster

The Board of Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Attendance ~

Mayor Craig Caster Commissioner Steve Barger
Commissioner Mark Stewart Commissioner Guy Auger
City Manager Jeff Repp Commissioner Dana Witt
Chief of Police Brad Shirley City Clerk Jane McMinn

3. Pledge of Allegiance ~ Chief Brad Shirley

4. Approval of Regular Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart to move ~ item 5 ~ to be heard before Public Comments. Commissioner Barger seconded the motion and requested adding ~ a. ~ under Old Business ~ discussion regarding Animal Control Officer's job description.

 $Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$

5. City's Infrastructure ~ Hurricane Florence ~ City Manager Jeff Repp

Mr. Repp reported he has been working with Russ Bendal of Terracon Engineering, which is our consulting engineering company for both the dam and the spillway.

Mr. Repp reported the city had approximately 24" of rain, Sanford Dam is 285 acres. Patricia Lake has a maximum capacity of 1.6 billion gallons of storage at the top of the dam. With the 24" of rainfall and the watershed that flows into Lake Patricia, 4.5 billion gallons of water was produced and flowed into that area during the storm. This amount of water is three times the amount the dam could hold. The upper dam, which is 35 acres, holds a 60 million gallon capacity of water. The upper dam had 156 million gallons of water, which was produced and flowed into the area during the storm event. The middle dam is 23 acres. It has a capacity of 51 million gallons of water and that dam received 176 million gallons of water during the storm event. Essentially all three bodies of water received three times the amount of water.

Current Status ~

Tours of the dam breach were performed by The Army Corps of Engineers out of Wilmington and Savannah, Georgia locations. These tours were related to the railroad trestle and any potential damage that may have occurred. The railroad trestle is operated by the US Army. There was no damage to the railroad trestle, which is encouraging to the city with respect to the rebuilding of the dam. We also had a tour with several elected officials who saw first hand the damage that had occurred. Congressman Rouzer was instrumental in keeping the National Guard on hand to help with repairs. The Congressman quickly put the city in touch with FEMA representatives who will be working with the city. If we are fortunate, all the city repair costs will be 100% reimbursable.

Following the storm event, the city entered into a contract with Philips Enterprise to begin the process of opening up the roads. Our public works staff was in the process of opening Drayton Road to create the bypass due to the closing of E. Boiling Spring Road.

Significant washouts occurred on E. Boiling Spring Road on both sides of the railroad tracks. NCDOT and contractors are working to repair those roads on a temporary basis. I have a meeting on October 17, 2018 with the district engineer along with Russ Bendal and other individuals. We will begin the process of the permanent repairs for all the breeches, primarily Pine and North Lake will be the key breaks, as these breeches interact with the Big Lake.

South Shore Drive received three significant breaks as a result of the dam failure. All of those breaks have been temporarily repaired

We have a significant washout at the intersection of Palmer and Graham, we have two contractors giving us a price and we will get that repaired as soon as we can.

We have a significant sinkhole at the location of Kennedy Circle. The contractors are looking at this; however, this may require engineering services.

The City continues to pump water on Mohawk Road and across the railroad tracks.

Starting on Monday, October 8th for the entire week, the city will be starting the debris pickup, demolition debris and construction debris. There will be a second pickup on October 22nd for the entire week.

The private property damage assessment continues. The city's inspection staff is out working on the assessments. We will have additional assistance from the county to assist. The assessment will determine the amount of homes that have minor damage, homes that are really damaged or uninhabitable. Those numbers will be reported to the county, that information will be forwarded to FEMA.

6. Public Comments ~

Anthony Witt ~ 1700 Salisbury Rd.

Mr. Witt thanked the entire city staff for all the work they have done, the police department, city manager, public works, fire department and so many more have worked tirelessly to help the city as much as they can and we really appreciate everything.

Bruce Veronick ~ 987 North Shore Dr.

Mr. Veronick distributed pictures to the Board which shows his backyard. Mr. Veronick stated he lost a third of his backyard and it continues to go down gradually, however if it rains we will loose much more. What I need is a lot of dirt to support the wall.

Deb Farris ~ 257 Black Hawk Rd.

Ms. Farris thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work. I would like to make a suggestion regarding the roads we currently are using and make them a bypass. Ms. Farris suggested making Queens and Crescent one-way streets. This would help with our fire trucks and emergency vehicles. The fire department and emergency vehicles are having difficulty moving through the roads due to heavy traffic and there are no places to be able to turnaround.

Sandy Morris ~ 1256 South Shore

It is my understanding from speaking with Brunswick County personnel there were many meetings between 2014 with BSL and FEMA concerning the redrawing of flood maps. Since BSL is an incorporated municipality, FEMA left the responsibility of communicating this issue up to BSL. I would like to know if this is true and if so, how did BSL communicate the redrawing of the floodplain maps.

Second, since there is no lake front property at this time, when will our property be reevaluated for tax purposes due to our property value loss?

Kathryn Sinar ~ 1283 South Shore

Ms. Sinar thanked everyone in the city for all the hard work they have done. She also commented about the lack of communication during the storm, and the lack of a functioning infrastructure. Many of us did not know there is a Code Red available, I found out that a lot of information was posted on Facebook. I would like to see the city do a better job of informing the public of the different communication avenues. The lack of having a 911 service was really hard from a personal standpoint. Not knowing we did not have that service available is just unacceptable.

Arvil Stephens ~ 970 Holly Point Rd.

Mr. Stephens stated he would like to share some good news that he has received from the Army Corps of Engineers; Mr. Repp was also copied on this email. The Army Corps is waiving the permits for bulkhead repairs; we can remove sediment from the lakebed for the filling of sinkholes along the shoreline. I hope we can facilitate these repairs around the lake.

Larry Modlin ~ 915 Holly Point Rd.

Mr. Modlin thanked all the staff and volunteers that have given up their time and everyone who has helped.

Prior to the storms, the decision was always made as to how much the Big Lake should be lowered. I have some questions to ask but I am not looking for answers. I would like the board, city manager and others to get the answers to these questions.

- 1. Were the gates left open to their maximum to release water on West Lake, Middle Lake and Pine Lake?
- 2. Could the Big Lake have been drained down more?
- 3. Were all of the gates on Sanford Dam left in the full open position and left in that position after the hurricanes arrival?
- 4. Was the board and the mayor told that the Sanford Dam gates were full open at any time prior to the storm, during the storm and after the storm? Who made these decisions?

Lisa Bevel ~ 2011 Pinehurst Rd.

Mrs. Bevel thank the police department, the board of commissioners, fire department and city staff for all their hard work and dedication.

On the corner of Pinehurst and Laurinburg Rd. I would like to state the need for a stop sign. People speed down this road, then turn around because it is flooded, so then they turn around and speed back. I would like to see a stop sign put in place.

Shirley Desnoyers ~ 341 Fox Squirrel Rd.

Ms. Desnoyers thanked everyone for all they do and how much time has been taken away from your families so you can do the job that you do. The only comment I would like to make concerns the \$25 vehicle registration fee. My neighbors are hurting and just cannot afford it. Ms. Desnoyers addressed Commissioner Witt and requested the board to rescind the fee which was stated could be done the evening it was voted on to approve.

Philip Casper ~ 579 Mohawk Rd.

Mr. Casper informed the board and city manager Mohawk Road has a dip in it that is filled with water. Commissioner Barger helped to get a pump to help remove the water. I would like to ask why the pump only runs eight or ten hours a day. If we could keep the water pumping, it would help remove the water quicker.

I would like to recommend the city look into a second way out, possibly looking at Tuscarora and Alton Lennon would be another route out of that area. This is the third time in eight weeks that we have had standing water.

I would like to thank everyone here who worked so hard to help during the storm.

Susan Hoth ~ 2366 E. Boiling Spring Rd.

Ms. Hoth stated she is concerned about the lack of communication and announcements before, during and after the storm. I was told information was posted on the website, Facebook and Code Red alerts were sent. What we missed as a community is many did not have functioning infrastructure to receive these communications. We had no communication letting us know we were being evacuated, we only knew from the National Guard with the high water rescue vehicles. We can fix this and make the lines of communication better before the next disaster.

Barbara Glidden ~ 402 North Shore Dr.

Mrs. Glidden stated she was pleased to hear that the city is working with Russ Bendal. When I served as commissioner we were told, as a city we must protect the earthen dam because it will never be rebuilt as it is. I am glad the city is working toward restoring the dam; the city is looking at it and addressing it.

The public works department did an excellent job; they worked so hard and maintained the best they could. Property values revolve around the centerpiece of our city. Keep marching forward and continue the hard work you are all doing. We all thank you.

7. Approval of Minutes ~

a. Approval of Board of Commissioners meeting minutes dated September 4, 2018.

A *motion* was made by Commissioner Barger, a *second* by Commissioner Stewart Approving the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes dated September 4, 2018.

$$Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$$

8. Consent Agenda ~

Mayor Caster announced no reports were submitted this month due to the hurricane.

9. Committee / Board Reports and Minutes

Mayor Caster announced there were no committee / board meetings held due to the hurricane, therefore no meeting minutes were submitted. Mayor Caster invited any of the chairpersons who would like to make a statement are welcome to do so.

a. Fire / Rescue ~ Chief Theresa Tickle

Fire Chief Tickle thanked public works and the police department for their hard work during the storm. The fire department is a standalone department; however, there was no communication from city hall prior to the storm. The fire department men and woman stayed for 12 days. We had 273 calls during that time in addition to the 900 people who had to be evacuated. We asked the city for a \$25,000 donation for EMS or the water rescue equipment we need. We lost our fire station on Fifty Lakes Dr., it was

five feet under water. I request the next time we have a storm let's communicate and get together and make it work for everyone.

10. City Manager's Monthly Report ~ Jeff Repp

Mr. Repp reported ~

- As of August 31, 2018, the city had \$1,711,362 in cash and investments in our various institutions.
- For the past tax year ending June 30, 2018 we collected 97.9% of our property taxes.
- We collected 5.2% for this current fiscal year.
- Our sales tax revenue after two months is 8.8% ahead of schedule.

11. Old Business ~

a. Animal Control Officer ~

Commissioner Barger commented, at the meeting last month we discussed the animal control officer and the changes of the job description and the changes in the organizational chart. Commissioner Barger requested Chief Shirley to explain why the request was made.

Chief Shirley explained the request was to hire a non-sworn police officer to serve as the animal control officer for our city, and add another sworn police officer to the department which will give us additional resources to help even out the shift work of our officers. We operated during the storm with 25% of our agency not present due to resignations and others moving on.

A *motion* was made by Commissioner Barger, a *second* by Commissioner Stewart to change the job description to allow for the hiring of a non-sworn position to allow for the hiring of an animal control officer.

$$Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$$

12. New Business ~

a. Order ~ authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for Debris Monitoring Contract for Debris Collection.

A *motion* was made by Commissioner Barger, a *second* by Commissioner Stewart authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for Debris Monitoring Contract for Debris Collection.

$$Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$$

b. *Order* ~ authorizing the City Manager to waive various inspection and permit fees related to storm damage retroactive to September 11, 2018 thru October 31, 2018.

A *motion* was made by Commissioner Barger, a *second* by Commissioner Auger authorizing the City Manager to waive various inspection and permit fees related to storm damage retroactive to September 11, 2018 thru October 31, 2018.

$$Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$$

13. Announcements ~

- The Mayor and all the Commissioners thanked the city manager, police department, fire department and public works for their endless hours and time devoted to the city during and after the storm. We had other community police departments come down to help with relief efforts and so many volunteers that helped. Everyone came together and worked together to help everyone. Boiling Spring Lakes will come back from this and be stronger than ever.
- Citizens were reminded to sign up for the Code Red.
- Mayor Caster announced due to Election Day the November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

14. Adjourn ~

A *motion* was made by Commissioner Stewart, a *second* by Commissioner Barger to adjourn the Board of Commissioner Meeting of October 2, 2018 at 7:40 p.m.

 $Vote \sim 5 \sim 0$

Craig M. Caster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jane McMinn, City Clerk

Date