



TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH

(INCORPORATED 1922)

3243 WALNUT DRIVE

Highland Beach, Maryland 21403

Telephone (443) 837-5184

MAYOR

Crystal Chissell

COMMISSIONER

Michele Fuller

G. William Hunter

Sheila Jeanne Murchison

Linda Holmes Newton

TREASURER

Ronald L. Stokes, Sr.

Board of Commissioners Meeting Monday, August 12, 2024 at 5:00 pm via Zoom

Call to order 5:11 pm

Review Agenda – The Commissioners reviewed the agenda and there were no changes.

Public Comment – There were no comments or questions.

Review Journal – Commissioner Murchison moved that the Journals from the July 8, 2024 and July 23, 2024 meetings be accepted. Commissioner Hunter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Stokes presented the Treasurer's Report for July 1 - 31, 2024. Commissioner Hunter moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Commissioner Newton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Old Business

Status Updates:

Commissioner Newton reported:

- New traffic signs are expected to be installed within the next 2 weeks.
- Town hall railings have been replaced using pressure treated wood. The wood must be dried before being sealed and stained. That work will be scheduled for March 2025.
- Douglass Museum repairs are in progress.

Commissioner Fuller reported that traffic control has been going well.

Surveillance cameras – Mayor Chissell reported that installation of surveillance cameras is still under consideration. No action will be taken until an email has been sent to residents of Highland Beach and Venice Beach with more information and answers to questions raised by citizens of both communities.

New Business

The beachfront experienced significant damage in the aftermath of Hurricane Debby on August 9. Sand was both eroded and displaced onto the grassy area and onto Wayman Avenue, two small trees fell, significant debris was deposited on the beach and the lower level of the main pier was disconnected.

Commissioner Newton will have the town's groundskeeper remove the sand in Wayman Avenue and the basketball court this week.

Commissioner Newton is seeking estimates for the pier repair.

Also as a result of the storm, the playground equipment is now situated in the Bay. There are other safety concerns as well. The equipment is rusted in places, and the cement footers are exposed. The town's insurance company noted the safety concerns advised that sand is no longer considered a safe surface for playground equipment.

Motion – Commissioner Fuller moved that the playground equipment be removed. Commissioner Newton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Public Comment

Citizens discussed the historical uses of the main pier and past configurations of the lower level of the pier, as well as fishing off the pier.

A resident requested an accommodation for parking at the beachfront for residents who have been issued a handicapped placard by the State of Maryland.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:
Monday, August 26, 2024 at 5:00 pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Chissell
Mayor