

Town of Perdido Beach, Alabama  
Special Council Meeting – March 20, 2014-6:00 pm

The Town Council held a Special called Council Meeting at Town Hall on March 20, 2014. Mayor Patsy Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Council Members: Andy Holk, Gary Fishbein, Sean Hickey, Priscilla Condon, Ellen Leslie and Mayor Patsy Parker

**OTHERES PRESENT:** Andrew Stewart, Chairman Zoning Board of Adjustment; Steve Love, Chairman Planning Commission; Ken Wright, Fire Chief-Perdido Beach VFD; Bob Gross, Vice Chair-Baldwin County Environmental Advisory Board; Lynn Thompson, Town Clerk and Members of the Town.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Leslie

Mayor Parker presented background and gave a time table of events on the grant opportunity.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Tom Bloxham, Town Resident read aloud prepared statements.  
Mr. Bloxham requested his comments be added to the minutes.  
(Mr. Bloxham’s comments are attached)

**ITEM:** There was a motion by Council Member Hickey, seconded by Council Member Leslie to add Mr. Bloxham’s comments to the minutes. (Comments Attached)

All in favor, motion carried.

**ITEM:** *Remove* from the table “Town Council Agenda Item # 11-February 11, 2014”.

- Motion to Approve Submission of Grant Proposal “Building Community Resilience in the Town of Perdido Beach.”

Motion by Council Member Hickey, seconded by Council Member Condon to remove from the table “Motion to Approve Submission of Grant Proposal “Building Community Resilience in the Town of Perdido Beach.”

**Discussion:**

Roll call vote:

“YES”

“ABSTAIN”

“NO”

Council Member Holk  
Council Member Fishbein  
Council Member Hickey  
Council Member Condon

Council Member Leslie

Mayor Patsy Parker

Motion carried, one Council Member voting "No".

**ITEM: *Reconsideration*** of Submission of Grant Proposal "Building Community Resilience in the Town of Perdido Beach."

Motion by Council Member Hickey, seconded by Council Member Leslie to reconsider Motion to Approve Submission of Grant Proposal "Building Community Resilience in the Town of Perdido Beach.

**Discussion:**

Roll call vote:

**"YES"**

**"ABSTAIN"**

**"NO"**

Council Member Hickey

Council Member Leslie  
Mayor Patsy Parker

Council Member Holk  
Council Member Fishbein

Council Member Condon

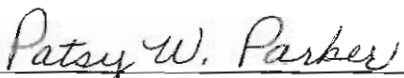
Motion failed for lack of a majority vote.

Three Council Members voting "No", three Council Members voting "Yes"

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business there was a Motion by Council Member Condon seconded by Council Member Holk to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patsy W. Parker, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Thompson, Town Clerk

To the Citizens of Perdido Beach, Alabama

We have been coming to Perdido Beach since the mid 70's because it was such a beautiful small community. The people were friendly, the climate was great and the fishing was good. Everything looked like the right place to live so we moved here in 1996 when I (Tom) retired from my primary job.

For many years Perdido Beach was a hidden paradise and we enjoyed every day in this land. Then progress threatened our little community and some visionaries said that the best way we could protect our home was to incorporate. Many didn't understand this to be a necessity but we became a "town on the map" so to speak.

Since we were discovered, we have not been able to hide from the outside world any longer so some of those same visionaries have tried to lead our community in the best direction to protect it from total modernization, which can be a bad or a good thing. Bad if you want to become a tourist sanctuary like Orange Beach or Gulf Shores but a good thing if you want to stay a community with strong morals and brotherly love.

We are now at a crossroad where we can rally together to protect our way of life or we can fight the inevitable and end up losing the battle to the progressive culture. Our Mayor is one of our foremost visionaries along with other past and present leaders of our community and she needs our help.

There seems to be a faction in our community that has an agenda which could destroy us from within. They have taken a hard line on issues that could only be described as paranoid or uninformed and have convinced others who have not looked at both sides of the issues, to follow their lead.

We have noticed that some of the current council members do not represent the majority of the citizens and have an agenda to rule by intimidation. We have enough intimidation within our country and certainly don't need more within our small community. Council members should not argue with citizens who are stating their opinion and they certainly should not laugh at them. Professionalism and maturity should be shown by all representatives of our town, especially during an official town meeting. They may have made many promises when running for election but they need to remember their job is to uphold and defend the rights of each and every citizen of our community.

Please join us in learning about and supporting our towns plans by talking with the Mayor or any of the town representatives and attending the council meetings whenever possible. We cannot just sit back and say we don't want change when it is coming. We need to get involved to control what those changes will become for our town. Every town council representative is responsible to all the citizens of our town.

God bless America and God bless Perdido Beach

## Our community separation....

As far as the “legality” of the towns “comprehensive plan”, I would not be against changing the name to our Comprehensive Master Plan. If the council would like to submit a better plan for evaluation by the town, I would be for that also. But, don't say this is illegal or incorrect unless you are willing to do it better. We had many public meetings and discussed input and incorporated/changed the original plan almost completely. If you now have a problem that you didn't care about when the opportunity presented itself when the extensive work was being performed by the commission, then write one that suites you and present it to the commission.

We need team work and not separation. When people start looking at others as having ideas worthy of discussion and do so with an open mind, we can again become a unified community.

## Building Community Resilience in the Town of Perdido Beach, Alabama

[A grant project proposed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) with the support of multiple partners]

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

#### 1. National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) and Program



- Task – Outline steps for involvement in the CRS program
- Benefits – Provide discounts on flood insurance for homeowners

#### 2. Hazard Mitigation Plan



- Task – Identify and prioritize priority community hazard issues, such as flooding from stormwater and extreme tides, siltation issues and identification of potential hazard mitigation projects
- Benefits – Identified hazard mitigation projects will reduce risks and damages for citizens and property and may be eligible for future funding through Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs

#### 3. FORTIFIED Inspection



- Task – Conduct a FORTIFIED inspection on the Town Hall to determine structural upgrades needed for hazards protection
- Benefits – Use as example to inform citizens of opportunities and options available to homeowners; provide discounts on wind insurance for homeowners

#### 4. Coastal Resilience Index Community Assessment



- Task – Catalog current state of Town shoreline
- Benefits – Develop options to address shoreline erosion along creeks and bayfront for the Town and citizens

**VALUE:** \$92,390 (grant involves NO matching funds and NO cost town or townspeople)

- Firm will be contracted to help complete components
- Hiring will meet both EPA and TNC required procedures
- Town Council and citizens will be INVOLVED in identifying and prioritizing Scope of Work components for the contracted firm
- Meetings with contractor and TNC will be held with Town Council and citizens to review draft documents and progress