

BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA) August Meeting

The public portion of the BHI Transportation Authority's August regular meeting saw an agenda of administrative items beginning with the announcement that Jim Bonica, who recently sold his home and, as a result, resigned from the Village Council, would not be accepting the Village's appointment to the Authority's Board of Trustees. That vacancy would be filled days later by Claude Pope, who was appointed at the Village's August regular meeting.

There was no discussion of the Authority's financials, and the Board approved a resolution to appoint Daralyn Spivey as Interim Clerk since Southport's City Clerk, who had served in that role, recently retired.

BHI Limited CEO Chad Paul gave a brief report on BHI Transportation's challenges of operating amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that after the July 4th holiday, ferry rider congestion seems to be limited to the first couple of ferries on the weekday mornings and Saturdays, which is turnover day for rentals. Revenue for the parking and barge has caught up to the yearly budget; ferry projected revenue is still short by approximately \$90,000 year to date. Paul stated that the NC Utilities Commission and its public staff will not consider a request to increase ferry capacity from 50% until Governor Cooper determines how to proceed when the current Phase II order expires on September 11th. He also reported there was minimal damage observed at Deep Point due to Hurricane Isaias. After a 1 ¹/₂ hour closed session, there was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Authority will be held remotely on Wednesday, September 16th at 9:15am. Contact Daralyn Spivey (*dspivey@villagebhi.org*) for information.