



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Councilors

From: Rich Olson, City Manager

Date: March 4, 2015

Re: Consideration – Call for Public Hearing Regarding Naming of Boatworks Property

BACKGROUND:

On April 23, 2012, the City Council approved a naming policy for City-owned property. Pursuant to this policy, staff may initiate the naming of a new park. This must be done at an open meeting and the City Council must call for a public hearing to gather citizen input regarding its intention to adopt a resolution proposing such action.

City staff would like to recommend that the Boatworks Property located on Riverside Avenue, which was recently purchased by the City and is in the process of being upgraded, be named “Coast Guard Park.”

ANALYSIS:

The Elizabeth City Coast Guard Base was commissioned on August 15, 1940. Since 1940, the Coast Guard has been an active participant in Elizabeth City. The Coast Guard’s operation is the largest economic driver in Northeast North Carolina. Presently, over 2400 Coast Guard personnel, civilian servants and private contractors work at the base. The base is home to six individual commands including the Aviation Logistics Center, Aviation Technical Training Center, Air Station Elizabeth City, Sector North Carolina, C-27J “Spartan” Asset Project Office, and the National Strike Force Coordination Center. The base also supports numerous military retirees and dependents.

To date, the City has not named any facilities in recognition of the Coast Guard and the value they add to the Elizabeth City community. The Boatworks Property is the only City-controlled property without a name that is located on the water. Staff has prepared the attached resolution for the City Council’s consideration.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, call for a Public Hearing to be held on March 23, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building, 306 E. Colonial Avenue to gather public input regarding the adoption of the attached resolution naming the Boatworks Property "Coast Guard Park;"

And further, direct the City Clerk to provide proper public notice at least ten days prior to the Public Hearing by advertisement in The Daily Advance and on the City's website.

RCO/vdw

Resolution # 2015 – 03-_____
Officially Naming the City’s Boatworks Property
“Coast Guard Park”

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Base was commissioned on August 15, 1940; and since that time has been an active participant in the Elizabeth City community and played a vital role in the health and prosperity of Northeastern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, to date, the City of Elizabeth City has not named a City facility in honor of the Coast Guard as a means of recognizing the exceptional contributions to the City and the community at large made by the Coast Guard, its military and civilian employees, retirees and dependents; and

WHEREAS, the City recently purchased and is upgrading the waterfront Boatworks Property located on Riverside Avenue, and the City Council is desirous of naming the property in honor of the Base Elizabeth City; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the City of Elizabeth City Public Property Naming Policy adopted on April 23, 2012, the City Council held a Public Hearing to gather citizen input regarding the official naming of this property as “Coast Guard Park”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that the City’s Boatworks Property is hereby officially named “Coast Guard Park” effective immediately in honor of Base Elizabeth City and its significant contributions to Elizabeth City and Northeastern North Carolina.

ADOPTED, this the 23rd day of March 2015.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Vivian D. White, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk