

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

**SESSION LAW 2009-431
SENATE BILL 359**

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE VILLAGE OF SNEADS FERRY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. A Charter for the Village of Sneads Ferry is enacted to read:

"CHARTER OF THE VILLAGE OF SNEADS FERRY.

"ARTICLE I. INCORPORATION AND CORPORATE POWERS.

"Section 1.1. **Incorporation and Corporate Powers.** The inhabitants of the Village of Sneads Ferry are a body corporate and politic under the name 'Village of Sneads Ferry.' The Village of Sneads Ferry has all the powers, duties, rights, privileges, and immunities conferred and imposed on cities by the general laws of North Carolina.

"ARTICLE II. CORPORATE BOUNDARIES.

"Section 2.1. **Village Boundaries.** Until modified in accordance with law, the boundaries of the Village of Sneads Ferry are as follows:

BEGINNING at a point where the centerline of Turkey Creek intersects the centerline of the Intracoastal Waterway right-of-way and being the same as shown on a plat recorded in Map Book 10 Page 73 of the Onslow County Registry; thence along the centerline of Turkey Creek in a general Northerly direction to the centerline of NCSR 1529 (commonly known as Turkey Point Road – 60 foot right-of-way); and running thence along the centerline of Turkey Point Road in a general Northwesterly direction where it intersects the centerline of NCSR 1518 (commonly known as Old Folkstone Road – 60 foot right-of-way); thence along the centerline of NCSR 1518 in a general Westerly direction to the centerline of NCSR 1528 (commonly known as Winery Road – 60 foot right-of-way); thence along the centerline of NCSR 1528 in a generally Northerly direction to the centerline of N.C. Highway 172 (100 foot right-of-way); thence along the centerline of N.C. Highway 172 in a general Westerly direction to the centerline of a road (commonly known as Pilchers Branch Road) and recorded as Stone Creek Road – Private and being described as a 60 foot ingress & egress easement as per Deed Book 947 Page 31 and referenced in Map Book 35 Page 81 & Map Book 43 Page 172 of the Onslow County Registry; thence leaving N.C. Highway 172 and running along the most Western line of the property shown in Map Book 43 Page 172 and the Eastern edge of Stone Creek Road in a general Northwesterly direction to a point in the centerline of Indian Grave Branch; thence along the centerline of said branch in a general Southeasterly direction to the centerline of N.C. Highway 210 (100 foot right-of-way) as shown in Map Book 43 Page 172 of the Onslow County Registry; thence along the centerline of N.C. Highway 210 as measured in a general Southeasterly direction to the projected property line of the U.S. Marine Corps property as shown in Map Book 41 Page 151 of the Onslow County Registry; thence leaving the centerline of N.C. Highway 210 and running along the Southeastern line of the U.S. Marine Corps property as shown in Map Book 45 Page 151 of the Onslow County Registry in a general Northeasterly direction to the run of Everett Creek; thence along the centerline of the run of Everett Creek as measured in a Southeasterly and Northeasterly direction to the centerline of the run of New River; thence along the centerline of the run of New River as measured in a general Southeasterly direction to the centerline of the Intracoastal Waterway; thence along the centerline of the Intracoastal Waterway as measured in a general Southwestern direction to the point and place of beginning.

"ARTICLE III. GOVERNING BODY.

"Section 3.1. **Structure of Governing Body; Number of Members.** The governing body of the Village of Sneads Ferry is the Mayor and the Village Council, which shall have six members.



"Section 3.2. **Temporary Officers.** Until the organizational meeting after the initial election in 2011 provided for by Section 4.2 of this Charter, Scotty J. Everett is appointed Mayor and Robert D. Bryant, Angela B. Edens, Jerry L. Hinnant, Jr., Donald H. Howell, Carolyn P. Lankas, and Brian K. Shepard are appointed council members of the Village of Sneads Ferry, and they shall possess and exercise the powers granted to the Mayor and governing body until their successors are elected or appointed and qualified pursuant to this Charter. Robert D. Bryant shall serve as Interim Mayor Pro Tempore. If any person named in this section is unable to serve, the remaining temporary officers shall, by majority vote, appoint a person to serve until the initial election is held in 2011.

"Section 3.3. **Manner of Electing Village Council; Term of Office.** The qualified voters of the entire Village shall elect the members of the Village Council and, except as provided in this section, they shall serve four-year terms. In 2011, the three candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms and the three candidates receiving the next highest numbers of votes shall be elected to two-year terms. In 2013 and quadrennially thereafter, three members shall be elected to four-year terms. In 2015 and quadrennially thereafter, three members shall be elected to four-year terms. To be eligible for election to the Village Council, an individual must reside in the Village of Sneads Ferry. Vacancies on the Village Council shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 160A-63.

"Section 3.4. **Manner of Electing Mayor; Term of Office; Duties.** The qualified voters of the entire Village shall elect the Mayor. In 2011 and quadrennially thereafter, the Mayor shall be elected for a term of four years. The Mayor shall attend and preside over meetings of the Village Council, shall advise the Village Council from time to time as to matters involving the Village of Sneads Ferry, and shall have the right to vote as a member of the Village Council on all matters before the Council but shall have no right to break a tie vote in which the Mayor has participated. In the case of a vacancy in the office of Mayor, the remaining members of the Village Council shall choose from their own number a successor for the unexpired term.

"Section 3.5. **Manner of Electing Mayor Pro Tempore; Term of Office; Duties.** The Mayor Pro Tempore shall be elected from among the members of the Village Council at the organizational meeting after the initial election in 2011 and shall serve for a term of two years. The Mayor Pro Tempore shall act in the absence or disability of the Mayor. If the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore are both absent from a meeting of the Village Council, the members of the Village Council present may elect a temporary chair to preside in the absence. The Mayor Pro Tempore shall have the right to vote on all matters before the Village Council and shall be considered a member of the Village Council for all purposes.

"Section 3.6. **Compensation of Mayor and Village Council.** The Mayor and members of the Village Council shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary expenses and may receive salary and honoraria only upon a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Village who vote on the question in a special referendum.

"ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS.

"Section 4.1. **Conduct of Village Elections.** Elections shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis and results determined by a plurality as provided in G.S. 163-292.

"Section 4.2. **Date of Election.** Elections shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes, with the first regular municipal election to be held in November 2011.

"Section 4.3. **Special Elections and Referenda.** Special elections and referenda may be held only as provided by general law or applicable local acts of the General Assembly.

"ARTICLE V. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

"Section 5.1. **Form of Government.** The Village shall operate under the Mayor-Council form of government as provided in Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes.

"Section 5.2. **Village Attorney.** The Village Council shall appoint a Village Attorney licensed to practice law in North Carolina. It shall be the duty of the Village Attorney to represent the Village, advise Village officials, and perform other duties as required by law or as directed by the Village Council. The Village Attorney shall serve at the pleasure of the Village Council.

"Section 5.3. **Village Clerk.** The Village Council shall appoint a Village Clerk who shall perform duties as required by law or as directed by the Village Council. The Village Clerk shall serve at the pleasure of the Village Council.

"ARTICLE VI. TAXES AND BUDGET ORDINANCE.

"Section 6.1. **Commencement of Tax Collection.** From and after July 1, 2010, the citizens and property in the Village of Sneads Ferry shall be subject to municipal taxes levied for the year beginning July 1, 2010, and for that purpose the Village shall obtain from Onslow County a record of property in the area herein incorporated which was listed for property taxes as of January 1, 2010.

"Section 6.2. **Budget.** The Village may adopt a budget ordinance for fiscal year 2010-2011 without following the timetable in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act but shall follow the sequence of actions in the spirit of the act insofar as is practical. For fiscal year 2010-2011, ad valorem taxes may be paid at par or face amount within 90 days of adoption of the budget ordinance and thereafter in accordance with the schedule in G.S. 105-360 as if the taxes had been due and payable on September 1, 2010.

"ARTICLE VII. ORDINANCES.

"Section 7.1. **Ordinances.** Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the Village of Sneads Ferry is authorized to adopt such ordinances as the Village Council deems necessary for the governance of the Village."

SECTION 2. The Onslow County Board of Elections shall conduct an election on May 4, 2010, for the purpose of submission to the qualified voters for the area described in Section 2.1 of the Charter of the Village of Sneads Ferry the question of whether or not the area shall be incorporated as the Village of Sneads Ferry. Registration for the election shall be conducted in accordance with G.S. 163-288.2. The referendum shall be held only if the referendum and the Charter have been approved under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. If by February 25, 2010, the conduct of the election and the Charter have not been so approved, Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this act are repealed. In such case, in order to receive another recommendation from the Joint Legislative Commission on Municipal Incorporations on the incorporation of Sneads Ferry, a new petition must be submitted under G.S. 120-163.

SECTION 3. In the election, the question on the ballot shall be:

"[] FOR [] AGAINST

Incorporation of the Village of Sneads Ferry. Until the initial election in 2011, Scotty J. Everett shall be Mayor and Robert D. Bryant, Angela B. Edens, Jerry L. Hinnant, Jr., Donald H. Howell, Carolyn P. Lankas, and Brian K. Shepard shall be council members. The village may levy property taxes as allowed by law. For the initial full fiscal year, property taxes are estimated to be at least ten cents per one hundred dollars valuation."

SECTION 4. In the election, if a majority of the votes are cast "For the Incorporation of the Village of Sneads Ferry," Section 1 of this act shall become effective on the date that the Onslow County Board of Elections certifies the results of the election. Otherwise, Section 1 of this act shall have no force and effect.

SECTION 5. Until Section 1 of this act becomes effective and a Village Attorney is appointed, the members of the Sneads Ferry Incorporation Committee, being Robert D. Bryant, Angela B. Edens, Scotty J. Everett, Jerry L. Hinnant, Jr., Donald H. Howell, Carolyn P. Lankas, and Brian K. Shepard shall be responsible for submitting any information required by G.S. 120-30.9F to the Attorney General of the United States. The committee shall simultaneously submit both the issue of the incorporation referendum and the Charter itself.

SECTION 6. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 6th day of August, 2009.

s/ Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Joe Hackney
Speaker of the House of Representatives