



Town of Hilton Head Island
TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

Present from Town Council: John J. McCann, *Mayor*; Bill Harkins, *Mayor Pro-Tempore*; David Ames, Tamara Becker, Marc Grant, Tom Lennox, Glenn Stanford, *Council Members*

Present from Town Staff: Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Josh Gruber, *Assist. Town Manager*; Shawn Colin, *Director of Community Development*; Teri Lewis, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Nicole Dixon, *Development Review Administrator*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Exec. Assist/Town Clerk*

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCann called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. By way of roll call, the attendance of Town Council was confirmed.

2. FOIA Compliance: Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Hilton Head Island.

3. Pledge to the Flag

4. Invocation – Father Greg Kronz, St. Luke’s Church

Father Greg Kronz of St. Luke’s Church delivered the invocation.

5. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Harkins moved to approve all four sets of minutes. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, all four sets of minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0.

- a. Regular Meeting, August 18, 2020
- b. Special Meeting, August 19, 2020
- c. Special Meeting, August 27, 2020
- d. Special Meeting, August 31, 2020

7. Report of the Town Manager

- a. Gullah-Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation – Lavon Stevens, Chairman

Lavon Stevens, Chairman of the Gullah-Geechee Land and Cultural Preservation Task Force, gave an update to the members of Council related to recent matters the Task Force has been discussing.

7. Report of the Town Manager (cont.)

b. Beaufort County Matters Update

Mr. Gruber gave an update on the matters related to the Town and Beaufort County. He reminded Council that a copy of the complaint and injunction related to the uniformed fee had been sent to them for review. Mr. Gruber asked that any feedback be provided to the Town Attorney no later than the end of day on Wednesday.

i. Convenience Center

Mr. Gruber reported that the budget approved by the County Council only allowed for funding of the Convenience Center through midnight, December 31, 2020. He said the County Council had not approved any further funding beyond the December 31, 2020 date, and has the Town concerned that the Convenience Center will be closed. Mr. Gruber said future information about this matter would be made available when it was received.

ii. County-owned Parks

Mr. Gruber reported that the Town would be assuming the maintenance and upkeep on the Town-owned parks. He said as for the two properties owned by the County, funding for the upkeep and maintenance was not provided for in the County's budget, and the Town will not be providing services to the properties as they are County owned. The two properties that Mr. Gruber was referring to are Barker Field and Hilton Head Park.

iii. County-owned Roads

Mr. Gruber stated that confirmation was received that the County remains responsible for all roads on the Island owned by the County. He said concerns about the County-owned roads should be directed to Beaufort County.

c. Town Council Public Hearing: Our Plan 2020-2040 Comprehensive Plan, October 6, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Gruber reported that Town Council would hold a Public Hearing regarding the Comprehensive Plan during the October 6, 2020 Council meeting. He also reported that it was originally thought that the October 6, 2020 Council meeting would be the first in-person meeting since March. However, due to some lingering concerns, the Town will continue evaluate and potentially begin to hold in-person meetings in November.

d. Items of Interest

Mr. Gruber reviewed the Items of Interest, including upcoming meetings taking place in the coming weeks.

8. Reports from Members of Council

a. General Reports from Council

Mrs. Becker reported that during the Public Planning Committee meeting a discussion took place concerning the "Residents First" initiative. She said that the Committee reviewed and approved the proposal for wheelchair access at Islanders Beach Park. Mrs. Becker said that she has received much support from the community at large as well as support from the Mayor for Council to discuss this matter further. Mrs. Becker also reported that she had participated in a virtual meeting held by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) concerning the transfer station request from ArborNature. She said that she wants some kind of assurance from the Town that they will work to protect the environment.

Mr. Lennox reported that he had spoken to a number of people regarding the mask mandate. He said he was impressed by the information that had been presented to him about face coverings being a matter of choice, not law. Mr. Lennox said that at this time, he was still in favor of keeping the face covering ordinance in place, but would like to continue the discussions with citizens.

8. Reports from Members of Council (cont.)

b. Report of the Intergovernmental Committee – Bill Harkins

Mr. Harkins stated that he had no report.

c. Report of the Community Services & Public Safety Committee – Marc Grant

Mr. Grant reported that the Committee met on September 9, 2020 where they reviewed, discussed, and interviewed candidates for the vacancy on the Planning Commission. He noted that Council would review the recommendation during Executive Session.

d. Report of the Public Planning Committee – David Ames

Mr. Ames reported that the Committee recently met where they discussed Land Management Ordinance amendments related to workforce housing and code changes with regard to sea turtle protection. He reported that both items would come before Council at the October 6, 2020 meeting.

e. Report of the Finance & Administrative Committee – Tom Lennox

Mr. Lennox reported that the Committee had met earlier in the day where they discussed three items; (1) a financial update from the Finance Director, (2) reviewed a proposed budget amendment, and (3) received an update on the IT study.

9. Proclamations/Commendations – NONE

10. Appearance by Citizens

Jo Quliana, Christin Grieco, Tiffany Reeder, Iris Shedlock, Cherry Norris, and Joe Reinhardt addressed the members of Council about the right to choose to wear a face covering, and not being mandated to wear one.

Paul Meehan addressed the members of Council on the matters related to ArborNature. He expressed his concerns about the application submitted to DHEC for a transfer station on Summit Drive.

Patsy Brison addressed the members of Council on her concerns with the U.S. 278 Gateway Corridor Project.

Skip Hoagland addressed the members of Council on his concerns with the Chamber and ATAX funds.

11. Consent Agenda

Mayor McCann explained to the Town Council that the Consent Agenda may be approved as a whole, with all noted agenda items included; or a member of Council may request that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda to further discuss.

Mrs. Becker stated that she would like to have the second reading of proposed ordinance 2020-18 taken up outside of the Consent Agenda. Mayor McCann confirmed, and asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda without the consideration of said proposed ordinance.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the Consent Agenda without consideration of Proposed Ordinance 2020-18. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call the motion was approved 7-0.

a. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-16 – Leg O' Mutton Road

b. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-21 - General Obligation Refunding Bonds

12. Unfinished

a. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-18 – Electronic Meetings

Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-18 to amend the Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, by adding Section 2-5-15, to provide for regular and special meetings and public hearings of the Town Council and Town Boards and Commissions with final decision making authority, by Electronic Means during Declared States of Emergency; and by adding Section 2-5-16, to provide for meeting of Boards, Committees, and Commissions that do not have final decision making authority by Electronic Means; providing for exemptions; and providing for severability and effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. The members of Council had a brief discussion, some agreeing this permanent change is an appropriate route to take. Other members of Council stating that they felt it is unfair to the community to continue with this code change. With no further discussion, by way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 5-2. Mrs. Becker and Mr. Grant both opposing.

13. New Business

a. Consideration of a Resolution – Park Planning, Programming, & Implementation

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, authorizing staff to move forward with recommendations per the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Chaplin Linear Park, and the Shelter Cove Connectivity Project.

Mr. Ames moved to approve. Mr. Harkins seconded. Mayor McCann called on Shawn Colin to give a summary of this item to the members of Council. With little discussion, and by way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

b. Consideration of a Resolution – HUD/CDBG Entitlement Program 2019 CAPER

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. With limited discussion, by way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

c. First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-222 - Budget Adjustments

First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-22 to amend the budget for the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021; to provide for the budgeted appropriations of prior year budget roll-forwards and certain other appropriations and commitments, and the expenditures of certain funds; to allocate the sources of revenue for the said funds; and provide for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. Council discussed this item, noting that due to a change that was made during the Finance and Administrative Committee, it was not appropriate to continue with approval of the first reading.

Mr. Harkins moved to postpone this item. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the motion to postpone was approved by a vote of 7-0.

14. Executive Session

Mr. Gruber stated that an Executive Session was needed for the following items; (i) personnel matters, discussions of appointments of members related to boards and commissions; (ii) land acquisition, discussion of negotiation incidents related to the proposed sale, lease, or purchase of property in the Shelter Cove area; and (iii) land utilization, discussion of negotiation incidents related to the proposed sale, lease, or purchase of property.

At 5:45 p.m., Mr. Harkins moved to go into Executive Session for the reasons described by Mr. Riley. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

15. Possible Actions by Town Council Concerning Matters Discussed in Executive Session

At 6:42 p.m. Council returned with the following actions:

Mr. Grant made a motion to appoint John R. Campbell to the Planning Commission as an at-large member to complete an unexpired term ending June 30, 2022. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

Mr. Harkins made a motion for Town Council to authorized the Mayor and Town Manager to execute and deliver a proposed contract by and between the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and the Kingfisher at Shelter Cove, a South Carolina General Partnership, for the purchase and sale of 1.5 acres, more or less, in Shelter Cove on Hilton Head Island, and to take such other and further actions as may be necessary to complete the transaction described in the contract. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

16. Adjournment

By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Approved: October 6, 2020

Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

John J. McCann, Mayor