



Town of Hilton Head Island
TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

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

Present from Town Staff: Marc Orlando, *Town Manager*; Josh Gruber, *Deputy Town Manager*; Angie Stone, *Assistant Town Manager*; Jennifer Ray, *Capital Projects Manager*; Teri Lewis, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Town Clerk*

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCann called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. By way of roll call, attendance of all members 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 – Pastor Michael Carr, Central Church

Pastor Carr delivered the invocation.

5. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stanford seconded. The agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.

6. Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Workshop – May 26, 2021

b. Town Council Regular Meeting – June 1, 2021

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the minutes as noted on the agenda. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0.

7. Report of the Town Manager

a. Items of Interest

Mr. Orlando reviewed and reported on various items of interest, the first being the opening of Fire Station #2. He noted that a formal opening ceremony would be held in December. He also discussed the Beach Ambassador Program. Noting that improvements were being made. He also reported on the new beach toy borrow in at Islanders Beach Park. Mr. Orlando reported that the Town is working on a beach wheelchair program and would report more as the information is available.

8. Reports from Members of Town Council

a. General Reports from Council

Mayor McCann reported that beginning with the next meeting, he would be asking the members of Town Council to begin reporting on their committees they are assigned to outside of the standing committees. He also stated that all agendas needed to be approved by him prior to posting them publically.

Mrs. Becker thanked Mr. Orlando for being so responsive to the concerns regarding the beaches. She said she had heard from citizens about the beaches and the airport noise. She said both of these will be an ongoing issue and thinking about how to respond is important.

Mr. Harkins reported that he had met with members of the Stormwater team about a couple complex issues in Ward 2. He said that these involve private and public interests. Mr. Harkins reported that remediation to these problems is in the works.

Mr. Brown stated that he was pleased to be back in person, but that he was unhappy about no longer livestreaming on Facebook. He asked Mr. Orlando to see what could be done to bring back the Facebook feed. Mr. Brown also reported that redistricting would be taking place soon. He said that Hilton Head Island does not want to be in position for gerrymandering and requested there to be a public process for such matters.

Mr. Lennox reported at the SOLOCO meeting on May 25th, the consultant regarding the housing trust gave a presentation further recommending that all municipalities remain involved with the program. He said that it had been recommended that a non-profit 501c3 be developed to handle this matter.

Mr. Ames reported that the airport is an issue that reflects on the Town. He said specifically with the airport, crowds are beyond comprehension. He said it was 80+ degrees out and wondered what it would be like when it was 90 degrees. Mr. Ames said that the congestion in the airport's terminal is inhospitable and that we need to do something. He said that he has talked to Jon Rembold and Bill Miles about this problem and they are working on how things can be handled differently. Mr. Ames asked that maybe the Town Manager and County Administrator could discuss this matter and come up with solutions too.

Mr. Stanford reported that at the LATS meeting, a general report was given from the project manager for the 278 widening project. He said the preferred alternative would be coming forward in July. Mr. Stanford said he is pleased to see that the consultant the Town has contracted with is suggesting the creation of a parkway and not a highway.

Mr. Ames closed out the general reports by recognizing Kati Kokal from the Island Packet as she pursues other opportunities in other cities. He said she handled a difficult situation in a very professional way and the Town was fortunate to have that type of quality reporting.

b. Report of the Community Services & Public Safety Committee – Bill Harkins

Mr. Harkins stated he had no report.

c. Report of the Public Planning Committee – David Ames

Mr. Ames reported that the committee recently discussed the Gullah-Geechee overlay which would be discussed later in this meeting. He said at the next meeting the Committee would be reviewing eBikes and eScooters.

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

Mr. Lennox reported that the Committee met earlier in the day where they received a presentation about the model business license ordinance. He said they also received an update on the Town’s finances through the last 11 months.

9. Proclamations/Commendations

- a. Presentation of a Commendation honoring Dr. Kelly Bouthillet for her service to the Town of Hilton Head Island

Mayor McCann presented Dr. Bouthillet a commendation honoring her service to the Town during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

10. Appearance by Citizens

Joanne Voulelis, Kathy Sanders, and Amber Keuhn addressed the Mayor and Town Council concerning the beaches and the trash that is on the beaches.

Jean Fruh addressed the Mayor and Town Council concerning the Town’s Beach Ambassador Program and the bottled water they pass out.

Skip Hoagland addressed Town Council concerning matters related to the Town and Chamber.

11. Unfinished Business

- a. **Revised First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2020-26 - Family Compound and Family Subdivision LMO Amendments**

Revised First Reading of the Proposed Ordinance 2020-26 to amend Title 16 of the Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the Land Management Ordinance (LMO), Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and Appendix B and D. These amendments, commonly referred to as Family Compound and Family Subdivision Applications as noticed in the Island Packet on May 2, 2021, include changes that add Family Compound and Family Subdivision as a new application and a Use with Permitted Conditions described in Exhibit A to the ordinance; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. The Mayor and Town Council had a robust discussion and conversation on this matter. Some of the members were concerned as to what would happen at the end of three years of participation in the program. Mr. Coltrane, Town Attorney, said that there is a risk with the ordinance and in the way it is drafted. He said there are a lot of things that would have to happen before any of the opportunity for selling the land could take place. Others were concerned about the set-backs and buffers should the property be sold after three years. Some asked about the practicality of reverting back the zoning if the property is sold. There was discussion about why there had to be continued discussion on the matter and that Council needed to pass this ordinance and get moving with program. That it is not appropriate to continue holding things up. Upon the conclusion of their discussion, Mayor McCann opened it up to the public for comments. Morris Campbell, Lavon Steven, Patsy Brison, and Caitlin Lee all made comments in support of Town Council passing this ordinance. With a little more discussion from the members of Town Count, by way of roll call, the motion carried by a vote of 6-1, Mrs. Becker opposed.

12. New Business - None

13. Executive Session

- a. **Personnel Matters:** Discussion of the appointments to Boards & Commissions [pursuant to S.C. Freedom of Information Act § 3-4-70(a)(1)].
- b. **Legal Advice:** Receipt of legal advice related to pending, threatened, or potential claim related to the Beaufort County Law Enforcement Fee [pursuant to S.C. Freedom of Information Act § 30-4-70(a)(2)].

At 5:40 p.m., Mr. Harkins moved to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

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

At 6:36 p.m., the Mayor and Town Council returned from Executive Session.

Mr. Harkins moved to appoint Margaret Johnson as a Hospitality member to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, T. Peter Kristian as an at-large member to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Ryan Bassett and Ben Brown as at-large members to the Design Review Board, and Henry Rick D'Arienzo as the Landscape Architect, and Tom Henz, Bruce Siebold, and Jim Collett as at-large members of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Harkins further moved to reappoint John Farrell as a Hospitality member and James Fluker as an at-large member to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, Patsy Brison as an attorney and David Fingerhut as an at-large member to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Cathy Foss as an at-large member to the Design Review Board, Jack Daly, Tom Dowling, and Christina Kristian as at-large members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and Michael Scanlon as an at-large member of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Harkins also moved reappoint Neil Gordon as an Architect, Ling Graves as a General Contractor, and Frank Guidobono as a Building Industry Alternate to the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals for four year terms ending June 30, 2025.

Lastly, Mr. Harkins moved to appoint John Campbell, Mark O'Neil, and Tom Henz as Planning Commission members and reappoint Lavon Stevens as an at-large member to the Gullah-Geechee Land and Cultural Preservation Task Force.

Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

15. Adjournment

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Approved: July 20, 2021

Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

John J. McCann, Mayor