

**THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Present from Town Council: David Bennett, *Mayor*; Bill Harkins, *Mayor Pro Tem*; Marc Grant, Kim Likins, Lee Edwards, Tom Lennox, John McCann, *Council Members*

Present from Town Staff: Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Greg DeLoach, *Assistant Town Manager*; Brad Tadlock, *Fire Chief*; Charles Cousins, *Director of Community Development*; Tom Fultz, *Director of Administrative Services*; Nancy Gasen, *Director of Human Resources*; Scott Liggett, *Director of Public Projects and Facilities/Chief Engineer*; Brian Hulbert, *Staff Attorney*; Susan Simmons, *Director of Finance*; Victoria Shanahan, *Accounting Manager*; Jeff Buckalew, *Town Engineer*; Julian Walls, *Facilities Manager*; Marcy Benson, *Senior Grants Administrator*; Shea Farrar, *Senior Planner*; Jim Alm, *Accounting Supervisor*; Melissa Cope, *Systems Analyst*; Erica Madhere, *Finance Assistant*; Vicki Pfannenschmidt, *Executive Assistant/Town Clerk*

Present from Media: Dan Burley, Island Packet

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2) PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

3) INVOCATION

4) FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

5) Proclamations and Commendations

None.

6) Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting, December 2, 2014

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The minutes of the Town Council meeting held December 2, 2014 were approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Grant was not present during the vote. He arrived at the meeting immediately thereafter.

7) Report of the Town Manager

a. Certified Connected Community Award Presentation

Mr. Jim Stritzinger, Executive Director for Connect South Carolina presented the award to Mayor Bennett.

b. FY2014 CAFR and Audit Presentation – Don Mobley, Scott & Company

Victoria Shanahan introduced Mr. Mobley for review of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Mr. Mobley thanked Susan Simmons, Victoria Shanahan and the entire Finance Staff for their transparency, cooperation and timeliness during the audit. He referred to the opinion and stated the Town received an Unmodified Opinion which is the highest opinion indicating the Town financial statements were presented fairly and in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and that there were no exceptions. He stated they also filed a Federal Report with an additional Unmodified Opinion. Mr. Riley informed Council that after they review the document, staff will be available to discuss and answer any questions they may have.

c. Town Manager’s Items of Interest

Mr. Riley reported on the items of interest listed below.

- i. Town News
- ii. Noteworthy Events/Upcoming Meetings

8) Reports from Members of Council

a. General Reports from Council

Mr. Grant stated that long-time resident, Dr. Charlie White had passed away. He stated Dr. White had contributed immensely to our community and asked that a proclamation or commendation be prepared and presented to the family in appreciation of his public service.

Mayor Pro Tem Harkins reminded all of the continuation of the Town Council Workshop to be held on Thursday, December 18 at 9:00 a.m. at Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Headquarters.

9) Appearance by Citizens

Mr. Frank Babel addressed Town Council concerning the bicycle safety hazards the Bicycling Advisory Committee identified in and around the Shelter Cove area.

10) Unfinished Business

- a. None

11) New Business

a. Consideration of Recommendations of the Accommodations Tax Advisory (ATAX) Committee

Consideration of recommendations of the Accommodations Tax Advisory (ATAX) Committee for the purpose of allocating the proceeds of the Accommodations Tax Funds.

Mr. Harkins moved to accept the recommendations of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. Mr. McCann seconded.

After lengthy discussion and comments from Mr. Mike Alsko, Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, various representatives of each organization and public comment, Mr. Harkins moved to amend the original motion and recommend Town Council endorse the tabulated direction that was set forth this afternoon. Mr. McCann seconded.

Mr. Alsko approached the dais and expressed his agreement with the awards and stated his appreciation for Town Council's consideration of the Committee's recommendations.

Mayor Bennett thanked Mr. Alsko and the members of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee for their dedication and hard work.

The amended motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

The original recommendation amounts are listed in the ATAC Recommendation column and the approved amounts in the Town Council Award column in the table below. Note: \$20,000 of the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce VCB funds are to be dedicated to marketing minority groups.

	ATAC Recommendation	Town Council Award
Art League of Hilton Head	85,000	49,500
Art League of Hilton Head - Nonrecurring	2,750	2,750
Arts Center of Coastal Carolina	384,000	383,250
David M. Carmines Memorial Foundation	6,500	4,400
Gullah Museum of Hilton Head Island	20,000	20,000
Harbour Town Merchants Assoc.	12,000	9,900
Hilton Head Choral Society	30,000	24,800
Hilton Head Choral Society - Nonrecurring	4,790	4,790
Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance	160,000	147,400
Hilton Head Dance Theater	12,000	13,200
HHI Audubon Society	45,000	45,000
HHI Land Trust - Nonrecurring	15,000	15,000
HHI Recreation Association	7,500	7,500
HHI St. Patrick's Day Parade	16,000	13,200
HHI Wine and Food, Inc.	147,500	130,000
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce VCB	400,000	366,500
Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra	215,000	215,000
Lowcountry Golf Course Owners Association - Nonrecurring	42,510	42,510
Main Street Youth Theater	15,000	13,200
Mitchelville Preservation Project	38,000	30,800
Native Island Business & Community	110,000	104,500
Shelter Cove Harbour Company	42,000	39,900
Skull Creek July 4th Celebration	12,000	9,900
The Coastal Discovery Museum (Cultural & Eco-Tourism Programs)	223,000	194,250
The Coastal Discovery Museum (Discovery Lab)	102,613	102,613
The Coastal Discovery Museum & Heritage Library (History Day)	8,000	8,000
The Heritage Library	20,000	18,865
The Heritage Library – Nonrecurring	7,242	7,242

The Heritage Library & Coastal Discovery Museum (Speaker Series)	6,531	6,531
The Sandbox	56,300	55,000
The Sandbox - Nonrecurring	82,123	82,123
Town of Hilton Head Island	1,000,000	1,049,765
Subtotal of Current Year Requests/Recommendations/Awards	3,328,359	3,217,389
Totals	3,328,359	3,217,389
Remaining Balance for future distribution by ATAX Committee		239,150

b. Consideration that the Town Council for the Town of Hilton Head Island authorize the Mayor to extend the appointment of Gregory M. Alford as the Town Attorney

Mayor Bennett stated he has had an opportunity to sit down with Mr. Alford and go through the magnitude of work he does on behalf of the Town. He said he found it to be very comprehensive and voluminous. He suggested that rather than a two year reappointment of Mr. Alford that a shorter term be considered and at the conclusion of that time, the Town would have an RFQ process and invite others to submit their qualifications. Mr. McCann recommended a minimum of a one year contract. All members of Council concurred. Mr. Harkins suggested Council consider an evaluative process for all key consulting groups.

Mr. McCann moved to renew Mr. Alford's current contract for a one year period expiring December, 2015 and direct the Town Manager to develop a RFQ or RFP process for this position and other key consulting groups. Mr. Harkins seconded.

Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Alford if the terms were acceptable to him. Mr. Alford replied in the affirmative. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

12) Adjournment

Mr. McCann moved to adjourn. Mr. Harkins seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Vicki L. Pfannenschmidt,
Executive Assistant/Town Clerk

Approved:

David Bennett, Mayor