

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

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Time: 4:00 P.M.

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

Present from Town Staff: Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Greg DeLoach, *Assistant Town Manager*; Charles Cousins, *Director of Community Development*; Brad Tadlock, *Fire Chief*; Nancy Gasen, *Director of Human Resources*; Susan Simmons, *Director of Finance*; Scott Liggett, *Director of Public Projects and Facilities/Chief Engineer*; Tom Fultz, *Director of Administrative Services*; Brian Hulbert, *Staff Attorney*; Julian Walls, *Facilities Manager*; Victoria Shanahan, *Accounting Manager*; Jill Foster, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Anne Cyran, *Senior Planner*; John Valvo, *Systems Analyst*; Vicki Pfannenschmidt, *Executive Assistant/Town Clerk*

Present from Media: Zach Murdock, 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

6) Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Workshop, February 24, 2015

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The minutes of the February 24 Town Council Workshop were unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

b. Town Council Meeting, March 3, 2015

Mrs. Likins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The minutes of the March 3 regular Town Council meeting were approved by a vote of 6-0-1. Mayor Bennett abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

7) Report of the Town Manager

a. Presentation of the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014.

Mayor Bennett presented the award to Susan Simmons and Victoria Shanahan.

- b. Economic Development Corporation Update, Tom Upshaw, Chairman
Don Kirkman, Executive Director

Mr. Upshaw and Mr. Kirkman presented a slide show and answered questions concerning the timeline and goals of the Economic Development Corporation.

- c. Town Manager's Items of Interest

Mr. Riley reported on some items of interest.

8) Reports from Members of Council

- a. General Reports from Council

Mr. McCann suggested adjusting the start time for Town Council meetings to 3:30 p.m. After lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of Council to keep the meeting start time at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Grant reported he had met with Dr. Sharma concerning Cordillo Tennis Courts and expressed concern that something needed done about the property. He reviewed a suggestion that the Town make improvements to two tennis courts and lease the property to the community for \$1 per year with the community being responsible for building the park and maintenance.

Mr. Grant stated he spoke with constituents from Bermuda Point concerning a storm water drainage agreement and suggested Council review and consider as a priority for next year.

Mr. Grant conveyed a conversation with Mr. Simmons concerning traffic safety on Simmons Road. He also noted safety concerns about the bike paths on Marshland Road. Mayor Bennett asked that the items be placed on a future agenda of the Public Safety Committee for review.

- b. Report of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee – Bill Harkins, Chairman

Mr. Harkins reported the Committee met earlier in the week and approved the 2015 meeting calendar. He informed Council that Scott Stanton of MASC was present and reviewed issues at the State level focusing on status of the Business License bill sponsored by Representative Quinn. Mr. Harkins stated if the change Representative Quinn is proposing takes place it would have a significant negative impact on Hilton Head Island. The Committee recommended that a letter be sent opposing the proposed change. Members of Council concurred.

- c. Report of the Community Services Committee – Kim Likins, Chairman

Mrs. Likins clarified the meeting days of the Committee which will be the 2nd Monday and the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. She said the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24.

- d. Report of the Public Planning Committee – Tom Lennox, Chairman

Mr. Lennox stated the Committee met on March 5 and reviewed two zoning map amendment applications by Heritage Group. He explained one application was for a zoning amendment of a 38 acre property known as the Port Royal Clubhouse for an increase in density and the second was a zoning amendment for 8.4 acres located off of Folly Field Road, known as the Port Royal Racquet Club, for a zoning change to resort development. He reported the Committee recommended approval of both as

presented. He said the approval was in conflict with the Planning Commission recommendations as they only recommended approval of the zoning amendment for the 38 acres but declined the approval of the 8.4 acres.

e. Report of the Public Facilities Committee – Lee Edwards, Chairman

No report.

f. Report of the Public Safety Committee – Marc Grant, Chairman

No report.

g. Report of the Finance and Administrative Committee, John McCann, Chairman

Mr. McCann said the Committee previously met and recommended that the Town Council define to the Town Manager specific projects and adopted priorities for which they have a particular expertise or interest in participating in the development request for RFP's and RFQ's. He said this would enable Council to be involved in all RFP's and RFQ's the Council feels they have an interest or expertise in. Mr. Edwards questioned if they are asking for Council input on all RFP's and RFQ's. Mr. McCann explained it would only be the ones that fall under Town Council priorities. Mr. Harkins suggested additional language qualifying it to projects that have major significance to the community or projects that have significant capital call. Mr. McCann moved that the Town Council define to the Town Manager specific projects and adopted priorities for which they have a particular expertise or interest in participating in the development request for RFP's and RFQ's. Mr. Edwards stated he did not feel Council needs to participate just because they have interest or expertise in a specific area, but if the project is a priority of Council they should be involved. The motion failed due to the lack of a second. Mr. Edwards stated he felt the premise is good but the wording needed work as to have a clear understanding. Mayor Bennett asked that Mr. DeLoach propose language for Mr. McCann to bring back to the next Town Council meeting for discussion and consideration.

Mr. McCann stated that in reference to projects that have been approved and public hearings held, but have not been implemented for a great length of time, the Committee is working with staff on a procedure for review by Council prior to implementation. He said they will bring it forward to Council when prepared.

9) Appearance by Citizens

Mr. Charlie Lovely spoke in opposition to the zoning amendment for Folly Field Road.

10) Unfinished Business

None

11) New Business

a. Consideration of a Resolution – Heritage Tourism Task Force

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, creating the Hilton Head Island Heritage Tourism Task Force.

Mrs. Likins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. Mayor Bennett proposed that Stu Rodman, Emory Campbell and Carlton Dallas be appointed as founding members of the Task Force and that they recommend applicants to be vetted by the Community Services Committee. The maker and the seconder were in agreement the motion be

amended to add Stu Rodman, Emory Campbell and Carlton Dallas as founding members. The amended motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

b. Presentation by Alan M. Hancock, Campaigns Director, Conservation Voters of South Carolina, regarding seismic testing and offshore drilling, public and Town Council comment.

Mr. Hancock conducted a presentation with the timeline and deadlines for public comment on both subjects. He said there have been resolutions from Beaufort, Folly Beach, Edisto Island, and the Isle of Palms opposing seismic testing and offshore drilling. He added that the Charleston and Myrtle Beach Councils will be considering resolutions next week. He said that Conservation Voters and other conservation organizations in South Carolina would urge Council to speak out publicly against offshore drilling and seismic testing.

Council discussed the subjects at length and Mr. Hancock answered all questions.

Mr. Tom Barnwell and Pamela Martin Ovens spoke in opposition of seismic testing and offshore drilling.

After consideration of how to move forward, Mr. Harkins moved that two letters be drafted by staff, circulated to Town Council and submitted for the Mayor's signature one that would take positions on the seismic testing for DHEC, both in this case and in future cases and a second letter that would address the Federal Comment period in the issues on both seismic testing and offshore drilling. Mr. McCann seconded. Mayor Bennett asked that Mr. Harkins, at the Intergovernmental Relations Committee level, would utilize the letters to reach out to local municipalities, the remaining South Carolina delegation and Federal representatives.

c. Discussion of Cordillo Courts

Mayor Bennett spoke in favor of the Cordillo Courts being utilized. He invited Mr. Greg Wynn of GW Services to speak. Mr. Wynn spoke on behalf of the property owners of the Hedges and Cordillo Courts and their desire to purchase the property. Ally McNair spoke on behalf of Neighborhood Outreach Connection and their desired use for the property. Each member of Council participated in a dialogue concerning the best use for the property.

After Town Council discussion concerning the property and proposed uses, Mayor Bennett asked that the Mr. Riley meet with all parties concerned and develop a plan to take to the Public Facilities Committee for consideration of a recommendation to move forward to Town Council.

12) Executive Session

Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Riley if there was a need for Executive Session. Mr. Riley stated he needed an Executive Session for contractual matters pertaining to the exchange of property and other issues pertaining to the development agreement between the Town and Shelter Cove Towne Center, LLC; and for legal advice pertaining to potential litigation. At 7:09 p.m. Mrs. Likins moved to go into Executive Session for the matters mentioned by the Town Manager. Mr. McCann seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Bennett called the meeting back to order at 8:16 p.m. and stated there was no business as a result of Executive Session.

13) Adjournment

Mr. Harkins moved to adjourn. Mr. McCann seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Vicki L. Pfannenschmidt,
Executive Assistant/Town Clerk

Approved: 04/07/2015

David Bennett, Mayor