

**THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AND  
THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

**Date:** Wednesday, September 15, 2010

**Time:** 3:00 P.M.

**Present from Town Council:** Thomas D. Peeples, *Mayor*; Ken Heitzke, *Mayor Pro-Tem*; George Williams, John Safay, Bill Harkins, Drew Laughlin, Bill Ferguson, *Councilmen*.

**Present from Planning Commission:** Al Vadnais, *Chairman*; Tom Crews, Jack Docherty, Therese Leary, Tom Lennox, Charles Young, III, *commission members*.

**Absent from Planning Commission:** Gail Quick, Terry Ennis, Loretta Warden.

**Present from the Mayor's Task Force for the Future:** David Ames, *Chairman*; J. R. Richardson, *Vice Chairman*; Peter Kristian, Elizabeth Lamkin, Kumar Viswanathan, Mark Baker, Thomas Barnwell, Bud Shay, Marc Frey, *committee members*.

**Present from Town Staff:** Stephen G. Riley, *Town Manager*; Jill Foster, *Deputy Director, Community Development Dept.*; Teri Lewis, *LMO Official*; Shawn Colin, *Comprehensive Planning Manager*; Heather Colin, *Development Review Administrator*; Jayme Lopko, *Senior Planner*; Shea Farrar, *Senior Planner*; Brian Hulbert, *Staff Attorney*; Susan Blake, *Executive Assistant*; Kathleen Carlin, *Administrative Assistant*.

**Present from Media:** Tom Barton, Island Packet

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. 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.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Report of the Chairman, Mayor's Task Force for the Future and presentation of the Final Vision 2025 Report.**

The Mayor acknowledged the many hours the members of the Task Force have spent working on this report and extended his thanks for all their hard work and dedication. Mayor Peeples said that he hoped that the Town Council would accept the Final Vision 2025 Report and the Planning Commission would consider this report to make recommendations to the Town Council for their 2011 goal setting retreat.

On behalf of the Task Force Members, Chairman Dave Ames thanked the Mayor, the Town Council and the Planning Commission for giving them the opportunity today to discuss and present the findings of the Task Force. Mr. Ames thanked the Mayor for his leadership in establishing the Task Force and for honoring the members by their selection to the Task Force. Mr. Ames distributed a final copy of the report to each member of the Town Council and the Planning Commission.

The Chairman gave a report to the Town Council and Planning Commission. He said the Task Force established a set of core values, developed a succinct Mission or Vision Statement, identified no more than five key areas of focus for the Town over the next 25 years and recommended strategies for implementation of these key focus areas. All of this was contained in detail in the Task Force's Final Report.

Mr. Harkins thanked the Task Force for their hard work in developing this Vision report. He moved that the Town Council accept the Task Force Report and refer it to the Planning Commission for review and that the Planning Commission create a prioritized list of four or five recommendations to the Town Council for development of the future goals and targets. Mr. Safay seconded.

Mr. Safay said that he, too, wanted to express his appreciation to the Task Force for all their hard work. He was looking forward to seeing the prioritized list after the Planning Commission had had time to review the Task Force report.

Mr. Laughlin suggested that they not limit the Planning Commission to a specific number. Mr. Harkins and Mr. Safay agreed to revise their motion to remove a specific number of recommendations.

Mr. Ferguson said that he did not think the Task Force was a legally appointed advisory committee since it was not appointed by the Town Council. He had tried to get a Resolution passed at a regular Town Council meeting that would authorize the formation of the Task Force, but it was defeated. Based on his understanding of the Town Code, the Task Force had to be created by the Council, not the Mayor. Mr. Ferguson added that he knew the members had worked very hard and he appreciated their dedication. He did not want to take anything away from their efforts, but he would not be voting in favor of accepting the final report.

Steve Riley added that staff had obtained an opinion from the Town attorney who stated that the Task Force did not need to be sanctioned by the full Town Council because it was only an advisory body and had no authority to enact any of its recommendations.

Mayor Peeples talked about the financial pressures that will be facing the Town in the near future as a result of the economy and the probable lowering of the tax base due to reduced property values. He did not have an issue with any of the directions proposed by the Task Force, but the big challenge will be finding a way to fund the proposals.

The motion passed with a vote of 6-1. Mr. Ferguson was opposed.

The Mayor thanked the Task Force members again for their hard work and declared that the Task Force was now officially disbanded.

#### 4. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

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Susan Blake, Secretary

Approved: October 5, 2010

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Thomas D. Peeples, Mayor