

THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Present from Town Council: Drew A. Laughlin, *Mayor*; Bill Harkins, *Mayor Pro Tem*; George Williams, Kim Likins, Lee Edwards, Marc Grant, John McCann, *Council Members*

Present from Town Staff: Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Greg DeLoach, *Assistant Town Manager*; Charles Cousins, *Director of Community Development*; Lavarn Lucas, *Fire Chief*; Scott Liggett, *Director of Public Projects and Facilities/Chief Engineer*; Nancy Gasen, *Director of Human Resources*; Susan Simmons, *Director of Finance*; Brad Tadlock, *Deputy Fire Chief of Operations*; Julian Walls, *Facilities Manager*; Brian Hulbert, *Staff Attorney*; Joheida Fister, *Fire Marshal*; Bret Martin, *Deputy Director of Finance*; Victoria Shanahan, *Accounting Manager*; Natalie Majorkiewicz, *Systems and Reporting Administrator*; Jill Foster, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Shawn Colin, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Melissa Cope, *Systems Analyst*; Vicki Pfannenschmidt, *Executive Assistant*

Present from Media: Dan Burley, *Island Packet*

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Laughlin 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

a. Parkinson's Awareness Month

Mr. Tom Kurtz and Mr. Rusty Capers accepted the Proclamation. Mr. Kurtz is a member of the Board of Directors of the Beaufort County Coalition of Parkinson's Disease Support Groups, and both he and Rusty Capers are members of the Hilton Head Island Parkinson's Disease Support Group.

6) Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting – March 4, 2014

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The minutes of the March 4, 2014 Town Council meeting were approved by a vote of 7-0.

7) Report of the Town Manager

a. Hilton Head Island Airport Update – Jon Rembold, Airports Director

Mr. Rembold updated Council on upcoming projects at the Airport and showed a video.

b. Town Manager's Items of Interest

Mr. Riley reported on some items of interest. Mr. Edwards referenced Council authorizing increasing the speed limit on the Cross Island Parkway with the condition of safety improvements being installed stating they had not been completed. Mr. Liggett stated the SCDOT is handling the matter and he would reach out to them concerning the timeline. Mr. Edwards strongly encouraged completion of the project.

c. February, 2014 Policy Agenda, Management Targets and CIP Updates

Mr. Riley stated he would be happy to answer any questions.

8) Reports from Members of Council

a. General Reports from Council

Mayor Laughlin stated he attended funeral services for Mr. Joe Fraser noting that he was one of the true giants responsible for much of what is here on Hilton Head Island. He commented that Mr. Fraser was a fine gentleman and a truly nice man. Mayor Laughlin said Mr. Fraser will be missed and he hoped the Town would find an appropriate way to acknowledge his contributions.

Mayor Laughlin said he had the opportunity to attend the finals of the Hilton Head Symphony Piano Competition. He encouraged all to attend next year stating it is a truly remarkable event which hosts competitors from all over the world. He added that as we strive to refine and implement concepts of economic development, that we would remember to take the assets we already have into consideration and nurture them as they do contribute to economic development and quality of life.

Mr. Williams reported he attended the Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee meeting on March 7. He stated that Mr. Jim Collett updated the Committee on the Telecommunications Task Force status. He said Mr. Steve Wilson with the Beaufort County Southern Corridor Beautification Board made a presentation and said they are working with Belfair, Berkley Hall and Colleton Plantations in getting assistance for median landscaping along with working with the County on budgeting funds to maintain the corridor out to SR170. Mr. Williams added that the Board has been charged with the landscaping for the Flyover and Hilton Head Island has a seat on the board which needs to be filled and encouraged moving forward with the nomination.

Mr. Williams referenced a letter from SCDOT to the County Administrator regarding the changes necessary at Windmill Harbor intersection to meet the SCDOT rules and regulations and it greatly increases the cost of the project. He said he spoke with Chris Bickley of LCOG and it appears that the SCDOT is in the process of changing the methodology of allocating funds and there is concern about LCOG's ability to fund projects when the changes are implemented.

b. Report of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee – George Williams, Chairman

Mr. Williams stated the Committee met on Monday, March 17. He reported Stu Rodman and Jerry Stewart of the Beaufort County Council spoke concerning the proposed Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) and the proposed Capital Improvements Tax referendum.

Mr. Williams added Lynn McGee of USCB was present to discuss parity funding for USCB. He presented a draft letter in support of USCB's efforts and asked for Council's approval that the letter be send under the Mayor's signature. It was the consensus of Council to send the letter.

c. Report of the Personnel Committee – Lee Edwards, Chairman

Mr. Edwards commented he has put the word out with several landscaping architectural firms concerning the open seat on the Beaufort County Southern Corridor Beautification Board and noted it is a very important position to fill.

Mr. McCann suggested the current or past chairman of a committee/commission should be involved in the selection process of candidates. Mayor Laughlin stated when he was chair of the Personnel Committee recommendations were solicited from chairs of committees/commissions. Mr. McCann suggested the chairs also review all candidates the Personnel Committee is considering.

d. Report of the Planning & Development Standards Committee – John McCann, Chairman

Mr. McCann stated that at the last meeting the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to Council the approval of rezoning land in Palmetto Dunes which is on today's agenda.

e. Report of the Public Facilities Committee – Kim Likins, Chairman

No report.

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

No report.

g. Report of the LMO Rewrite Committee – Kim Likins, Ex-Officio Member

Mrs. Likins stated the Committee is on target for completions of review of the draft chapters and they are meeting again on Friday, March 21 at 8:30 a.m.

9) Appearance by Citizens

None.

10) Unfinished Business

a. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2014-04

Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2014-04 to repeal Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina and to enact a new Chapter 7 of Title 9, Outdoor Burning; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. Mr. Grant said that in reference to the open burn ban or removal of such, this ordinance was considered a compromise to ensure everyone had the means to maintain their property. He encouraged moving forward with a committee outside of Town Council to work on solutions and compromises throughout the entire Island to solve the issue. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0 (Mr. Edwards was opposed.)

b. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2014-06

Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2014-06 authorizing the execution of an Easement Agreement granting and easement by the Town of Hilton Head Island to Synovus Bank for the construction, repair, maintenance, and use of a boardwalk located in the Singleton Beach Area on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, pursuant to the authority of S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 5-7-40 (Supp. 2011), and Sec. 2-7-20, *Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina*, (1983); and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

11) New Business

a. Consideration of a Recommendation – Sale of Property

Consideration of a Recommendation that Town Council authorize the Town Manager to work with Beaufort County to negotiate a contract for the sale of approximately 0.075 acres of jointly held property to neighboring property owner, Mr. Andre White, to rectify encroachment issues that were not identified during the County’s title research of the property prior to the County and Town closing on the sale.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. McCann seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

12) Executive Session

Mr. Riley stated he needed an Executive Session for contractual matters pertaining to land acquisition and personnel matters pertaining to an appointment to the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission.

At 4:45 p.m. Mr. Harkins moved to go into Executive Session for the reasons given by the Town Manager. Mrs. Likins seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Laughlin called the meeting back to order at 5:48 p.m. and referenced the Town Council meeting of March 4 noting that upon Council’s return from Executive Session he recused himself concerning Items 11.f. and 11.g. He stated for the record that he also recused himself from the discussions concerning the items and exited the room during the Executive Session on March 4.

He stated that as a result of today’s Executive Session, Council would address the item below:

b. Consideration of a Recommendation – Capital Project Sales Tax Commission

Consideration of a Recommendation of an appointment to the Beaufort County Capital Project Sales Tax Commission.

Mr. Edwards moved to appoint Scott Richardson to the Beaufort County Capital Project Sales Tax Commission. Mrs. Likins seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

13) Adjournment

Mr. Williams moved to adjourn. Mr. McCann seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Vicki Pfannenschmidt,
Executive Assistant/Town Clerk

Approved: 4/1/2014

Drew A. Laughlin, Mayor