



Town of Hilton Head Island

Town Council

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 4:00 pm

Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

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

Present from Town Staff: Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Joshua Gruber, *Assistant Town Manager*, Charles Cousins, *Assistant to the Town Manager*; Scott Liggett, *Director of Public Projects and Facilities*; Shawn Colin, *Director of Community Development*; Brian Hulbert, *Staff Attorney*; John Troyer, *Finance Director*; Angie Stone, *Human Resource Director*; Brad Tadlock, *Fire Chief*; Chris Blankenship, *Deputy Fire Chief*; Joheida Fister, *Deputy Fire Chief*; Cindaia Ervin, *Finance Assistant*; Melissa Cope, *Systems Analyst*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Executive Assistant/Town Clerk*

Present from Media: Kathrine Kokal

1. Call to Order

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

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 Matthew Palmer, Grace Community Church

Pastor Mathew Palmer of Grace Community Church delivered the invocation.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. Town Council Meeting, May 21, 2019

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the minutes from May 21, 2019. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Grant was not present for the vote.

b. Town Council Budget Workshop, May 21, 2019

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the minutes from May 21, 2019. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Grant was not present for the vote.

6. Report of the Town Manager

a. Gullah-Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation Task Force Quarterly Update – Lavon Stevens

Lavon Stevens, Chairman of the Task Force, appeared before the members of Council to give an update on the activities that have taken place throughout the last three months. He highlighted the conceptual strategies presented by Mr. Walker of the Walker Collaborative, who later presented the Gullah Geechee Culture Preservation Project Report to the Task Force. Mr. Stevens further reported that a special meeting was held in April to discuss the possible recommendations related to the strategies contained in the report. He noted that the recommendations would be forthcoming to Town Council soon.

6. Report of the Town Manager (cont.)

b. Town Manager's Six Month Status Report

Mr. Riley provided a brief update on Council's Strategic Goals from the past six months. He specifically noted that once the newly hired Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator, Ms. DuBose, has had a chance to review the Gullah Geechee Culture Preservation Project Report, it would come forward to Council for final review and input. He also reported that Town staff is in the process of reviewing the Workforce Housing study, and the plan is to have a meeting of the Public Planning Committee later this month to roll out staff's recommendations.

c. Items of Interest

Mr. Riley reviewed the Items of Interest, including Town news, upcoming Town meetings, and noteworthy events taking place throughout the Island over the coming weeks.

7. Reports from Members of Council

a. General Reports from Council

Mrs. Becker reported on her perspectives since being elected as Councilwoman of Ward 4. She said gave her gratitude to all who supported her during a difficult time. Thanked those for their work towards the workforce housing initiative as well as the turtle trackers. She reported that she has concerns about noise pollution both inside and outside the gated communities; mentioning the noise created from the airport, and the increase air traffic. Mrs. Becker discussed crosswalks, lighting, branding, and the homeless at Driessen Beach Park. She addressed LMO variances, building concerns, and decisions made based on the LMO. Mrs. Becker also noted the process for appearance by citizens.

Mr. Grant reported that at the September 18, 2018 Town Council meeting, Council heard rezoning request ZMA-001467-2018. During the meeting, some members of Council expressed their concerns about the rezoning. He said that these concerns were related to some of the uses that would be allowed as a result of the rezoning. Mr. Grant said that a motion to approve the rezoning failed by a vote of 5-2. Since denial can only be by resolution, and a resolution was not available during the September meeting, it was determined that a resolution to deny the rezoning would be brought forward to the October 2, 2018 meeting. Brining a resolution forward has been delayed, because the applicant has been working with Town staff to address the original concerns posed by the members of Council. Mr. Grant made a request that this rezoning request, ZMA-001467-2018 be heard by the Public Planning Committee at their next meeting. Mayor McCann asked that it be placed on the next meeting agenda for the Committee to then be heard by Town Council.

Mr. Grant reported that during the Gullah-Geechee Task Force meeting, it was brought to his attention that a Town employee used terminology that offended committee members and citizens. He said he was bringing it to the attention of Council and Town Manager, because overall, Town staff does a good job and provides a high level of professionalism on a daily basis. He said when employees do not maintain that level of professionalism, it detracts from the good work of all. Mr. Grant asked Mr. Riley to look into the matter that took place during the meeting and follow-up with the staff to ensure that there is a positive attitude and continue to have a high level of professionalism when interacting with the public.

b. Report of the Intergovernmental Committee – Bill Harkins

Mr. Harkins stated that he did not have a report.

c. Report of the Community Services & Public Safety Committee – Marc Grant

Mr. Grant reported that on Monday, May 27, 2019, the Committee met where they reviewed and interviewed applicants for open Boards and Commissions positions. He said that they have some recommendations for the members of Council to consider at the upcoming Town Council meeting.

7. Reports from Members of Council (cont.)

d. Report of the Public Planning Committee – David Ames

Mr. Ames stated that the Committee met on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 where they discussed three items. The Palmetto Breeze Trolley updates on ridership figures, current marketing efforts, and assessment of performance and budget request for 2020. He said they discussed the proposed amendments to the Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance, where the discussion was robust and thoughtful. The recommendations that were made will now go back to the stakeholders and return to the Committee at a later date. Mr. Ames said the Committee also had a discussion about small cell wireless facilities regulations.

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

Mr. Lennox reported that the next meeting of the Finance and Administrative Committee would be Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

8. Appearance by Citizens

Alex Brown: Addressed the members of Town Council concerning a matter related the previous day's Gullah-Geechee Task Force meeting.

Keith Sledge: Addressed the members of Town Council concerning matters related to the building and parking within the Bradley Circle community.

Mare Baracco: Addressed the members of Town Council concerning matters related to the approved and amended Animal Control ordinance.

Skip Hoagland: Addressed the members of Town Council on matters related to the Town and Chamber.

9. Consent Agenda – NONE

10. Proclamations/Commendations - NONE

11. Unfinished Business

a. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2019-14 – Shipyard Re-Zoning

Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2019-14 to amend Title 16, “the Land Management Ordinance,” of the Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, by emending Section 16-1-107, the Official Zoning Map and the Shipyard Plantation Master Plan with respect to certain 2.78 and 2.77 Acre Parcels located at 10 Shipyard Drive, identified as Parcels 343 and 394 and Beaufort County Tax Map 15, within the Shipyard Plantation Master Plan under the PD-1 (Planned Development Mixed Use) District, to change the existing uses for both Parcels to Community Services, Parks and Open Space with Density of 4,000 GFA for Parcel 343 and 10,000 GFA for Parcel 394, and to reduce the maximum building height allowed from 75 feet to 45 feet; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Grant seconded. With no discussion concerning this matter, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

b. Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2019-15 – Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2019-15 to raise revenue and adopt a budget for the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 3030; to establish a Property Tax Levy; to establish Funds; to establish a policy for Acquisition of Rights of Way and Easements; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Grant seconded. With no discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

12. New Business

a. Consideration of a Resolution – HUD/CDBG Entitlement Program 2019 Annual Action Plan Request Submittal to HUD

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina to Approve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (Program Year 2019) Annual Action Plan.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Grant seconded. Marcy Benson, Senior Grants Administrator, addressed Town Council giving a brief overview of this year's request. She explained that the Plan describes the specific planned uses for the funds, is submitted to HUD annually for review and approval, and this year it is due by June 10, 2019. Ms. Benson further explained that while the deadline date cannot be extended, once the funds have been approved, there is a process that can be followed to amend the request for planned uses of funds. Ms. Benson noted that there are funds still available from the 2018 grant that could go through this amendment process. With that, Mayor McCann opened the discussion up to the public at large. Representatives and members of the Boys and Girls Club Hilton Head Island gave an informal presentation to the members of Council, requesting that they consider utilizing the grant in support of their program. With additional members of the public addressing Council, primarily speaking about the process, Mayor McCann brought the discussion back to the dais.

The discussion continued between the members of Council, focusing on the process which leads to the approval of the Resolution by Town Council. Mr. Grant requesting that prior to it reaching this point, that it first be vetted before committee. Other members of Council agreeing with Mr. Grant. Mayor McCann asked Mr. Riley if he could come up with a revised process and report back to Council within the next sixty to ninety days. Mr. Riley assured Council that he would meet with key members of Town staff and have a new process put into place. Concluding the discussion at the dais, Mayor McCann called for the vote, which was approved 4-3, Mr. Ames, Mrs. Becker, and Mr. Grant opposing.

b. Consideration of a Resolution – Encouraging the Passing of the “Hate Crime Bill”

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, encouraging the South Carolina General Assembly to adopt H.3063, “Hate Crime Bill.”

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Grant seconded. With discussion from the public at large as well as the members of Town Council, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 7-0.

13. Executive Session

Mr. Riley stated that an Executive Session was needed to review the following matters; (a) Land Acquisition, discussion of negotiations incident to the proposed contractual arrangements, sale or purchase of property in (i) the Beach City Road area, (ii) the Spanish Wells Road area and (iii) the Marshland Road area.

At 6:05 p.m. Mr. Harkins moved to go into Executive Session for the items mention by the Town Manager. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

14. Possible actions by Town Council concerning matters discussed in Executive Session

15. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR FY2020

At 5:50 p.m., Mayor McCann opened the Public Hearing on the Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2020. He asked if there was anyone from the public at large who wished to address Town Council on this matter. Pat Zuk from the First Tee, addressed Town Council, stating that he had recently submitted a budget request and wanted to ensure that the Town was aware of it. Skip Hoagland addressed Town Council echoing his earlier comments made during Appearance by Citizens. Patsy Brison addressed Town Council stating that she felt there were flaws in the Town's budgeting process. With no further comments from the public, the Public Hearing closed at 6:02 p.m.

16. Adjournment

At 6:30, Mr. Harkins moved to adjourn. Mrs. Becker seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0

Approved: June 18, 2019

Krista Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

John J. McCann, Mayor