

April 19, 2016

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m., all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied.

Present were: Patrick M. O'Neil, Mayor
Chauncey Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem
Sarah Church, Councilmember
Mark Howard, Councilmember
Rita Langley, Councilmember
Susan Middaugh, Councilmember
Bachman Smith, IV, Councilmember

Mayor O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State Law. There were approximately fifteen members in the audience, including two members of the media. Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Councilmember Clark.

I. FORMAT – Mayor O'Neil opened the floor for comments.

Rick Graham, 2102 Iron Ave., stated his concern with the location of the Town's Farmer's Market being on un-zoned property. Zoning Administrator Joe Henderson answered the Farmer's Market property is owned by the Town, which that is allowed to continue to approve special events on that property. There is assorted history behind the un-zoned properties on the island, which comes from the transfer from the Federal Government when the Town was established. Most of the un-zoned properties are Federal or Town facilities. Zoning Administrator Henderson stated it would be very easy for the Town to create an institutional type zoning district, which would require a re-write of the Comprehensive Plan to allow utility facilities, Town facilities and Federal uses, which would help clear up this issue in the future.

Debra Zacharias, 2108 Iron Ave., stated her dog Riley, a purebred Rhodesian Ridgeback who is a registered emotional support therapy service dog, was attacked by a rescued pit bull dog. The event occurred on Thursday, April 14, 2016 during the Farmer's Market. Riley suffered an injury to her ear which required immediate medical attention. Councilmember Church met Ms. Zacharias at her home and drove her to the vet. The day after the event, Riley underwent another surgery and required more medicine. Ms. Zacharias is seeking restitution from Sullivan's Island of past accrued medical bills and

filled prescriptions as well as those in the future related to this attack. In addition, she would like the health records of the rescue dog and confirmation of it being euthanized. Mayor O'Neil expressed sympathy along with Council. Mayor O'Neil then asked if Ms. Zacharias would send the Town a letter to formally request restitution.

Councilmember Church commented on how awful the incident was and mentioned that there will no longer be any animal adoptions at the Farmer's Market. She also has asked Animal Control to walk through during the market to check for other dogs that might be off-leash or showing any kind of aggressive behavior and also to double check on registration to ensure safety.

Nolan Schillerstrom, Audubon South Carolina, presented to Council an idea to post signage for Plover birds that nest on Sullivan's Island in the summer. This was discussed again during the Land Use and Natural Resources Committee.

Park Foundation- Kaye Smith and Manda Poletti with the Park Foundation presented a proposal for new equipment at Poe Park behind the tennis courts. They mentioned that the current equipment is over 10 years old and the wood is rotting, which has become unsafe. The new equipment is appropriate for children 2-12 years old and will include a handicapped ramp, new bike rack, new picnic table and new wood fiber benches in the park and also on the tennis courts. Councilmember Church stated she was thrilled to have the Park Foundation present at the meeting and wants to attend their next meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Church, seconded by Councilmember Langley to approve the improvements presented for Poe Park, subject to staff approval also, carried unanimously.

II. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Council Minutes –

Motion was made by Councilmember Clark, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2016, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Langley, to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of March 15, 2016, carried by a vote of 6, with Mayor O'Neil abstaining because he was not at that meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Howard, to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2016, carried unanimously.

2. **Motion was made by Councilmember Clark, seconded by Councilmember Langley, to have First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance No. 2016-01, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 17-3 of the Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island to Change the Term Length of Planning Commission Members, carried unanimously.**

III. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Administrator’s Report

General and New Correspondence – No new correspondence.

Town Hall and Police Station Building- Currently all windows are installed and felt paper is on the roof, with the majority of the doors in place. Staff is reviewing a change order regarding spray foam insulation. Two furniture vendors have provided sample chairs for Council and Staff to test. The Town processed pay application nine from Hill Construction in the amount of \$346,039.40. The contract balance amount to finish including retainage is \$2,322,361.61.

Parking Plan – Stantec has commenced work on the plan and South Carolina Department of Transportation requirements necessary to submit for the 2016 summer parking plan. Approximately 813 new signs are required Island wide. Administrator Benke mentioned the goal is to eliminate perpendicular parking on the island, with the exception of the Commercial District.

Town Hall Brick Program – To date over 175 bricks have been ordered.

Mediation – Attorneys Hair, Van Raalte and the Administrator will meet with South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control on April 26, 2016 to review the Transition Zone component of the Accreted Land Management Plan.

Council Special Meeting – A Special Meeting of Town Council will be held on May 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. before the Workshop for First Reading of the FY2017 Annual Budget and also to select an engineer for the Station 18 Street/Atlantic Avenue Drainage Study.

Mount Pleasant Magazine- Sullivan’s Island was voted the best location East of the Cooper to fly a kite.

Coastal Living Magazine- In the 2016 “Happiest Seaside Towns” contest by Coastal Living Magazine, Sullivan’s Island was ranked sixth out of ten selected municipalities.

Stormwater Infrastructure Assessment at Station 18 & Management at the Mound – Four engineering firms have submitted Requests for Proposals. The submittals are under review by staff. Councilmember Smith is anticipating a Public Facilities Committee meeting to review the proposals.

Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Project- Charleston County Public Works advised that a change order to the Station 24 Street project was processed which allows for work to immediately commence on the Stormwater Infrastructure repair at Stations 19 and 22.

2. Mayor’s Report- No items to report.

3. Attorney’s Report – No items to report.

4. Boards and Commissions Reports – Zoning Administrator Joe Henderson reported that the Planning Commission continued their consideration of the On-Site Stormwater Management Text Amendments. Chris Wannamaker, an engineer from Charleston County, attended the meeting and suggested adding additional language; the Planning Commission will go into further discussion at their next meeting.

The Board of Zoning Appeals reviewed and approved a special exception to allow a short term parking lot at 2102 Middle St. That is currently under review by the Design Review Board.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Mayor O’Neil. Monthly report rendered.

Comptroller Blanton stated that the revenues for business licenses and building permits are coming in well above the budgeted amount. The expenses are as projected. First Reading for the FY2017 Town budget will be held during the Special Meeting on May 2, 2016.

Public Safety Committee – Councilmember Clark. Monthly reports rendered.

Managed Parking – This was discussed during the Administrator’s report. Councilmember Clark stated that as soon as the final information from Stantec becomes available, a Public Safety Committee Meeting will be held to discuss it.

Recreation Committee – Councilmember Church.

Island Club – Language for the RFP is now ready. A Recreation Committee Meeting will be held in the near future.

Battery Gadsden Cultural Center – Councilmember Church asked Councilmember Middaugh to report. Battery Gadsden Cultural Center is very pleased to announce that Thursday, April 21,

2016 at 6:00 p.m. Charlotte Tiencken, a professor at the College of Charleston, will be sharing her knowledge of Arts Management and speaking about other Non-Profit Organizations.

Farmer's Market – Two of 13 total events have taken place thus far, and have been heavily attended. Councilmember Church stated she is working on securing a food truck and other prepared food options. The Farmer's Market is every Thursday until the end of June from 2:30-7 p.m.

Independence Day Celebration- The golf cart parade will start at the Sullivan's Island Elementary School and end at the Fish Fry Shack where there will be a celebration of some sort. Council along with Town Administrator Benke are reviewing options for this year's fireworks show. Last year's vendor will most likely not be available for the show on the 4th of July, unless Council increased the budget. Another option would be to have the show on the 2nd of July instead. Councilmember Church encouraged residents to give input on this event.

Public Facilities Committee – Councilmember Smith. Monthly report rendered.

Drainage/Erosion on Mound-

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Church to approve Thomas and Hutton to conduct the water run-off study for the Mound at Stith Park according to their response to the RFP, carried unanimously.

Station 18 Stormwater- Council is reviewing the proposals and will made a decision at the Special Meeting on May 2, 2016.

Land Use and Natural Resources Committee – Councilmember Langley. Monthly report rendered.

Plover Nesting on the Beach- Nolan Schillerstrom contacted Councilmember Langley regarding possible Plover birds nesting on the beach area. Staff from Audubon have not seen any territorial behavior yet, but would like to put signage on the beach in the event that it does happen. In accordance to other beaches in the area, he would like to have a wooden post with a bright orange DNR sign attached that states "Please Do Not Enter Past the High Tide Line". Nolan commented he was open to different options and Council agreed to discuss this further at the Workshop.

Administration Committee – Councilmember Howard. Monthly report rendered.

Water and Sewer Committee – Councilmember Middaugh. Monthly reports rendered.

Water and Sewer Committee Minutes- **Motion was made by Councilmember Howard, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve the Water and Sewer Minutes from March 24, 2016, carried unanimously among Water and Sewer Committee members.**

Committee Meeting – The next Water & Sewer Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. On the Agenda is one Appeal for a Sewer Bill, and also an Executive Session to discuss the Charleston Water Systems Contract issues.

Motion was made by Councilmember Church, seconded by Councilmember Howard to go into Executive Session for personnel matters concerning Merit Adjustment FY2017 and the Review of Board of Zoning Appeals Applications at 7:17 p.m., carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Howard to come out of Executive Session at 8:05 p.m., carried unanimously.

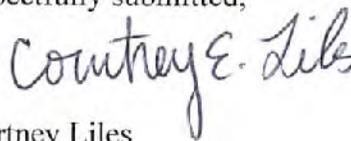
Mayor O'Neil stated that no votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilmember Howard, seconded by Councilmember Church to approve CPI/Merit Increases FY2017 at 2% as presented by the Town Administrator, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Howard, seconded by Councilmember Church to appoint Sallie Pritchard to the vacant Board of Zoning Appeals seat expiring in September 2018 and Emily Brasher to the vacant Board of Zoning Appeals seat expiring in 2016, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Clark, seconded by Councilmember Church, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Courtney Liles