

The Town of James Island held a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1238-B Camp Road, James Island, SC on Thursday, August 17, 2017. The following members of Council were present: Mayor Pro-Tem Leonard Blank, Garrett Milliken, Darren “Troy” Mullinax, Joshua P. Stokes, and Mayor Bill Woolsey, who presided. Also, Bonum S. Wilson, Town Attorney, Merrell Roe, Finance Officer, Mark Johnson, Public Works Director, Sergeant Shawn James, Island Sheriff’s Patrol, and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk.

Opening Exercises: Mayor Woolsey called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. FOIA: This meeting was published and posted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island.

Public Comment:

Nancy Winton, 1193 Valley Forge Drive: Ms. Winton announced a Plant Edibles event at the Lowe’s on James Island, Sunday, September 17 from 2-6 p.m. Those attending will learn how to create sustainable food gardens, plant shrubs, bushes and trees. Visit the website for more information at www.plantedibles.net.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes: Special Meeting, July 13, 2017
- b. Minutes: July 13, Regular Town Council Meeting

Councilman Milliken moved to approve the consent agenda; Councilman Mullinax seconded. Passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

- a. Finance Report: Finance Officer, Merrell Roe presented the Finance Report adding that the process for the 2016-2017 Annual Audit has begun. The Town received a franchise fee from SCE&G; this fee is paid to the Town once a year.
- b. Administrators’ Report: Mayor Woolsey announced that Town Administrator, Ashley Kellahan was on vacation and reviewed highlights from the Administrator’s report.
- c. Public Works Report: Public Works Director, Mark Johnson presented the Public Works Report. In addition, he announced the next CERT Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. Topic of discussion will be Disaster and First-Aid Training.
- d. Island Sheriffs’ Patrol: Sergeant James presented the crime statistics and Island Sheriffs’ Patrol report. He noted a decrease in crime during the month of July. Sergeant James gave an update on the radar speed sign and its effectiveness by being placed at various locations in the Town.

Requests for Approval:

Award of RFP #2-2017 On-Call Stormwater Infrastructure Work: Mayor Woolsey reported that the Town requested and received six (6) proposals for On-Call Stormwater services. The Evaluation Committee recommends an award to the three (3) highest scoring companies: Utility Asset Management, Southeast Pipe, and Eadies Construction. All three companies will be used on a rotating basis to test their effectiveness. Mayor Woolsey added that the Town mainly uses Charleston County; however, we would like to have private companies work for us when the County is unavailable. Motion in favor by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Milliken. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Award of RFP #3-2017 On-Call Landscaping Services: Mayor Woolsey reported that one proposal was received from Heart Pine Landscapes. The Town uses this company on a regular basis. Mayor Woolsey asked for approval. He said we intend to continue to seek other providers, especially those that provide tree service because this provider does not. Motion in favor by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Milliken. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Grimsley Drive Drainage Work: Mayor Woolsey reported this is a drainpipe at the end of Grimsley Drive. He said during the massive floods, the drain was clogged and all of Grimsley Drive was under water. Mayor Woolsey said this has not been a problem lately but the drain needs repair and Charleston County Stormwater has urged the Town to fix it. The recommendation is to award the contract to Eadies Construction. Motion in favor by Councilman Milliken, seconded by Councilman Stokes. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

JLA Task Order #4: Dills Bluff Boardwalk Permitting/Bid Documents: Mayor Woolsey reported this is Phase II of the Dills Bluff project; it is the area of the marsh going between the two sidewalks. The engineering firm, JLA, has been providing the permitting and construction documents. Motion in favor by Councilman Blank, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

10-Year Lease for Public Parking Lot on Folly Road: Mayor Woolsey reported this is a proposal for the Town to lease what is currently a dirt parking lot on Santee Street. The parking lot is located behind the Sweetwater Café and Gillie's Restaurant. He said this property had been leased by some of the area businesses but the Town would like to have it as a public parking lot to be used for all businesses - - also, as part of the project for sidewalks (Folly Road from Camp to Ellis Creek) to improve the area. Motion in favor by Councilman Blank, seconded by Councilman Stokes. Councilman Blank asked if the parking lot could be used by restaurant employees so the front parking is available to patrons. Mayor Woolsey said yes, the parking lot is open for anyone to use. He said the Town would come back to Council with proposals for improvements to the lot.

Councilman Milliken asked if the cost for each lot is \$2,000; Mayor Woolsey said it is the cost for both lots. Councilman Milliken commented that \$250,000 over ten years is a lot of money and he asked about the possibility of leasing the lot with option to purchase. Mayor Woolsey said we posed that to the owner and he was not interested in doing that. Mayor Woolsey said \$2,000 a month seems high, however; that is what the owner was getting for it. Councilman Milliken asked if we knew the purchase price. Mayor Woolsey said the price was not quoted, but he would get back to Council. Councilman Milliken said locking in a 10-year deal for that amount of money if we have option to purchase, that he would rather make that a consideration than paying rent. Mayor Woolsey commented that coming up with a quarter of a million dollars all at once would be challenging and he would prefer to pay a little more if we ended up with ownership in the end, but the lease was our first preference.

Councilman Stokes said cars are already parked there and asked if they belong to restaurant employees. Mayor Woolsey said we are allowing people to park there. We intend to have signage and rules if this request is approved. The Town has leased the lot for one month to keep it from being leased to anyone else. Councilman Milliken asked about liability for the cars parked on the lot and Attorney Wilson said the liability and insurance was negotiated in the lease. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Councilman Blank announced that Brook Lyon was elected Chair and Jason Gregorie Vice-Chair at the August 15 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting for one-year terms. There was brief discussion regarding the moratorium. Councilman Milliken asked who would represent the Town and attend meetings during Mrs. Crane's absence. Mayor Woolsey said Town Administrator, Ashley Kellahan.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilman Milliken announced the Poetry Workshop at Town Hall on Saturday, September 9, 2-4 p.m. featuring Dr. Gary Jackson. Dr. Jackson will also perform poetry reading on Sunday, September 10, 2-4 p.m. at McLeod Plantation. Dr. Jackson is an author who teaches at the College of Charleston. Councilman Milliken congratulated Arts Chair, Katherine Williams for receiving the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Award for future poetry readings and workshops. Helping Hands Chair, Mary Beth Berry, was successful in helping six clients last month; 20 young people

and 5 adults participated. Next Adopt-A-Highway trash pickup will be held on Saturday, September 9, 9-11 p.m., pizza lunch serve afterwards. Plans are underway for Arbor Day on Friday, December 1.

Children's Commission: Councilman Stokes announced that plans are underway for the Annual Lights On event. This event is held in conjunction with the Kaleidoscope after school program and planned for the last Saturday in October or the first Saturday in November. The next Children's Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14 at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Mullinax thanked everyone that participated in the National Night Out event on August 1 especially Sergeant James, Allen Laughlin, Zennie Quinn, and Mark Johnson. The next Neighborhood Council meeting will be held on Thursday, August 24 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

History Commission: Mayor Woolsey reported that the History Commission is discussing plans to participate in Victory Day, (the day the British soldiers evacuated Charleston) in December 2018. Date and location to be announced. The installation of the Battle of Dills Bluff marker may be commemorated in conjunction with this event.

Resolutions:

- a. Resolution #2017-10: Resolution to Restore America's Parks: Motion in favor made by Councilman Blank, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Councilman Milliken asked if the Resolution had to do with the cuts to the National Park Service. Mayor Woolsey said they were concerned about the cuts and asked the Town to pass a Resolution. Councilman Milliken asked if the Resolution pass, would copies be forwarded to our Congressional Representatives and Mayor Woolsey confirmed that it would. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Resolution #2017-11: ISP Officer of Second Quarter: Mayor Woolsey called forward Deputy Samuel Venning and read the Resolution that qualified him as the ISP Second Quarter winner. Motion in favor by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances up for First Reading:

- a. Ordinance #2017-10: Amend Ordinance #2012-07 – An Ordinance to Introduce Procedures, General Government and Administration: Motion in favor by Councilman Blank, seconded by Councilman Stokes. Mayor Woolsey proposed an amendment to add the sentence under (I) New Business: **Items brought forward by the Mayor or member of Council at the meeting that does not require final action may be considered upon majority vote.** This will allow the Town Administrator to add items to the agenda 24 hours before a meeting (Wednesday) and publicize it to the media, on the website, etc. These would be regular items to be considered under New Business and Council will have to vote by majority to consider it. If approved, the item would be considered as a regular item (such as it was placed on the agenda and included in the meeting packet the previous Friday). During the meeting, an agenda item that was not noticed, i.e., something that came up during public comments could be placed on the agenda by a majority vote if it does not require final action, i.e., an ordinance for first reading, or a resolution.

Items that were brought forward by the Mayor or member of Council at the meeting requiring final action (i.e., an emergency) by two-thirds can be considered and voted on for final action at the meeting. Mayor Woolsey said these rules are consistent with the new changes in State Law.

Mayor Woolsey moved to amend the main motion to add; **Items brought forward by the Mayor or member of Council at the meeting that does not require final action may be considered upon majority vote**, seconded by Councilman Stokes. After discussion, the amendment passed unanimously to include the sentence as indicated above. Mayor Woolsey called for further discussion on the **Main Motion**; no discussion. Passed unanimously as amended.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Frances Simmons
Town Clerk