

TOWN OF JAMES ISLAND
ACCOMMODATIONS TAX COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024 MEETING

A meeting of the Town of James Island Accommodation Tax Committee was held on June 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Town of James Island Town Hall. The following members of the Committee were present: Councilman Lewis Dodson, Nick Skover, Joan Dromey, Paul Cantrell, Chase Barton, Lachlan McIntosh, and John Peters. Committee member(s) absent Charlie McManus. Town Officials and staff also present were Mayor Brook Lyon, Town Administrator Michael Hemmer, and Finance Officer Becky Heath.

Councilman Dodson discussed the purpose of the committee, to appropriately distribute funding allocated by the State from the collection of SC Accommodation Tax, and the required structure of the committee.

Mr. Hemmer talked about the funding must be used to promote tourism with the Town of James Island, the State mandate, and presented a draft of a proposed Accommodations Tax Grant Application packet. He also spoke about the restrictions within the State legislation and how the funds are collected and distributed.

Committee members discussed and asked questions about the allocation of funds.

Mr. Dodson informed the Committee of the process of receiving application, reviewing and hearing, in a public forum, all requests, and Councils final approval of fund distribution.

Ms. Heath discussed available funds and reporting requirements. Also, let the committee know that we are still waiting to hear from the State regarding deadlines to use the funds.

There was discussion amongst the members regarding who can apply and how application consideration will work. Guidelines will be set in a future meeting, date to be determined.

Mr. Dodson discussed the prospective application process, as follows: qualifying agencies apply by set application deadline, committee reviews all applications for eligibility, applicants present to committee, committee recommendations are submitted to Council for final approval.

The committee discussed requiring the applicants to contribute a percentage of funds for requested project. The percentage agreed upon was twenty-five percent (25%). Also discussed was the application deadline, to be determined once State confirms funding usage deadline, and cycle recommendations.

Also, discussed by the committee was the need for an ordinance to detail committee composition and duties.

The committee elected John Peters as the Committee Chair. No other positions need to be specified at this time.

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Dodson requested the committee members review the state mandate and application packet and provide feedback.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Heath

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