

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Town Hall, 1122 Dills Bluff Rd., James Island, SC. This meeting was also live streamed on the Town's website, www.jamesislandsc.us/livestream-townmeetings and was held in accordance with the SC Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island.

The following members of Council were present: Boles, Dodson, Mignano, Mullinax and Mayor Lyon, who presided. Also, Mike Hemmer, newly appointed Town of James Island, Town Administrator, Lt. Shawn James, and Robin Sanders, Revenue Collections (for Frances Simmons, Town Clerk)

Opening Exercises: Mayor Lyon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilman Mullinax led the Council in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation: Jeff Bullpit, Flock Cameras:

Mayor Lyon introduced Jeff Bullpit, Flock Cameras in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Flock gave an overview of Flock Cameras and how they could be effectively used in the Town. Flock Cameras can help prevent crimes with the help of law enforcement. This system has a license plate reader that can be connected to android phones. Various law enforcement agencies in Atlanta use this system and has worked well in helping to eliminate crime.

Mr. Bullpit explained how the Flock Cameras works. The system does not take facial images but objects around it and snapshots of vehicles.

Lt. James mentioned that Flock Camera footage is owned by Flock and other areas of the system includes:

- a) License Plate Recognition
- b) Gathers facts about vehicles, not people
- c) Used to solve crimes
- d) Adheres to all State laws

The Flock Camera System Privacy Protection will not be used for traffic enforcement; residents will have the ability read this information.

Mr. Bullpit told of two occasions where the Flock System worked very well. One was when a child was abducted and another was a missing senior citizen case where both criminals were caught.

Councilman Boles commented after looking at their website would work on Folly and Harborview Roads on James Island. Lt. James suggested two locations for these cameras in the Town.

Councilwoman Mignano asked about costs Mr. Bullpit said \$3000, but also that these cameras do not get vandalized very often. Lt. James mentioned that the Flock Camera System is shared with many law enforcement agencies.

Lt. James mentioned that the use of these cameras on vehicles would not catch every image of the cars but will show the tags. This system is very user friendly.

Mayor Lyon thanked Mr. Bullpit for his presentation, and Mayor Lyon asked him to forward a copy of the System to Council. Mayor Lyon also thanked Alex from VC3, for his assistance of the technical preparation for this meeting.

Public Comment: Mayor Lyon opened the floor to public comments. She asked those speaking to state their name and address for the record; speak into the mics, address Council and limit comments to three (3) minutes. The following person spoke:

John Peters, 1301 Hampshire Rd., spoke in opposition to sale of the Dills Bluff PSD property.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes: Special Town Council Meeting, March 6, 2024: Motion to approve by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano and passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

Finance Report: Accepted as in information.

Island Sheriff’s Patrol Report: Lt. James reported on offenses that occurred in the Town over the last month that included thefts, traffic violations, and Parking issues.

Councilman Dodson, mentioned that a trailer that was reported stolen has been recovered.

Lt. James briefly spoke about the James Island High School parking and issuing tickets. Mayor Lyon thanked Lt. James and the great job that he and his fellow officers are doing.

Public Works (PW) Report: Mayor Lyon reported about the Quail Run and the Oceanview drainage projects. She indicated they are finally wrapping up. She thanked Councilwoman Mignano for her help and for meeting with citizens addressing all the problems from the drainage projects. She also thanked Councilman Dodson for spending a day with her looking at drainage problems. Mayor Lyon reported that the contractor for Quail Run, IPW, indicated that the Hillman lot should be cleaned by this week. During the last ten days Mayor Lyon and Melissa Flick has been looking at drainage issues in the Town. They have contacted Charleston County and SCDOT for help to address the flooding and drainage problems in the Town. There is also an issue with a clogged drain creating flooding issues with Lake Francis on the south side of Darwin and Harborview Road.

Councilwoman Mignano spoke about debris and leaves being placed in storm drains and asked citizens not to do it because it is creating clogs in the drains.

Requests for Consideration by Staff: None.

Request for Consideration by Council:

JI Arts & Cultural Center: Visual Structural Assessment GEL and ADC:

Mayor Lyon addressed the two bids for the inspection of the Cultural Center. There was some discussion about scope and costs. ADC Engineering’s bid was \$4,000 and GEL Engineering was \$8,650. Scope was comparable. Councilwoman Mignano mentioned that the roof was already addressed by Garland. Motion to approve by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Passed unanimously.

Roof Repair for James Island Arts & Cultural Center:

Mayor Lyon addressed the two roofing bids for roof repair provided by Seth Klein. Team Craft Roofing bid was \$24,792. Eskola’s bid was \$18,766.

Councilman Dodson made a motion to table so we were not spending money on a building we do not own. Councilwoman Mignano seconded. Mayor Lyon said she agreed but also disagreed. She agreed that we should not spend money on a building we do not own, but disagreed because we need to secure the roof because of the leaking and all the money we have put on the inside. Councilman Boles said we agreed to do a more extensive temporary repair at the last meeting and now they have provided one for us. Councilman Dodson and Councilwoman Mignano withdrew the motion and second.

Councilman Boles made a motion to approve the bid for Eskola Roofing which was seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Landscape Pavers Additional Drainage Work – Oceanview Rd. Project

Mayor Lyon shared with Council all the complaints about drainage and clogged ditches from residents who live on Oceanview near the drainage project. They don't understand why they can't get their ditches cleaned too when the equipment is there and the contractor is working. Landscape Pavers has given a bid to go ahead and clean these ditches and driveway pipes which is outside the original drainage project contract.

Motion to approve by Councilman Boles and seconded by Councilman Dodson

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Approval of James Island Learning Co-op for Meetings at Pinckney Park:

Mayor Lyon addressed the request by Laura Mohan, lead teacher of James Island Learning Co-op October through May on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Councilman Dodson made the motion to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously.	

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Mayor Lyon reported that the BZA case involving the Hideway Pavilion was denied. There was no Planning Commission meeting.

Environment and Beautification Committee: No Report.

Repair Care: Councilwoman Mignano is meeting with students and faculty at the high school and is starting a program to help citizens needing repairs and to teach work and life skills to students.

Children’s Committee: No Report:

Public Safety Committee/Neighborhood Council: Councilman Mullinax reported they went to the library last month.

History Committee: No Report

Rethink Folly Road: Mayor Lyon indicates there is a meeting on March 27th.

Drainage Committee: Councilman Boles is working on putting the committee together.

Business Development Committee: Councilman Dodson is working on putting the committee together.

Tree Advisory Committee: Mayor Lyon moved for the appointment of Natalie Rumph to the Trees Advisory Committee, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously.	

James Island Intergovernmental Council: No Report.

Accommodations Tax Committee: Councilman Dodson indicates that he almost has all the committee members. This committee will only meet once a year.

Proclamations and Resolutions: None.

Ordinances for First Reading: None.

Ordinances for Second/Final Reading:

Ordinance #2024-02 To Amend Ordinance #2019-13 Establishing Purchasing Procedures for the Town of James Island: To Increase Purchasing Limits:

Councilman Boles made the motion to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Passed unanimously.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Executive Session: Mayor Lyon announced that Town Council would enter into an Executive Session in accordance with 30-4-70(a) Code of Laws of South Carolina Council and Mayor Lyon departed at 8:09 p.m. Motion made by Councilwoman Mignano to enter seconded by Councilman Dodson. Council entered the Executive Session at 8:09 p.m.

Return to Regular Session: Mayor Lyon asked for a motion to return to open session. Councilman Mullinax moved to return at 9:12 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman Mignano and passed unanimously. Mayor Lyon announced that no votes were taken during the executive session but Council could act on matters that were discussed in the open session. She announced for the record that discussion involved the appointment to a public body, proposed contractual matters and the proposed purchase of property.

Contractual Matter:

Councilman Dodson moved for the hire of Laura Cabiness to provide engineering services for the Town, seconded by Councilman Mullinax.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Passed unanimously.

Appointment of Town Attorney:

Councilwoman Mignano moved to authorize Mayor Lyon to hire the new Town Attorney, seconded by Councilman Boles.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Passed unanimously

Announcements/Closing Comments:

Councilman Dodson indicated being glad that spring is here and hopes that we can work on the drainage issues as much as possible.

Councilwoman Mignano thanked everyone for their participation and for keeping us informed about what is going on and we do our best in what we can.

Councilman Boles thanked the Mayor, staff, Island Sheriff's Patrol and the public for the work that they do.

Councilman Mullinax reiterated Councilman Boles' comments.

Mayor Lyon thanked everyone for attending tonight and to Robin Sanders for filling in for Frances.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Robin Sanders
Revenue Collections Specialist