

January 20, 2015

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

Present were: Pat O'Neil, Mayor
Jerry Kaynard, Mayor Pro-Tem
Chauncey Clark, Councilman
Hartley Cooper, Councilwoman
Susan Middaugh, Councilwoman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

Mayor Pro-Tem Kaynard administered the Mayoral Oath of Office to Councilman O'Neil.

Mayor O'Neil thanked the audience for its warm reception. He expressed his thanks to Councilman Kaynard as the presiding officer and Mayor Pro-Tem, for swearing him in as Mayor; as well as for his hard work and dedication during the last several months in fulfilling the responsibilities of Mayor. Mayor O'Neil recognized Linda Perkis, wife of the late Mayor Perkis, and thanked her for attending this evening. He stated her presence promoted continuity, and he hoped that Council could continue the good work that Mayor Perkis accomplished.

Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by reading the names of Islanders who passed away in 2014: Edith Ridgill Beckham, Tommie Sue Hardin "Olie" Moorer, Roger Allen Igoe, James E. Webb, III; Donald B. Barkowitz, Tony Carl Page, June Anne Sawyer Garrison, Jacquelyn Bull Schirmer, Charles Aimar, Anne Elizabeth Williams, David C. Swain, Martha Jones Smith, Elizabeth Palmer Gregorie, Robert "Sonny" Schirmer, Albert (Mickey) Stunkard, MD; Margaret Roland Richardson, Kathleen Greves Harris, Michael A. Perkis, June W. Anderegg, Wilfred E. Lipman, Richard Condon Robinson; Sandy H. Moore, Owen Stanley Shoemaker, III; Agatha Mueller Thomas, Betty McLaine Corbett, and Elizabeth "Betty" Murphy Marshall. After a moment of silence, Councilwoman Watson gave the invocation, including prayers for the recent deaths in 2015 of Logan Dodds and Luke Cavanaugh.

Mayor O'Neil stated that a brief public hearing for the Charleston County Urban Entitlement Program was scheduled for tonight; however, the representative had another obligation and was not able to attend. Deputy Administrator/Comptroller Jason Blanton attended tonight for Town Administrator Benke, who was unable to be present.

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

Tim Reese, 305 Station 20. Mr. Reese expressed his condolences and prayers for the Dodds' and Cavanaugh families over the recent deaths in their families. He stated the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission will hear conceptual approval for the Atlantic Properties Development project tomorrow

night. The development site is the old TV station property at the beginning of the causeway. It is 14 acres of land, which includes 246 apartment units and 14,000 square feet of retail space. There could possibly be a roundabout at Simmons Point. Island residents need to be aware and attend meetings regarding this project, as it will impact the Island.

Wayne Stelljes, 3104 I'on Ave., stated he is concerned that there is not a proactive island-wide trapping program to reduce or eliminate as many as the coyotes as possible.

Mark Howard, 1820 Central Ave., asked when a public meeting will be scheduled regarding the parking plan. Councilman Clark stated it will be scheduled after more information is compiled from parking vendors, as well as a resident survey.

Aaron Siegel, Home Team Barbeque, thanked Council and residents for their participation at the Public Safety meeting last week. He stated the restaurant owners and other business owners in the commercial district will meet each month at Home Team Barbeque for discussion; and they welcome Town staff to participate also.

Michael Mithoefer, 407 O'Neil St., encouraged Council to receive experienced, scientific input regarding the coyotes.

II. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Clark, to approve the December 16, 2014 Regular meeting minutes, carried unanimously.**
- 2. Motion was made by Councilman Clark, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to have Second Reading and Ratification of Ordinance No. 2014-14, An Ordinance for the Sale of Town Parcel at 2618 Raven Drive/TMS 529-060-0117, carried unanimously.**
- 3. Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to nominate Mayor O'Neil to serve as Chair of the Finance Committee, and for Councilman Kaynard to continue to serve as co-chair, carried by a vote of five, with Mayor O'Neil abstaining.**
- 4. Motion was made by Councilman Clark, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve Dunleavy's request for a permit allowing for special accommodations for its St. Patrick's Day celebration with the following contingencies:**
 - (a) Event held from 10 AM-dusk on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 only**
 - (b) Closure of Station 22-1/2 from Middle Street and I'on Avenue only**
 - (c) No closure of, or barriers on, Middle Street**
 - (d) No outside sales/alcohol consumption on streets and public rights-of-way**
 - (e) Town close acceptance of other special event permit application requests from other CCD businesses for St. Patrick's Day.**

Motion carried unanimously. Councilwoman Watson mentioned that the family event in the Park will be held from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday, March 14, 2015.

5. Motion was made by Councilman Clark, seconded by Councilwoman Middaugh, to approve Eadies's Construction Company bid for the gravity main from Gull to Station 20-1/2 to the new Town Hall building in the amount of \$174,308.00, carried unanimously.

6. Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Middaugh, to immediately advertise for the Planning Commission seat vacated by Rusty Bennett, with application deadline in mid-February, and place as an agenda item on February 17 regular Council meeting for a decision at that time, carried unanimously. Mayor O'Neil stated that Mr. Bennett tendered his resignation due to a new obligation. Planning Commission Chair Gary Visser recommended for Council to have staff review and update the application form.

III. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. **General and New Correspondence** – Correspondence was received from Graham Eubank, Jr. regarding a request to pave Raven Drive between Station 26 and Station 26-1/2 Streets; and from Rick Reed, Carol Killough, Bill Killough and Marie-Louise Ramsdale regarding the St. Patrick's Day celebration.

2. **Attorney's Report** – Attorney Dodds was not present tonight.

3. **Boards and Commissions Reports** - no reports.

Election Commission – Commission member Tim Reese stated information regarding the May 5, 2015 election is on the website, and the candidate petitions are due February 18, 2015. Mayor O'Neil thanked Mr. Reese and Ms. Robie Scott for their work with the January special election.

Park Foundation – Kay Smith of the Park Foundation stated they had a meeting last night, and now have three new Board members. The Round on the Mound event is scheduled for April 18, 2015. She thanked the Town and the business district for helping to make that possible. Councilwoman Watson, Administrator Benke, and herself met with Thomas & Hutton Engineering regarding the engineering study for the mound, so they can move forward with the master plan with the park. The Park Foundation will submit their budgeted funds to the Town for the Poe tennis courts.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Mayor O'Neil. Mayor O'Neil asked Councilman Kaynard to present this information. Councilman Kaynard stated there are pending items from the December 16, 2014 approved minutes that Administrator Benke can report on at the next meeting. The December income and expenses were as expected. The cost of the design and construction of the new Town Hall as of end of December was \$258,000.

Public Safety Committee – Councilman Clark. Monthly reports rendered. Councilman Clark thanked Chief Stith for the new sidewalk at the school. He also thanked Aaron Siegel and Jamie Mahr for their

work with the Polar Bear Plunge event and planning the St. Patrick's Day celebration this year. Councilwoman Watson expressed her appreciation for the hard work by Councilman Clark on these events.

Committee Minutes - Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Mayor O'Neil, to approve the Committee minutes from January 13, 2015, carried unanimously.

Managed Parking – More information will be gathered to help inventory and manage the space available for parking. If paid parking is initiated, it is basically the addition of a software program to manage the identified parking spaces. It would be an island-wide plan, unlike the plan at Isle of Palms. Council will continue to monitor the parking program progress at Isle of Palms.

Coyote Management Plan – Part of the trapping program has been activated with the placement of box traps in areas of coyote activity. The box traps were strategically placed by a trapper near areas of elevated activity. Residents need to be encouraged to notify the Police Department of coyote activity by calling the non-emergency County Dispatch number at 843-743-7200. This information is used to determine what course of action to take. This dispatch number will be disseminated to the residents. Also, the coyote signage will soon be placed on the beach path signs.

Ladder truck – The ladder truck is still under construction.

Oyster Roast – The annual Sullivan's Island Fire and Rescue oyster roast fundraiser is February 7th at the Fish Fry Shack/Big Tin.

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

I & I project - Manager Greg Gress stated that the I&I project is a little over 50% complete, and it should be finished the end of March.

Guest speaker - Mr. Gress has been invited as a speaker at the International Conference & Exhibition for Underground Construction Technology on January 25-29, 2015 in Houston, Texas. His presentation is "How to Start A Municipal Grouting Program To Rehab, Sustain Your Sanitary Sewer Systems".

Committee meeting - A Committee meeting will be held Jan. 22 at 8:30 am at the Water & Sewer building.

Water Meters and Taps– Mr. Gress explained that the water meters are read through a touch-read system. A staff member walks by and touches the wand to the meter, and the water reading is electronically transferred to the wand. Mr. Gress explained that staff is replacing the water meter plastic customer shut-off valves with brass valves. The brass valve has a drain-back feature. When the valve is shut-off, it appears it is still leaking, but it is not. The water is draining from the house back to the area of the valve into the ground. This gives customers freeze protection in the wintertime. Residents can turn this shut-off valve on and off when they need it. If the shut-off valve is turned off, the water heater should also be turned off.

Administration Committee – Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered.

Annual Retreat – Administrator Benke will send possible annual retreat meeting dates to Council for their consideration and discussion at the next meeting.

Personnel– Two temporary administrative positions have been filled; and there was one resignation in the Water and Sewer Department.

Special Events – Special events include the Hunley Memorial ceremony on February 17th at 5:00 p.m.; the St. Patrick’s Day celebration on March 17th, the Palmetto 200 on March 21st; and Run for Adela on April 1, 2015.

Land Use and Natural Resources Committee – Mayor O’Neil. Monthly report rendered.

Public Facilities Committee – Councilwoman Cooper. Monthly report rendered.

Road Surfacing Request – Councilwoman Cooper reported Graham Eubanks had requested consideration of road surfacing on Raven Drive. The January 2012 Council meeting minutes reflect Council approved the road, and the agreement with the property owners was that the Town would put in a gravel road. At the time, the other property owners were unwilling to pay a share of the cost to make it pavement. The Town has put gravel on other roads, and the estimate to pave is \$80,000. The owners of the street could discuss sharing the cost to pave the street.

Recreation Committee – Councilwoman Watson.

Engineering Study – As mentioned earlier by Kay Smith, they met with Thomas & Hutton regarding the engineering study, and the timeline is about five weeks.

Poe Tennis Courts – The bids are out and will be opened on January 29, 2015.

Round on the Mound – The Round on the Mound is April 18, 2015.

Waste & Recycle Containers in Park – Bill Matthews reported at the Park Foundation meeting that he met with Chief Stith and Administrator Benke; and progress is being made.

Spring Toy – The Park Foundation wants the spring toy taken out of the Park. Chief Stith agreed to handle this.

Walk through Park Inspection – A list of equipment needing repairs should be sent to Councilwoman Watson, who will forward to Manda Poletti of the Park Foundation for coordinating repair.

Dock at Park – The middle railing boards at the park dock have been broken, and Chief Stith has ordered the replacement boards. It was discussed to place a night camera in that vicinity for security.

Councilwoman Watson reported children from the school will be going to the dock with their science teacher.

Tennis Court Use- Currently there are three tennis instructors with business licenses to use the tennis courts. After the Poe courts are complete, it will be determined how to manage instruction time on both courts.

Valentine Card party – The party will be held on February 7, 2015 from 10-12, at a location to be determined.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Clark, to go into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter concerning the sale of three town lots – 3019 Middle, 3025 Middle, and 3020 I’on Avenue at 7:25 p.m., carried unanimously,

Council returned to regular session and Mayor O’Neil stated no votes or action was taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve Tim Reese, the agent representing the Town on the sale of three lots, to make a counter offer at his recommendation to the purchaser, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilwoman Watson to adjourn, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Miller