

January 21, 2020

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at approximately 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
Greg Hammond, Councilmember
Tim Reese, Councilmember
Bachman Smith, IV, Councilmember
Kaye Smith, Councilmember

Mayor O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State Law. There were approximately ten (10) members of the public present and one (1) member of the media present. Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark.

I. Public Comment: Mayor O'Neil opened the floor for public comment.

Paul Vannatta, 1802 Back Street- requested that Town Council consider amending Zoning Ordinance Section 21-75 B. (2), Construction of private docks in the RC-2 Area District, to allow his to build a dock behind his property. Currently, this section restricts any docks to be constructed across marshland in the RC-2 Area District from the centerline extension of Station 18 to the centerline extension of Station 27.

Heidi Brown, 405 Station 22 Street- stated that she is opposed to the proposed paid-parking program.

II. Council Action Items:

1. Approval of Council Minutes –

Motion: Action: Approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2019, the Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2020; and the Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2020.

Moved by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2019-07, An Ordinance Prohibiting smoking and vaping on beaches, access paths, public parks and other Town facilities:

Motion: Action: Approve Third Reading and Ratification, Ordinance 2019-07, An Ordinance Prohibiting smoking and vaping on beaches, access paths, public parks and other Town facilities.

Moved by Councilmember Sarah Church, Seconded by Councilmember Greg Hammond.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Ordinance 2019-08, An Ordinance to Issue Installment Purchase Revenue Bond Series 2020:

Motion: Action: Approve Second Reading, Ordinance 2019-08, An Ordinance to Issue Installment Purchase Revenue Bond Series 2020.

Moved by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, Seconded by Councilmember Tim Reese.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Resolution in Opposition to H4431:

Motion: Action: Approve a Resolution in Opposition to H4431.

Moved by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, Seconded by Councilmember Tim Reese.

Motion passed unanimously.

There is a bill in the State House, H4431, which would change the amount charged for business licenses, the rate classes for business licenses and to whom a business license can be charged. In FY18, the business license tax revenue was approximately \$982,000 to the Town. In FY19, the business license tax revenue was approximately \$1.13 million. If the bill is passed, the estimated loss, using FY19 as a benchmark, could be as high as \$900,000, an 80% decrease. In FY19, the business license tax revenue covered approximately 19% of the operating expenses of the General Fund. If the bill is passed, property taxes could be increased to cover the loss of revenue, per the State Code. The increase in millage needed to cover those expenses would be 10.6 mils. On a \$1.5 million house, it would be an increase of \$636 per year.

5. Discussion and Consideration of a Motion to set date/time for St. Patrick's Day Celebration:

Town Administrator Andy Benke gave a brief overview of the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Celebration event summary. Roadblocks were in place by 9:00am with traffic cones removed by/before 7:00pm. Orange fence was installed between the general area of Dunleavy's Pub to the northeast corner of Station 22 and Middle Street. There was no mid-block opening for pedestrians to cross between Poe's Tavern and Home Team BBQ. Uber and Lyft drop area was in front of High Thyme by moving a section of the fence south toward the porch; an opening was created at 5:00pm to accommodate High Thyme

operating at normal business hours. Portable toilets were positioned on the east and west ends of Middle Street. Three arrests were made: reckless driving, excessive drunkenness (inside Dunleavy's) and as assault. Other notes: there were a number of people significantly intoxicated, with one intoxicated person rescued from the marsh, and signs of alcohol being carried on the street. The Town spent approximately \$5,500 for event; expenses includes staffing costs above/beyond the staffing that would have already been on duty.

After the 2019 event, the Public Safety Committee recommended the following changes for the event going forward: all vendors outside of right-of-way by 6:00pm, street closure on March 17th only, whichever day that falls, and outside sales of beer and wine only, with outside food sale mandatory.

Council as a whole agreed to have the event this year on Saturday, March 14, 2020. A decision will be made regarding what time to remove the barriers and stop outside sales during the February 18, 2020 Town Council meeting.

6. 2019 Deceased Islanders: Mayor O'Neil read a list of twenty-three (23) Islanders who passed away in 2019 and asked for a moment of silence. Those who passed away in 2019 were: Carlton Julian Poulnot, Jr., Oscar "Bubba" Leppart, Sandra Noonan Fowler, Cpt. Fred Gypin, Jr., Thurseey Rebecca Thompson Buxton, David Lawrence Fortiere, Aline Mason Smith, Thomas Eugene Hart, Bonnie Ann Williams, Jean Mercer Kablick, Lawrence G. Picard, Sr., Elizabeth "Betty" (Stroud) Driemeyer, Col. John B. Selby, M.D., Theresa Zink Carino, Muriel Metts, Lawrence "Larry" Jensen, Lori Webster Blackburn, Mikel William Danielson, James Moore Dovre, EttaLeah Coplon Bluestein, M.D., Mary Elizabeth "Lisa" Varn, SMSGT Robert E. Topping, Ret., and Fredrick "Rick" Eugene Reed.

III. Reports and Communication:

1. Mayor's Report

2. Administrator's Report

I. General Correspondence

- Gustavo Leone, PhD, Hollings Cancer Center- Note of appreciation for Town support and participation in the inaugural LowVelo ride to raise awareness and funds for cancer research
- Senator Sandy Senn, Confirmation of prefilling for S.941 to address nurdle pollution along the South Carolina coast

II. Construction

Fire Station Structural Repairs- Construction documents held for expanded scope; revised availability of ABS moved to late second quarter 2020.

Staff and Councilmember Clark met with Curt Berg/ABS to review timeline (subject to confirmation):

- Commence Fire Station interior and storage design early second quarter (April 2020)
- Release documents for bid August 2020
- Commence construction November 2020

Wastewater Treatment Plant- Notice to proceed issues 11-04-19; as part of contractor mobilization you will notice construction office trailers on site with power supplied across the soccer field.

III. General

Accreted Land Transition Zone Trimming- Staff will coordinate Transition Zone trimming between Station 21 and Station 22 Streets in January and February 2020.

Beach Smoking Ordinance- The Administrator is coordinating a public outreach program with the City of Isle of Palms.

Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax 2021 Sales Tax Projects- Charleston County has provided the application for 2021 TST Projects.

Municipal Association of South Carolina 2020:

1. Business License Standardization (H4431)- Talking points and Resolution
2. 2020 Hometown Legislative Action Day- The meeting this year will be held on 2-4-20 on Columbia to provide municipal officials an opportunity to meet in Columbia with members of the General Assembly
3. Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government- 2020 Enrollment information for elected officials interested in training opportunities

Accreted Land Management Plan Review- On Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., a Special Meeting of Town Council was held to introduce the consultants tasked with reviewing various documents associated with management of the protected land (Kana 2010; Council 3-A) and received comments from the public. Thereafter, the consultants met over two days to review the land, various documents and offer suggestions about management of the property. The Town's website offers the ability for public comment also.

2020 Polar Bear Swim- Staff will prepare a post-event analysis for Council to review at the February workshop meeting.

2019 Milestones and 2020 Projects- Staff will prepare a review of milestones and accomplishments in 2019 along with a preview of 2020 for Council review.

Confederate Heritage Trust- The Trust will hold its annual Hunley-Housatonic Memorial ceremony on February 17, 2020 with Sunrise Presbyterian Church. The event includes a parade from Fort Moultrie to Breach Inlet; memorial church service; wreath ceremony at the water's edge and cannon fire.

South Carolina Ethics Commission- Reminder that the 2020 Statement of Economic Interest is due not later than March 30, 2020.

Sullivan's Island Fire and Rescue Oyster Roast- Mark your calendar for the annual oyster roast on Saturday, February 8, 2020 5-8pm. Tickets are \$40.00 in advance and \$45.00 the day of the event.

3. Attorney's Report- No items to report.

4. Boards and Commissions Reports – No items to report.

IV. Committee Reports:

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

Comptroller Blanton presented the December 2019 financial report. As of the end of December 2019, revenue and expenditure account balances were as to be expected.

Administration Committee – Councilmember Sarah Church, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

Video Recording of Town Council Meetings- for archiving on Town website for public access.

Codification of Town Ordinances- in progress, to be reviewed by Council upon completion.

Personnel Handbook- in progress, to be reviewed by Council upon completion of draft.

Water and Sewer Committee – Councilmember Bachman Smith IV, Chair. Monthly reports rendered.

Committee Meeting – The next Water & Sewer Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 8:45 a.m. at Town Hall.

Public Safety Committee –Councilmember Tim Reese, Chair. Monthly reports rendered.

Speed Limit- Chair Reese met with SCDOT to discuss speed limit and cross walks. They are looking into changing the speed limit on Middle Street to 25mph. The goal is to change the speed limit island-wide to 25mph.

Recreation Committee – Councilmember Kaye Smith, Chair.

Beach Sweep- There will be a community beach sweep on Monday, February 3rd from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Playground Equipment- A few pieces of equipment at the playground is old and worn. The Recreation Committee will have a quote to replace the equipment in February.

Public Facilities Committee – Councilmember Greg Hammond, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

Land Use and Natural Resources Committee – Mayor Pro-Tem Chauncey Clark, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

V. Executive Session

Motion: Action: To go into Executive Session at 7:09 p.m. to discuss one Personnel Matter. Moved by Councilmember Sarah Church, Seconded by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Action: To come out of Executive Session at 7:31 p.m.

Moved by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, Seconded by Councilmember Greg Hammond.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor O’Neil stated no votes or actions were taken in Executive Session.

VI. Adjournment

Motion: Action: Adjourn Meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark, Seconded by Councilmember Tim Reese.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Courtney Liles