



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina**  
**Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

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  
Bachman Smith, IV, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Greg Hammond, Councilmember  
Scott Millimet, Councilmember  
Gary Visser, Councilmember

Staff members present were Town Administrator Andy Benke, Fire Chief Anthony Stith, Amanda Hawver, Joe Henderson, Bridget Welch, Greg Gress, Jason Blanton, Max Wurthmann, Town Lawyer Larry Dodds, Police Chief Chris Griffin, and Christopher Wallace.

Mayor Patrick M. 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 seven (7) members of the public present and no members of the media present. Mayor Patrick M. O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for prayer or reflection.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith to amend the April 19, 2022 agenda to eliminate Executive Session for the evening, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, passed unanimously.**

Councilmembers Kaye Smith and Justin Novak were absent from the meeting and none of the Executive Session items were time sensitive, so it was delayed until further notice.

**I. Format:** Public Comments

- Ralph Byers, 3025 Middle Street – would like to call their attention to 3115 I'On Avenue which is currently on the market as a 1/8 share ownership property for sale, which is a timeshare. He was under the impression the Island does not allow timeshares and wants to know if it was built as a timeshare in 2018. If not, how was it converted into a timeshare and who voted for that to happen? He does not want Sullivan's Island to turn into the Dominican Republic, timeshare capital of the world.

## II. Council Action Items

### A. Approval of Minutes:

March 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

**Motion was made by Councilmember Millimet, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith to approve all March 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, passed unanimously.**

Councilmember Hammond wanted to confirm that the motion made after the Executive Session, regarding felony charges for malicious injury to trees, does not limit the prosecutorial discretion of Town staff.

### B. Proclamation of Holocaust Days of Remembrance

Mayor O'Neil read the Proclamation of Holocaust Days of Remembrance, followed by speeches from Reggie Geege, Shirley Mills, and Diny Adkins.

**Motion was made by Councilmember Millimet, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, to move forward with the Proclamation, passed unanimously.**

### C. Second Reading, Ordinance 2022-01, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter Sixteen, Personnel and Personal Policies, Section 16-15 A, Holidays to Designate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as an Observed Holiday

Councilmember Millimet mentioned the discussion regarding adding President's Day as another observed holiday. Because the vote had already been made, a separate ordinance will be created to add President's Day.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to approve Second Reading, Ordinance 2022-01, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter Sixteen, Personnel and Personal Policies, Section 16-15 A, Holidays to Designate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as an Observed Holiday, passed unanimously.**

### D. First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-02, An Ordinance Enacting a Code of Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan's Island, SC, Revising, Amending, Restating, Recodifying and Compiling certain existing general Ordinances of the Town dealing with subjects embraced in such code of Ordinances

Mr. Blanton stated the need to recodify ordinances, which is supposed to be done every 10 years. This has been budgeted for and was started by American Legal by finding all the grammatical and spelling errors in the ordinances. Once passed, the process will be finished and will be reuploaded on the Town's website. No major changes will be made, only Scribner's and grammatical errors. Mr. Henderson stated a public hearing was held to advertise the changes made to Chapter 21 of the Zoning Ordinance and the Scrivener's

errors were approved by the Planning Commission. He provided a track change copy and was provided in the Council packet. Mr. Benke suggested looking at Mount Pleasant's website as an example, it also uses American Legal for its ordinances and is very easy to search.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-02, An Ordinance Enacting a Code of Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan's Island, SC, Revising, Amending, Restating, Recodifying and Compiling certain existing general Ordinances of the Town dealing with subjects embraced in such code of Ordinances, passed unanimously.**

- E. First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-03, An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not Exceeding One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, General Obligation Bonds, in One or More Series; to Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds Shall be Expended; to Provide for the Payment Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto

This is an annual exercise for the Town to issue general obligation bonds sufficient to provide for the carry over funding on one of the series of installment purchase revenue bonds. This bond is for one year and provides the cash to make payments.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-03, An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not Exceeding One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000) Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, General Obligation Bonds, in One or More Series; to Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds Shall be Expended; to Provide for the Payment Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto, passed unanimously.**

- F. First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-04, An Ordinance to Adopt the General Fund Budget for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

There will be a public hearing before Second Reading, as well as more opportunities for discussion and questions with Jason Blanton.

**Motion was made by Councilmember Millimet, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-04, An Ordinance to Adopt the General Fund Budget for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, passed unanimously.**

- G. First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-05, An Ordinance to Adopt the Water Sewer Fund Budget for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-05, An Ordinance to Adopt the Water Sewer Fund Budget for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, passed unanimously.**

- H. Approval of the Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes from March 14, 2022  
(Committee Members Only)

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Mayor O’Neil to approve the Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes from March 14, 2022, passed unanimously.**

- I. Approval of the Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2022  
(Committee Members only)

With two committee members not in attendance, approval was carried over until the next regular meeting.

- J. Approval of Safe Industries E-One quotation for the purchase of a Pumper Truck

Mr. Benke stated Engine 2 is nearing the end of its life cycle after 20+ years and staff has been directed to look at pricing for the new Engine. It is nearly identical to Engine 1, which was ordered around two years ago. The quote given will expire after 30 days, which was a week and a half from the time of the meeting.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet to approve Safe Industries E-One quotation for the purchase of a Pumper Truck, passed unanimously.**

### **III. Reports and Communication**

A. Mayor’s Report –

1. Re-certification of Town’s Tree City USA designation for the sixth year.
2. Proclamation recognizing the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dunleavy’s Pub was presented to them on Saturday.

B. Administrator’s Report –

1. New correspondence from resident Greg Pryor: note of appreciation for assistance provided by Officer Glenn Meadows with an incident involving a dog attack on the beach.
2. Fire Station Construction update: in week 38 with a little over 50% completed, with a tentative end date in August. Pay application 9 (March 2022) has been processed and submitted. Furniture and doors have been ordered and they are currently hanging sheetrock. Anyone is welcome to request a walk-through.
3. Request for Proposal/Request for Qualifications: The bid for the Lighting at Stith Park has been opened and three have been received. A decision must be made by June. Bids for boardwalk repairs and maintenance will open April 27.

4. Work is continuing the stormwater issue at Station 28 with the COVID recovery money, as well as on the master plan for Stith Park.
  5. Two Town employees celebrate Employment Anniversaries in May 2022
  6. Mr. Benke will visit Edisto and Folly Beaches to observe the Dominion LED lights at night. He has also been speaking with Dominion about the possibility of having a separate circuit along beachfront roads.
  7. Mayor O'Neil supports the idea of updating and issuing new windshield identification decals for re-entry onto the Island after a natural disaster. The current stickers have been widely circulated in the past and the new option would be a hanging decal. These would be given to property owners, business owners, and all full-time residents (renters or otherwise). Council are all in favor of the new decals.
- C. Attorney's Report – Nothing to Report
- D. Boards and Commission's Reports
1. Board of Zoning Appeals– Nothing to Report
  2. Design Review Board– Nothing to Report
  3. Tree Commission– Nothing to Report
  4. Municipal Elections Commission– Nothing to Report
  5. Park Foundation– Nothing to Report

#### **IV. Committee Reports – Discussion Items:**

- A. Finance Committee – They had a review for the FY 2023 budget at the last meeting. Mr. Benke stated a survey was done on the critical line at the Old Bridge for the restoration project and we are now waiting on plans to move forward, as well as a final cost estimate. There will be a meeting with the Public Facilities committee once those are finalized. Mr. Blanton stated the revenue for boating permits is \$134,000 over the projected revenue for this fiscal year, while most everything else is as expected. He also mentioned the unassigned amounts in the budget and that is where the reserves will be pulled from, as discussed at previous meetings. Mr. Millimet stated there will be some thought put into what the reserve accounts will be created for. He also stated the possibility of having the bank roll three-month T-bills. He mentioned the Sand Dunes Club has been sold, so it is no longer an option for the Town to purchase.
- B. Public Facilities Committee – Mr. Hammond mentioned there have been complaints made about the condition of the park, including litter, equipment, and landscaping. These items have and will be discussed further and projects for improvements have begun.
- C. Land Use & Natural Resources Committee – Nothing to Report. For the Historic Study Group subcommittee, there will be six meetings. They are open to the public to attend and are also available to review online. Councilmember Visser confirmed the study group's purpose is to preserve historic structures and was not formed to dictate any sort of regulations on how homes can look (paint colors, driveways, etc). Mayor O'Neil noted Councilmember Visser is now a grandfather.
- D. Administration Committee – The Citibot project is moving forward. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents Day will be added as Town recognized holidays.
- E. Water & Sewer Committee – Nothing to Report for construction projects. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant on Friday, April 29 at 1:00 p.m. The next Water & Sewer Committee meeting will be Thursday, April 28 at 8:45 a.m.

- F. Public Safety Committee – Nothing to Report from Chief Stith or Chief Griffin. Mayor O’Neil reviewed the meeting regarding electric leaf blowers. It will be encouraged, but not compulsory since the technology for using only electric is not efficient and is very expensive. He also mentioned the Town will consider buying non-gas-powered equipment when they purchase new items for the town. Mayor O’Neil stated there was another meeting about beach traffic management with Mount Pleasant, Isle of Palms, and Channel 4 News. There will be a push to communicate with the public about real-time traffic updates and conditions.
- G. Recreation Committee – Nothing to Report

**V. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Visser, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m., passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch