



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 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
Scott Millimet, Councilmember
Kaye Smith, 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, Police Chief Chris Griffin, Larry Dodds, and Charles Drayton.

Mayor Patrick 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 eight (8) members of the public present and no members of the media present. Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for prayer or reflection.

I. Format: Public Comments

The following spoke about their concerns and opposition against fractional home ownership on the Island:

- Mike Walsh, 2530 I'On Ave
- Cyndy Ewing, 2514 I'On Ave
- Aussie Geer, 2702 Goldbug Ave
- Barbara Spell, 1702 Atlantic Ave
- Eddie Fava, 2424 Myrtle Ave

II. Presentation: Proposed FY 2023 Operating Budget by CARTA Staff Daniel Brock

Mr. Brock stated he did not have a presentation but was there to answer any questions Council had about the budget. Mayor O’Neil stated the proposed budget was given to all Council members and was available to the public online.

Councilmember Millimet asked about the status of the “Beach Reach” shuttle, which runs from Mount Pleasant to Isle of Palms and the possibility of having something similar running to Sullivan’s Island. Mr. Brock stated Mount Pleasant is in favor of continuing the shuttle as of now and they are always open to discussing opportunities to extend the program here and to other area beaches. He also stated they would be able to provide a proposed budget if there was interest. Mr. Brock concluded by providing an update on Lowcountry Rapid Transit, which is a twenty-one-mile bus rapid transit line throughout Charleston that will run in designated bus lanes. The design is progressing and should be completed by 2025, with a proposed operating start date in 2028.

III. Council Action Items

- A.** Approval of Minutes: June 21, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Visser to approve all June 21, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, passed unanimously.

- B.** Third Reading and Ratification, Ordinance 2022-06, An Ordinance to amend Chapter Sixteen, Personnel and Personnel Policies, Section 16-15 A, Holidays to Designate President’s Day as an Observed Holiday

Motion was made by Councilmember Kaye Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet to approve Third Reading and Ratification, Ordinance 2022-06, An Ordinance to amend Chapter Sixteen, Personnel and Personnel Policies, Section 16-15 A, Holidays to Designate President’s Day as an Observed Holiday, passed unanimously.

This ordinance will align with Town observed holidays with holidays observed by both the state and federal governments and has been discussed at length over the past few months.

- C.** First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-07, An Ordinance to Amend Section 51.021 Application and Fee for Sewer connections by Creating Section 51.021 (A) Conditions Prerequisite to new Installations or Reinstallations; and conditions Prerequisite to Subdividing a Lot in the CCOD 1&2 District

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-07, An Ordinance to Amend Section 51.021 Application and Fee for Sewer connections by Creating Section

51.01 (A) Conditions Prerequisite to new Installations or Reinstallations; and conditions Prerequisite to Subdividing a Lot in the CCOD 1&2 District, passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith stated no language is being changed in the Ordinance but will make it clear that when a lot is split, it must meet the requirements from the Zoning Department as well as Water & Sewer.

- D.** First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-08, An Ordinance to Amend Section 50.08, to Set the Requirements for a Water Connection for Newly Created Lots in CCOD 1&2 prior to Subdivision of a Lot

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2022-08, An Ordinance to Amend Section 50.08, to Set the Requirements for a Water Connection for Newly Created Lots in CCOD 1&2 prior to Subdivision of a Lot, passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith stated this amendment serves the same purpose as the above.

- E.** Approval of the December 6, 2021 Land Use and Natural Resources Committee Minutes (Committee Members only)

Motion was made by Councilmember Millimet, seconded by Councilmember Visser to approve the December 6, 2021 Land Use and Natural Resources Committee Minutes, passed unanimously.

IV. Reports and Communication

A. Mayor's Report –

1. Thank you to the Town Staff for a successful and safe Fourth of July weekend.
2. The mayor will provide notes from the Municipal Association conference at the next Workshop.

B. Administrator's Report –

1. Thanks to Pam Otto for her hard work and diligence for the Historic Study Group meetings.
2. A list of correspondence from six residents provided by Andy Benke will be added to the next meeting. Most were about fractional ownership, and one was regarding parking on the Island. Councilmember Visser mentioned they will all be added to the LUNR agenda so they will be public record. Mr. Benke stated the parking plan was approved by the SCDOT in 2016 and any changes would need to be approved by them again. Mayor O'Neil and Mr. Benke added there are currently 3,000 parking spaces provided free of charge Sullivan's Island and golf cart parking is generally in spaces where cars are unable to park.

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

V. Committee Reports – Discussion Items:

- A. Finance Committee – Chair Millimet will provide a list of potential reserve fund options at the next Workshop.
- B. Public Facilities Committee – Nothing to Report
- C. Land Use & Natural Resources Committee –
 - 1. Public comments were taken regarding fractional ownership and short-term rentals at the last meeting. Chair Visser stated all comments and correspondence will be available in the minutes for that meeting.
 - 2. The manual for the Historic Preservation Design Group has been completed by the LUNR subcommittee and will be discussed at next month's Workshop.
- D. Administration Committee – Nothing to Report
- E. Water & Sewer Committee – The next Water & Sewer meeting will be held Thursday, August 4 at 8:45 a.m.
- F. Public Safety Committee – Nothing to Report
- G. Recreation Committee – Chair Kaye Smith stated construction is continuing the tennis court lights and the RFP for the Master Plan for Stith Park is progressing.

VI. Executive Session:

Motion was made Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Kaye Smith to go into Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss the following items, passed unanimously.

- A. Legal Advice – Attorney John Linton regarding Harris v. TOSI 2022-CP-10-0950
- B. Legal Advice – Attorney John Linton regarding Fractional Ownership
- C. Legal Advice – Attorney Larry Dodds regarding Dominion Energy agreement to convert street light fixtures from HID to LED

Motion was made by Councilmember Visser, seconded by Councilmember Millimet, to come out of Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss the following items, passed unanimously.

- VII. Upon Returning to Open Session, Council may take action on items discussed during Executive Session.

Mayor O'Neil stated that no votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Kaye Smith to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch