



Council

Joe DeVito
Mayor

Jerry Ashmore
Mayor Pro Tempore

Mary Beth Heyward
Darryl Owens
Kevin Phillips

Van Willis
Town Manager

T. Alan Beach
Chief of Police

Jeffrey S. Coppinger
Operations

Linda Bridges
Planning

**Minutes
Council Meeting
Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

June 10, 2020

Members Present: Mayor Joe DeVito, Council Members Jerry Ashmore, Mary Beth Heyward, Darryl Owens and Kevin Phillips

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis and Municipal Clerk Brooke Plank-Buccola

**Watch live and participate via Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/PortRoyalSC/>**

or you can teleconference in by dialing: 978-990-5000 Access Code: 732583#

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor DeVito called the Council Meeting to order at 6:36 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION

Council Member Owens offered the invocation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Minutes from the Public Hearing Meeting of April 1, 2020**
- B. Minutes from the Budget Workshop of May 6, 2020**
- C. Minutes from the Council Workshop of May 6, 2020**
- D. Minutes from the Special Council Meeting/Executive Session of May 13, 2020**
- E. Minutes from the Public Hearing of May 13, 2020**
- F. Minutes from the Council Meeting of May 13, 2020**

Mayor Devito asked to change May 6th Council Workshop's name to "Council Covid Workshop." Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve the minutes from the public hearing meeting on April 1, 2020, the Budget Workshop of May 6, 2020, the Council Covid Workshop of May 6, 2020, the Special Council Meeting/Executive Session of May 13, 2020, the Public Hearing of May 13, 2020, and the Council Meeting of May 13, 2020. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Ashmore Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Owens Aye. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. PROCLAMATION:

A. Bob Bender

Port Royal Town Council met at Mr. Bender's home prior to this evening's meeting to present him with this proclamation. Mr. Bender was not only a Town resident but also enjoyed educating everyone about the area's estuary and assisting with Town festivals. Council Member Ashmore read the proclamation into record.

Council Member Owens made a motion to change the agenda to hear the applicants waiting on Zoom to discuss their ordinance request. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion.

Ordinance 2020-14. An ordinance amending section 6.4.10 Non-Conforming Signs of the Port Royal Zoning Code to allow minor modifications to sign-face attachments. The applicants have no new comments. Council Member Heyward made a motion to approve ordinance 2020-14. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion. Council Member Phillips explained that he is in favor because this ordinance does not modify the two Adams Outdoor billboards in any way besides making them safer for the community, and it costs the Town nothing. Council Member Heyward agreed with Council Member Phillips and was pleased to know that they are being proactive instead of reactive. Council Member Phillips also stated that this ordinance does not allow for additional billboards. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore Nay. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by four in favor and one against vote.

Ordinance 2020-16. An Ordinance to amend as follows, Section I of Ordinance 2019-9 to provide for the levy of taxes for ordinary Town purposes in the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and to provide for the expenditure thereof. The final budget is set at \$7,169,593 which is a slight decrease from last year's budget. Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve ordinance 2020-16. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward

Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore Aye. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2020-10. Amend Article 4, Specific to Use of the Port Royal Code. This is to include campgrounds in the Town of Port Royal. Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve the first reading of ordinance 2020-10. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. Council Member Phillips asked how many properties in the Town would be able to become campgrounds if this ordinance was approved. Ms. Linda Bridges explained that there are three within the Town. Council recommended a maximum stay of 28 days with a minimum wait of 5 days between consecutive stays. Council Member Phillips would like to see which properties would be affected by this amendment. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore Aye. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2020-17. An ordinance to rezone approximately 13.964 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County Tax District 112, Map 33B, Parcel 90A, 138 and a portion of 137 Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T3 Suburban to T4 Neighborhood Center – Open. The applicant has decided that it is in the best interest for this project, neighbors, and present property owner to request the Zoning Board of Appeals grant a variance to build a church over 10,000 square feet. Mr. Rentz would still like to seek a first reading once they have received an approval from the ZBOA. Council Member Owens made a motion to discuss ordinance 2020-17. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito feels it would be in the best interest of the applicant if Council does not move forward with a first reading, affording the ZBOA a chance to make an unbiased decision. Council Member Owens removed the motion for discussion of ordinance 2020-17. Council Member Ashmore made a motion to postpone ordinance 2020-17 until after attending the ZBOA. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore Aye. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. COUNCIL BRIEFING

The engineering piece of the Spanish Moss Trail is being finalized, and the grant application to the Department of Defense is being refined.

The Sands Beach is still doing well with no complaints on the rope and bollard installation.

The local Disabled Veterans were to have an event at the Skateboard Park. Unfortunately, it was not posted, and the organization had a confrontation with some of the skaters and parents using the space. It was a very unfortunate occurrence. Mayor

DeVito received a number of emails requesting Council to restrict the use of the space for just skaters.

Mr. Willis has not heard back from Beaufort Jasper Water Sewer Authority about assisting the Town with the next sewer project.

VI. SECOND READING:

- A. Ordinance 2020-14. An ordinance amending section 6.4.10 nonconforming signs of the Port Royal Zoning Code to allow minor modifications to sign-face attachments (Amendment allowing billboards to be retrofitted with “Hurricane Frames”)**

Agenda was amended and this ordinance was discussed after the proclamation was read into record.

- B. Ordinance 2020-16. An Ordinance to amend as follows Section I of Ordinance 2019-9 to provide for the levy of taxes for ordinary Town purposes in the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and to provide for the expenditures thereof. – (Approval of Budget 20/21)**

Agenda was amended and this ordinance was discussed after the proclamation was read into record.

VII. FIRST READINGS:

- A. Ordinance 2020-10. Amend Article 4, Specific to Use, of the Port Royal Code. (Campground)**

Agenda was amended and this ordinance was discussed after the proclamation was read into record.

- B. Ordinance 2020-17. An ordinance to rezone approximately 13.964 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County Tax District 112, Map 33B, Parcel 90A, 138 and a portion of 137 in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T3 Suburban to T4 Neighborhood Center – Open. (Rezone on Hamrick Drive)**

Agenda was amended and this ordinance was discussed after the proclamation was read into record.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. Resolution 7-2020. Cost Sharing Commitment with CDBG**

Mayor DeVito read resolution 7-2020 into record. Council Member Owens made a motion to approve resolution 7-2020. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore recused himself from the vote. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by a vote of four in favor and one Council Member recused.

IX. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION:

A. Appointments

i. Redevelopment Commission – 1 reappointment

Council Member Owens made a motion to reappoint Mr. Bernadette Clayton to the Redevelopment Commission. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. Mayor DeVito conducted a roll call vote. Council Member Owens Aye. Council Member Heyward Aye. Council Member Phillips Aye. Council Member Ashmore Aye. Mayor DeVito Aye. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan

This is the second piece of the CBDG process. Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Royal Police Department and the SC Attorney General

This Memorandum of Understanding would formalize the Town's participation in a partnership with the Attorney General in the pursuit and prosecution of internet crimes against children. The Town would be obligated to provide one detective to the task force and participate in investigations of online crimes. Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Royal Police Department and the SC Attorney General. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

X. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

A. Monday, June 15, 2020, 5PM Metro Planning Commission

The Metro Planning Commission is held at the City of Beaufort, and is still being held virtually.

Council Member Phillips read into record an email by Mr. Mitchell, who will be holding a protest march in the City of Beaufort on Sunday June 21st at 4pm.

XI. COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:

Council Member Owens has offered to sit on the ZBOA as Council representative. Mayor DeVito stated that the Redevelopment Commission still needs a council representative.

In light of what is going around the United States, Mayor DeVito wanted to make that the Town Police Department is reviewing their policies and procedures. The current SOP has basically all of the eight changes being discussed amongst police departments. Chief Beach will give a briefing next month during one of the Town's meetings.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At this time, the Mayor will recognize members of the audience who have submitted speaker forms to address the Council on non-agenda items. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.

The following people wrote public comment emails to the Town and were read into record:

Richard Beesley
Robert Wilkenson
Phillip Ailing
Jane Abrams
Patty Clark
Pee Dunning
Judy Ailing

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Town Manager Evaluation

Council Member Owens made a motion to move into an executive session to discuss the Town Manager Evaluation. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council entered executive session at 7:52 PM
Council exited executive session at 8:02 PM

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Heyward made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brooke Plank-Buccola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brooke" and last name "Buccola" clearly legible.

Brooke Plank-Buccola
Municipal Clerk

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting was posted on the Town bulletin board two weeks prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and posted at the meeting location twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

The Town of Port Royal does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operations of programs, services, or activities. Qualified individuals who need accessible communication aids and services or other accommodations to participate in programs and activities are invited to make your needs and preferences known to the 504/ADA coordinator. If at all possible, please give us at least a three to five day advance notice so we can adequately meet your needs. 504/ADA coordinator at 843-986-2245