



Council

Samuel E. Murray
Mayor

Tom Klein
Mayor Pro Tempore

Jerry Ashmore
Vernon DeLoach
Mary Beth Heyward

Van Willis
Town Manager

T. Alan Beach
Chief of Police

Jeffrey S. Coppinger
Operations

Linda Bridges
Planning

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

December 9, 2015

Members Present: Mayor Sam Murray and Councilmembers Jerry Ashmore, Vernon DeLoach, Mary Beth Heyward and Tom Klein

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Planning Administrator Linda Bridges, Police Chief Alan Beach and Municipal Clerk Tanya Payne

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Murray called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION:

Councilmember DeLoach offered the invocation.

Mayor Murray asked everyone to observe a moment of silence in memory of Councilmember DeLoach's grandson who had passed away.

III. REAPPOINTMENT AND OATH OF OFFICE:

A. Judge James Grimsley

Mayor Murray administered the oath of office to Judge James Grimsley for another two year term as the Town's judge.

IV. OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS:

A. Mayor Sam Murray:

Judge Grimsley administered the oath of office to Mayor Samuel Murray for another four year term as Mayor.

B. Councilmembers: Jerry Ashmore and Tom Klein:

Judge Grimsley administered the oath of office to Councilmember Tom Klein for another term of four years.

Judge Grimsley administered the oath of office to newly elected Councilmember Jerry Ashmore for a term of four years.

Mayor Murray presented Joe Lee with his Councilmember desk-set and read a list of accomplishments made while Mr. Lee served on Council. He also presented Mr. Lee with a Port Royal watch in appreciation for his service to the town over the past ten years.

Mr. Lee thanked everyone for the watch and the opportunity to serve and said he will still be working for the town in other ways.

V. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE:

Council voted by secret ballot and elected Councilmember Klein to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the next two years

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Minutes from the Public Hearing of November 4, 2015**
- B. Minutes from the Council Workshop of November 4, 2015**
- C. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of November 11, 2015**

Councilmember Heyward moved to adopt the minutes from the Public Hearing of November 4, 2015, the Council Workshop of November 4, 2015 and the Regular Council Meeting of November 11, 2015. Councilmember Klein seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. RECOGNITION:

- A. Recognition of church groups for work done in the town**

VIII. FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:

A. Old Village Association – Nancy Plank, OVA President

Nancy Plank, Chairman of the Old Village Association told Council the 6th Annual Golf Cart Parade would be held on December 12th. She told those present the parade would begin at 5:15 pm at Helena House on Paris Avenue and end at the Live Oaks Park where there would be refreshments and music. Ms. Plank told Council the OVA was giving a gift of pendant banners to the Town to be placed on the poles along Paris Avenue. She showed a picture of what the banners would look like.

IX. COUNCIL BRIEFING:

Out-going Fire Chief Sammy Negrón introduced new Fire Chief Reece Bertholf who would assume his role in January.

Chief Bertholf thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the town and its citizens.

Town Manager Willis told those present the Parks and Recreation Commission would have a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly installed Spanish Galleon Playground at Naval Heritage Park on December 12th. He said there had been a great turnout on Saturday to clean up the park and repair vandalism which had recently taken place at the Naval Heritage Park.

Krystyna Wetzel said she had spoken with Lisa Lil, Public Relations Officer at the Naval Hospital who said she would ask the gate guards to keep an eye out for vandalism at the Naval Heritage Park. Ms. Wetzel said she had also spoken with her about smokers coming from the hospital to smoke at the park.

Engineer Tony Maglione, briefed Council on the recent Stormwater Rate Study. He said Port Royal would be required to comply with the MSH Regulatory Program Implantation soon. Mr. Maglione also said Port Royal residents now pay \$50 annually in stormwater fees but recommended an increase to \$65 in fiscal year 2016/17, \$75 in the 17/18 fiscal year and \$80 in the 18/19 fiscal year.

Town Manager Willis told Council the due diligence period for sale of the port would end December 11th and explained if the deal does not go through, the property will go up for auction. He said the property sale would then be handled by the Department of General Services. Mr. Willis explained the property would be reappraised before it is auctioned off. He also discussed the relocation of the fish market but said the SPA does not want the icemaker inside the building. Mr. Willis said the swordfish boats would be coming in soon.

Town Manager Willis explained RFP bids for filling pot holes in the town's streets were due on December 18th, the speed bump has been removed from Edingburgh Avenue; invasive plant species have been removed from the Cypress Wetlands but said more

were scheduled to be taken out. He said repair work would be done on the boardwalk at the wetlands. Mr. Willis said some post and handrails at the Sands boardwalk will be replaced, explained he is updating the town's Capital Projects List to meet the February deadline, said the bronze lettering for the entry-way sign had won a recent poll on the town's facebook page and that Council would discuss changes to the sign at the annual retreat.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

Mare Deckard distributed an information packet to Council and read a statement opposing the proposed animal control ordinance which Council is considering for first reading tonight.

XI. FIRST READINGS:

A. Ordinance 2015-27. An ordinance of the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina to amend Chapter 3, Animals, of the Town of Port Royal Code of Ordinance revising animal control

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2015-27 by title and explained the county has asked the town to pass this ordinance in order for them to provide animal control services to the town.

Allison Coppage, Beaufort County Animal Shelter told those present the County has just announced a partnership with the Hilton Head Humane Society to build a new Animal Services Campus. She said this is a very good time for the county to revise its animal control ordinance in order to better address the health and safety concerns of the county citizens and animals. Ms. Coppage explained the county was requesting the town to repeal its current ordinance and replace it with this ordinance. She said in exchange for this the county will provide animal services to the town.

Councilmember Klein expressed concern about Section 14-33 concerning animals being allowed off the leash on beaches and waste cleanup and asked how the town could make changes to the ordinance.

Ms. Coppage said Port Royal would need to go through Beaufort County to make changes to the ordinance. She stated if the town wishes to include these issues in the Port Royal Code Council could do so but said the county would not enforce them.

Councilmember Klein moved to table Ordinance 2015-27 for further discussion at the January Workshop at which time they would decide whether to move forward. Councilmember Heyward seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

XII. COUNCIL'S ACTION:

A. Set date for annual Council Retreat

Council chose March 12th, 2015 for the Council Retreat.

XIII. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

- A. Saturday, December 12, 2015, 5:30 pm – Annual Gold Cart Parade on Paris Avenue, line up at Helena House, rain date December 13th**
- B. Monday, December 21, 2015, 5:30 pm – Metro Planning Commission, Beaufort City Hall, 1911 Boundary Street**
- C. Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 4:00 pm – Redevelopment Commission Meeting, Town Hall, 700 Paris Avenue**
- D. Friday, January 1, 2016, Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of New Year's Day**
- E. Wednesday, January 6, 2016, 6:30 pm – Public Hearing, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers**
- F. Wednesday, January 6, 2016, immediately following the scheduled Public Hearing – Council Workshop, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers**
- G. Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 6:30 pm – Council Meeting, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, Paris Avenue**
- H. Wednesday, January 18, 2016, Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Town Manager Willis reviewed the list of important information and dates and reminded everyone Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed December 24th and 25th in observance of Christmas.

XIV. COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:

Council expressed condolences to Councilmember DeLoach in the loss of his grandson.

Councilmember Klein reminded everyone of the Golf Cart Parade and invited everyone to join in.

Councilmember Ashmore thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the town and its citizens.

Out-going Councilmember Joe Lee presented the town mail box and a box of materials to new Councilmember Jerry Ashmore.

XV. 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.

Bethany Hopkins told everyone the Port Royal Elementary School toy drive was a great success but said she still needed gifts for three children. She thanked everyone who helped with the drive and told them the school would be presenting a Christmas Concert on December 10th beginning at 10 am.

Bob Bender thanked Council for passing the ordinance which allows for assistance in removing dangerous trees from private property.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Heyward moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

A reception in honor of Joe Lee was held after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Tanya L. Payne
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.

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