



Council

Joe DeVito
Mayor

Darryl Owens
Mayor Pro Tempore

Jerry Ashmore
Mary Beth Heyward
Kevin Phillips

Van Willis
Town Manager

T. Alan Beach
Chief of Police

Jeffrey S. Coppinger
Operations

Noah Krepps
Planning

Minutes

Council Meeting

Port Royal Town Hall, Yvonne C Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue

April 12, 2023

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

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Planning Director Noah Krepps, Director of Administrative Services Brooke Plank-Buccola, Town Clerk Lisa Graham

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Devito called the Council Meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Phillips led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

III. INVOCATION

Council Member Owens led the invocation.

IV. OATH OF OFFICE - CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ARSHEE MARROW

New Codes Enforcement Officer Arshee Marrow was sworn into office by Mayor Devito.

V. COUNCIL BRIEFING

Town Manager Willis suggested that with the full agenda and having gone over the Council Briefing at the April 5, 2023 Council Workshop it was not necessary to review.

VI. PROCLAMATION

A. Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month Proclamation – Chris Wilbur and Sally McAlister

Mayor Devito read the proclamation into the record and presented to Chris Wilbur with CAPA and Sally McAlister with Hopeful Horizons.

At this time, Council Member Heyward made the motion to remove the first reading of Ordinance 2022-22 from the agenda. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Ian Scott addressed the topic of affordable housing and the potential impact of the Tree Ordinance. He asked Council to consider committing to a review in six months.

Paul Trask stated that there should be a balance between growing a commercial base and current restrictions within the proposed Tree Ordinance.

Wendy Zara thanked Council and staff for their hard work.

Hank Hofford is concerned with the effect the ordinance will have on the work force redevelopment plans he has for his commercial properties in addition to future commercial development. He asked that pine trees and water oaks not have the same standard as live oaks.

Grant McClure, a project manager with Coastal Conservation League commended Council on the robust ordinance. He stressed the importance of incentivizing the preservation and replanting of trees.

Elizabeth Bergmann suggested that fees be doubled, and exemptions be waived for commercial use.

Courtney Worrell with the Lowcountry Land Council and 303 Associates complimented Council on the changes to the current draft of the ordinance and keeping Port Royal open to responsible development.

VIII. SECOND READING

A. Ordinance 2022-20. An ordinance to repeal and replace in its entirety Chapter 20, "Trees" of the Code of Ordinance of the Town of Port Royal South Carolina.

Planning Director Noah Krepps gave a recap of the modifications made to the current ordinance regarding amendments or suggestive language relative to exemptions that were discussed at the April 5, 2023, Special Council Workshop. Mayor Devito elaborated that mitigation fees will be enforced for the Specimen and Landmark Species. Council member Heyward made a motion to approve ordinance 2022-20. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. He asked that the ordinance be revisited in six months. Mayor Devito stated that he would support Council but felt the fees were too high and was concerned about the long-term tax ramifications for construction. Council Member Owens furthered that the Council is tasked with protecting the culture of Port Royal and attracting the businesses that fit in Port Royal. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Ordinance 2023-4: An ordinance to authorize the Town Manager to convey excess real property to facilitate construction of sidewalks with the Town described by Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 11, Parcel 0325 (sidewalk at 917 12th Street).

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the second reading of ordinance 2023-4. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX. FIRST READING

- A. Ordinance 2022-22. An ordinance to rezone approximately 0.11 acres of real estate described as Beaufort County Tax district 110, Map 11, Parcel 78 located in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T4 Neighborhood Center to T5 Main Street (rezone at 711 7th Street).**

This ordinance was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

- B. Ordinance 2023-7. An ordinance to rezone approximately 0.82 Acres of real estate described as Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 9, Parcel 16 located in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T4 Urban Center to T4 Urban Center to include Manufactured Homes on Individual Lots to Overlay Zone Standards (rezone at 1301 HE Smalls Ct).**

Council Member Phillips made a motion to approve the first reading from the agenda. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- C. Ordinance 2023-6. An ordinance to approve the participation in the South Carolina Local Revenue Services.**

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the first reading from the agenda. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. 2-2023. A resolution regarding Non-Discrimination of the Basis of Disability as established by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1990 (ADA).**

Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve resolution 2-2023 from the agenda. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- B. 3-2023. Fair Housing Resolution.**

Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve resolution 3-2023 from the agenda. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. 4-2024. Eagle Scout Project – Caleb Hardage.

Caleb Hardage created parking barriers at the Naval Heritage Skate Park for his Eagle Scout Project. He worked with Planning Director Krepps to create his design, obtained donated materials from sponsors, coordinated with local schools and students to decorate the barriers and incorporated the help of his friends for installation. The Council congratulated him on the results of his project and the benefit to the community. Mayor Devito read the resolution which recognized Caleb’s hard work into record.

X. COUNCIL ACTION

A. Appointments:

i: Town Clerk – appointment

Council Member Owens made a motion to appoint Lisa Graham as Town Clerk. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of Roadway Paving Contract

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the Roadway Paving Contract to Blythe by way of recommendation of staff. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

XI. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES

Town Manager Willis read the following important dates.

- A. Saturday, April 15, 2023 – Soft Shell Crab Festival 11 am to 5 pm, Paris Ave**
- B. Monday, April 17, 2023 - Metropolitan Planning Commission Meeting at City of Beaufort 1911 Boundary Street at 5:00 PM**
- C. Tuesday, April 18, 2023 – Redevelopment Commission Meeting at Port Royal Town Hall at 4:30 PM**

- D. Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Airshow After Dark 6:30 PM to 9 PM, The Shed parking lot
- E. Saturday, April 29, 2023 – Birthday for the Birds 9 AM to 11 AM, Cypress Wetlands Amphitheater
- F. Saturday, April 29, 2023 – Police Department Spring Fling 12 PM to 2 PM, Live Oak Park
- G. Saturday, April 29, 2023 – Zen Den Springfest 11 AM to 4 PM, 709 Paris Ave

Town Manager Willis added that ZBOA will be meeting on May 1st.

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.

Alice Burke commented on ordinance 2022-22. She read a letter to Council outlining the effects it would have on Port Royal.

John Norman expressed concern regarding the easement on 16th St.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Owens made the motion to adjourn the Council Meeting. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Graham
Town Clerk

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