



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

COOL. COASTAL. FAR FROM ORDINARY.

**Minutes
Council Meeting
Port Royal Town Hall, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

May 10, 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, Fire Chief Tim Ogden, Police Major Ron Wekenmann, Planning Director Noah Krepps, Director of Administrative Services Brooke Plank-Buccola, Town Clerk Lisa Graham

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor DeVito called the 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 Ashmore led the invocation.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from the Public Hearing of March 1, 2023**
- B. Minutes from the Council Workshop of March 1, 2023**
- C. Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 8, 2023**
- D. Minutes from the Council Workshop of April 5, 2023**

- E. Minutes from the Special Council Workshop of April 10, 2023**
- F. Minutes from the Council Meeting of April 12, 2023**

Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing of March 1st, the Council Workshop of March 1st, the Council Meeting of March 8th, the Council Workshop of April 5th, the Special Council Workshop of April 10th, and the Council Meeting of April 12th. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

V. PRESENTATION

A. Friends of Cherry Hill Oak - Hope Cunningham

See attached presentation. Hope Cunningham gave an impassioned presentation to preserve and protect Cherry Hill Oak. Mayor DeVito asked for a proclamation supporting Friends of Cherry Hill Oak at the next council meeting.

VI. INTERVIEWS FOR ACCOMODATION TAX COMMITTEE

Applicant Elizabeth Smith was interviewed by Council.

VII. COUNCIL BRIEFING

Town Manager Willis stated that there was nothing new to brief Council.

VIII. 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.

There were no comments from the public.

IX. SECOND READING

A. 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 second reading of ordinance 2023-6. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

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 Overlay Zone Standards (1301 HE Smalls Ct).

Council Member Ashmore made a motion to approve the second reading of ordinance 2023-7. Council Member Mary Beth Heyward seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

X. FIRST READING

- A. Ordinance 2023-8. An ordinance to authorize the Town Manager to convey excess real property to facilitate construction of sidewalks within the Town described as Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 10, Parcel 0073 (1201 16th St).**

Mayor DeVito asked Manager Willis to explain the sidewalk program to all new residents. Manager Willis clarified that it is a cost sharing program that the Town undertook two decades ago to fill in the gaps on the sidewalk. It does convey excess property to the property owner, and they cost share the construction of the sidewalk.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the first reading of ordinance 2023-8. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

- B. Ordinance 2023-9. An ordinance to amend as follows section I of Ordinance 2022-4 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, 2023, and to provide for the expenditures thereof.**

Manager Willis stated that there have been two budget workshops. Included in the budget there are additional positions for the Police Department, Zoning, Streets and Sanitation and Building Services. 5% COLA has been included. Not anticipating any mileage increase, have seen enough growth in the existing property tax base to cover those additional expenditures. Budget anticipated for the upcoming fiscal year going to be \$9 million.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the first reading of ordinance 2023-9. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

- C. Ordinance 2023-10. An ordinance to approve the court department budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.**

Manager Willis made clear that this is a stand-alone ordinance for this department so there is no appearance of conflict with the budget for this fiscal year \$201,845.00.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the first reading of ordinance 2023-10. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. Council Member Phillips recused himself from the vote. The motion was carried by a vote of four.

- D. Ordinance 2023-11. An ordinance to rezone approximately 0.39 acres of real estate described in as Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 10, Parcel 343 located in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T3 Edge to T4 Neighborhood Center – Open (2001 Berkeley Cir).**

Council Member Heyward made a motion to approve the first reading of ordinance 2023-11. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

XI. COUNCIL ACTION

A. Appointments:

- i. Accommodation Tax Committee – Appointments**
- ii. CVB – reappointment**

Manager Willis defined the need for an Accommodation Tax Committee once the Town crosses the threshold of collecting more than \$50,000 in local accommodation tax. The committee is charged with reviewing the applications for the discretionary funds that are available to the committee. They will be making recommendations to Council.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve Nick Borreggine, Carla Ferguson, Greg Godfrey, Morgan Iovine, and Elizabeth Smith to the Accommodation Tax Committee. Council Member Heyward seconded the vote. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve Nancy Plank's reappointment to the Greater Beaufort Port Royal Convention Visitors Bureau Board. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

B. Local Revenue Service Intergovernmental Agreement

The Local Revenue Service Intergovernmental Agreement as explained by Manager Willis is a formalization of recognition of a relationship that the Town has with the Municipal Association to serve as a collector of business license fees for telecommunications and insurance.

Council Member Owens made a motion to approve the Local Revenue Service Intergovernmental Agreement. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

C. Recommendation by the Redevelopment Commission to allocate \$3.5 million for planning and installation of sewer.

Mayor DeVito recommended that no action be taken until study is completed.

XII. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES

Town Manager Willis read the following important dates.

- A. Thursday, May 11, 2023 - Beaufort Eye Center Ribbon Cutting at 1664 Ribaut Rd at 4:00 PM**
- B. Saturday, May 13, 2023 – Outdoor Gym Equipment Ribbon Cutting at Naval Heritage Park at 10:00 AM**

- C. Tuesday, May 16, 2023 – Redevelopment Commission Meeting at Port Royal Town Hall at 4:30 PM
- D. Saturday, May 20, 2023 – Spring Street Music, Joslyn & The Sweet Compressions at 6:00 PM
- E. Saturday, June 3, 2023 – Spring Street Music, The Boneshakers at 6:00 PM

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Arborist Michael Murphy asked Council to show support for the Friends of Cherry Hill Oak. He complimented Hope Cunningham on her hard work.

Bobby Monroe with HDL Companies would like to meet with Town Manager Willis regarding a revenue enhancement program.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

No comments from Council.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Respectively submitted,



Lisa Graham
Town Clerk

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (a)(d)(e), as amended, notification of regular meetings was given at the beginning of the calendar year. A copy of the agenda was posted on the Town Hall's bulletin board and website www.portroyal.org twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and requested public on file.

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 Civil Rights Coordinator. If at all possible, please give us at least a three to five day advance notice so we can adequately meet your needs. Civil Rights Coordinator at 843-986-2245.