



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

Noah Krepps
Planning

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

August 11, 2021

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

Members Absent: Council Member Darryl Owens

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Police Deputy Chief Ron Wekenemann, Fire Department Chief Reece Bertholf, Planning Administrator Noah Krepps, and Municipal Clerk Brooke Plank-Buccola

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor DeVito called the council meeting to order at 6:30PM, and Council Member Heyward led the pledge of allegiance.

II. INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Council Member Ashmore.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from the Special Meeting of July 6, 2021**
- B. Minutes from the Public Hearing of July 7, 2021**
- C. Minutes from the Council Workshop of July 7, 2021**
- D. Minutes from the Special Meeting of July 7, 2021**
- E. Minutes from the Public Hearing of July 14, 2021**

F. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of July 14, 2021

Council Member Heyward made a motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting of July 6, 2021, the public hearing of July 7, 2021, the council workshop of July 7, 2021, the special meeting of July 7, 2021, the public hearing of July 14, 2021, and the regular council meeting of July 14, 2021. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried by three votes in favor (Mayor Devito, Council Member Heyward and Council Member Phillips). Council Member Ashmore abstained from the vote since he was not able to attend all meetings.

IV. COUNCIL BRIEFING:

Chief Bertholf introduced the new City of Beaufort/Town of Port Royal Fire Chief Tim Ogden to Council. Chief Bertholf will be taking a full-time position with the City of Beaufort as Assistant City Manager.

Mr. Willis informed Council that Town staff has been working on finding a remedy on the porch question from last week. Unfortunately, the state building code requires engineered drawing for this type of structural build. The Town realizes that the cost for the engineering drawing can be more expensive than the actual build. Staff would like to see if they could get an engineer to create a generic porch drawing that could be kept on file.

Waste Pro has been greatly impacted by Covid. Only two trucks were available this week for pick-ups due to drivers being out sick. The regional manager was on one of the vehicles to make sure everything was getting done. The Town should be nearly back on track.

Chairperson John Hazel of the Parks and Recreation Commission briefed Council on the committee's recent meeting with a design firm. Ultimately, they would like to have public input on the Naval Heritage Park. The committee will create a survey and have it shared in the Town's newsletter and on social media.

Mr. Bob Ellis, co-owner of Port Royal Veterinary Hospital gave Council an update on their building from last month's tornado. Two trees pierced the main roof of the building causing not only structural damage but also a large opening for rain to flood the facility. Supplies are estimated to be three to six months out, and they are looking into other options in the meantime. Port Royal Veterinary Hospital has been doing fundraisers to cover their deductible of \$100,000. The deductible is set at an industry standard price for wind policy coverage in coastal areas.

In the past month, the Town has been in receipt of 15 FOIA request. A few of the request are coming from repeat people.

V. SECOND READING:

- A. Ordinance 2021-27. An ordinance to rezone approximately 3.24 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 9, Parcel 36 and 204 in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T4 Urban Center to T4 Neighborhood Center-Open.**

Council Member Philips made a motion to approve ordinance 2021-27. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. FIRST READING:

- A. Ordinance 2021-28. An ordinance to rezone approximately 95.81 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County tax district 110, map 6, Parcel 3C in Beaufort County South Carolina to be rezoned from T3 Neighborhood to T1 Natural Preserve.**

Council Member Phillips made a motion to approve ordinance 2021-28. Council Member Heyward seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- B. Ordinance 2021-29. An ordinance to adopt a revised business license ordinance in accordance with the Business License Standardization Act (2020 Act No. 176)**

This ordinance is a statewide mandate for standardizing business licenses. Council will receive an in-depth presentation next month. Council Member Heyward made a motion to pass the first reading of ordinance 2021-29. Council Member Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. COUNCIL ACTION:

A. Appointments

i. BJWSA Representative – 1 appointment/reappointment

Council Member Heyward recused herself from this discussion and vote. Council Member Phillips made a motion to appoint David Strange as BJWSA Representative. Mayor DeVito seconded the motion. The motion carried by two votes in favor (Mayor DeVito and Council Member Phillips) and one vote against (Council Member Ashmore).

B. Discussion of Redevelopment Commission

Council would like to see the number of members reduced from seven to five. They would also like to give to specify a geographic location for them to focus on. Once they have accomplished their goal for that area, Council will then re-evaluate the next area to focus on. Council would like to see a presentation next month with a map for the location in consideration. At this time, the board has only three members and will need to stand down due to not having a quorum.

VIII. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

- A. Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 4:30pm Redevelopment Commission**
- B. Saturday, August 21, 2021, 6:00pm Fall Concert Series, Katie Henry**
- C. Monday, August 23, 2021, 5:00pm Municipal Election Commission**

Mr. Ian Scott, Director for the Beaufort Chamber announced that their will be a ribbon cutting for Tout Sweet Macarons on Friday, August 13th at 4:30PM. This is a new business in the Town of Port Royal.

IX. COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:

Council Member Phillips and Heyward congratulated Council Member Ashmore on his wedding anniversary with Ms. Tina.

Mayor DeVito was thrilled with last week's street concert. He also announced that he will not be at the Council Workshop due to attending The United States Conference of Mayors.

X. 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.

Mr. Ronald Jackson is worried about the potential development on the property adjacent to his own. The Help of Beaufort is engineering diagrams for a building. Mr. Noah Krepps, the Town Planning Director would be happy to meet with any concerned neighbors to discuss the development.

Mr. Steve Jones is a resident of Port Royal and lives on 12th Street. He is very concerned with the amount of parking that the Al-Anon building is using for their meetings. People attending the meeting are parking all over yards and in front of the stop sign. The Police Department will monitor the traffic during high attendance meeting times.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Ashmore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion. The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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