



Council

Joe DeVito
Mayor

Darryl Owens
Mayor Pro Tempore

Mary Beth Heyward
Jerry Ashmore
Kevin Phillips

Van Willis
Town Manager

T. Alan Beach
Chief of Police

Jeffrey S. Coppinger
Operations

Noah Krepps
Planning

Minutes
Council Workshop
Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue
September 7, 2022

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Police Chief Alan Beach, Planning Director Noah Krepps, Director of Administrative Services Brooke Plank-Buccola, and Town Clerk Natalia Laney

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor DeVito called the Council Workshop to order at 6:30pm.

II. PRESENTATION

Alex with Nexus Consulting Group made a presentation to council regarding a communications service via text messages they provide.

III COUNCIL BRIEFING

Chief Alan Beach and Sgt Steven Colson with Town of Port Royal Police introduced their new officers: PFC Brian Clark, PFC Joseph McDivitt and PFC Anthony DiDonato.

Town Manager Willis discussed the following items:

Spanish Moss Trail – No new progress update. Mayor DeVito attended Friends of the Spanish Moss Trail meeting tonight prior to the council meeting. It was reported that the permit for the crossing has been revised and will be resubmitted this week.

Safe Harbor – Virtual Buoy has been abandoned by the Coast Guard. Concern will now be the maintenance of the channel and maintenance of existing buoys which will be multifaceted. Council Member Ashmore questioned if there had been any discussion on what type of effect the Sound is receiving from the pumping and renourishment of the local beaches. It was unknown if it has been measured there but there usually is impact on adjacent beaches. There is a meeting scheduled with Safe Harbor this week and council will be briefed on the outcome of that meeting at next council meeting.

Ribaut Road corridor study – Draft of the study was available to council for review. Presentation to go to steering committee and then will be presented to council.

Sands Beach - Boat landing repairs by Beaufort County are scheduled for September 12th and will be wrapped up by September 30th. Repairs to the stormwater pipe will begin after the county completes their repairs. Council Member Phillip thanked the county for the repairs they will be making. Beaufort County has agreed to work out a maintenance agreement. Mayor DeVito commented to make sure access is still available to the boardwalk while repairs are being made.

Duck Blinds Pond – Town Manager Willis has had discussions with the management company regarding ongoing issues with aerators becoming clogged with algae. Discussions are being had with other local companies who can address the issue in a timelier manner.

Codes Enforcement – Jeff Vortisch has been added to the Codes Enforcement division. Council Member Heyward commented that she personally has received calls regarding trash being improperly disposed of. It was stressed we all need to do our part to keep Port Royal clean, to beautify the Town and why this new codes enforcement position was added.

Impact Fees – Final draft of the latest IGA regarding traffic, library, and recreation impact fees was provided to council. Second reading to be added to agenda for October council meeting. Mayor DeVito requested public comment regarding the IGA to be added to the agenda following the second reading.

Shrimp Facility Boats – The two boats have been arrested and will be sold at auction. Town Manager Willis spoke with Tony this week about scoping out the demolition and

any revisions to the permit for reconstruction of the dock. A derelict boat ordinance, which was modeled after Folly Beach's ordinance, will be added to next month's agenda.

Royal Palms CDBG – The materials have been ordered, logistics have been addressed, and the easement with the Preserve has been secured. The Beaufort County good neighbor funds will be utilized for this project.

Paris Ave – Tony Maglione, Town Engineer, has been in discussions with Michael Klink to make sure conceptual drawings are completed.

Federal Funds and Grants – The Town is submitting a drainage project to the Rural Infrastructure Grant program on Monday September 12th. The scope of the project will be the drainage on 10th and 11th Street as well as Madrid Ave, West Paris Ave and the Post office – Anchor Park area of Paris Avenue.

Naval Hospital Sidewalks – Town Manager Willis received an email from SCDOT and per a conversation that was relayed to Mayor DeVito, progress appears to be moving forward.

Personnel – Cynthia Smalls has retired as of September 1st and her position of business license administrator has been filled by Alexis Linder. A building permit position was recently filled but is now back open.

Housing IGA – The latest draft has been completed. \$500,000 was received from Beaufort County Good Neighbor Fund which will cover the costs within the first year of the program. The item will be added to the council meeting agenda for next week. A couple of drainage projects that are in the immediate future are in the 7th Street and London Ave area as well as a sidewalk issue in front of the Post Office.

Council Member Phillips commented his appreciation for the Joint Council Meeting with the City of Beaufort that was last night. He also commented that City of Beaufort mentioned they had recently passed their Stormwater Resolution and suggested the Town of Port Royal should do the same. Town Manager Willis commented the Southern Lowcountry Stormwater Design Manual was still under review. Mayor DeVito suggested it to be added to the agenda for next council meeting.

IV. COUNCIL INFORMATION

A. Tree Ordinance Review Update

Planning Director, Noah Krepps, discussed the progress of the review of the current tree ordinance including the evaluation of reasonable design alternatives, staff review of trees, incorporation of trees in the initial site plan review, tree boards, and mitigation costs. Planning Director Krepps will continue with gathering information and consulting experts to present to council at next meeting.

V. REVIEW AGENDA FOR THE September 14th COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor DeVito requested that the redevelopment commission incentive program discussion be removed from the agenda for September Council meeting. Town Manager to work on drafted ordinance. Item will be moved to the agenda for October meeting.

VI. IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION:

- A. Monday September 12, 2022, at 5:30 PM, Zoning Board of Appeals at Town Hall**
- B. Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 6:00 PM, Street Music on Paris Avenue – Backline**
- C. Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 4:30 PM, Redevelopment Commission at Town Hall.**
- D. Saturday, September 24, 2022 at 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM OktoPRfest on Paris Ave**
- E. Saturday, October 1, 2022, at 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM, Food Truck Festival on Paris Ave**

Council Member Heyward mentioned on Saturday September 24th, Fishcamp is celebrating their 4th anniversary with and annual shrimp boil. Proceeds from the event to go to Help of Beaufort.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendy Zara made comments regarding the Town's current tree ordinance and suggestions for improvements.

Debbie & Phil Schlotzhauer made comments regarding their neighboring property and overgrown grass.

Jesse White of Coastal Conservation League made comments regarding the current tree ordinance and suggestions of improvements.

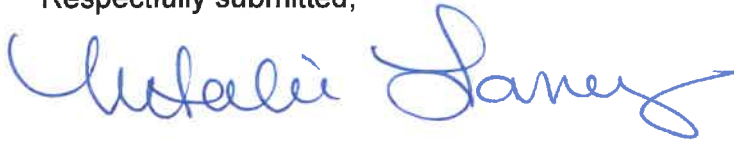
District 4 Council Member Alice Howard commented on the following items: The Greenspace Ordinance has moved through Natural Resource committee with a few changes and is planning to be presented next to the full council; a gate is being installed at Shell Point Park; an earmark has been made by Congressman Nancy Mace for stormwater in Shell Point; Ribbon cutting at new autopsy suite is being held at 10:00am September 8th. Mayor DeVito asked Council Member Howard if there was an update on the status of the surface run off to Arthur Horne Park. A grant was applied for but denied. They are still pursuing other options for funding.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Council Workshop Minutes
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The council workshop adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Natalia Laney
Town Clerk

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