

James Island Intergovernmental Council Meeting – VIRTUAL
Jan 20, 2021 @ 7:00 P.M.

Minutes

Attending: Town of James Island: Mayor Woolsey, Councilman Garrett Milliken, Councilman Troy Mullinax, and Councilwoman Cynthia Mignano. City of Charleston: Councilman Ross Appel (Vice Chair) and Councilwoman Carol Jackson. Charleston County: Councilwoman Jenny Honeycutt (Chair) and Councilwoman Anna Johnson. State Sen. Sandy Senn, Sen. Chip Campsen and Rep. Spencer Wetmore. James Island Public Service District: Commissioners Alan Laughlin, Kathy Woolsey, Susan Milliken and Brenda Grant.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05. Following introductions and public comments, Councilwoman Jackson moved and motion was seconded by Commissioner Woolsey to approved the minutes from the Oct 2020 meeting. Motion passed.

Public Comments -

Leslie Skardon – Ms. Skardon is attending tonight on behalf of the League of Women Voters of the Charleston area, on the board and director of good government ethics. She gave an overview of good government ethics work and the redistricting work, and how important redistricting is for fair elections. When Census info is released will look at how the information affects the state senate maps. Please visit Voters Rule 2020.blog where they will be updating the public.

Dave Schaeffer – Mr. Schaeffer is the new District Manager for the JIPSD and introduced himself to the group.

Old Business –

1. Update on status of ACOE General Maintenance Permit and DHEC Outfall Maint. Reviews presented by Charleston County Stormwater – Chair Honeycutt has been in communication with Blair Williams of DHEC as well as Sen. Campsen and Sen. Senn and DHEC has come down twice to do inspections of outfalls that can be considered maintenance. Eric Adams with Charleston County said they meet with Blair again today and Tracy with Army Corp and Army Corp hoping to wrap up their general permit by March or April. Working to define limits on James Island where maint. can be done without a permit. Sen. Campsen asked Eric to keep them advised of any roadblocks they may run into. Sen. Senn felt the discussion went well and they realize we are serious about moving this forward and is supportive of separating out the drainage issues out of DHEC. Councilwoman Jackson thanked everyone for their hard work on this. Commissioner Woolsey asked where these two outfalls were and Eric responded he said it was about ten areas, including the Central Park area. Councilman Appel thanked everyone as well as he feels this is the best work they can do to help move the needle on improving drainage on James Island.

2. Intersection Improvement Project Updates presented by Charleston County Transportation – A list of 15 projects was shared with the group and touched on James Island ones. Mentioned that TST applications due in February. Camp Rd Sidewalk to Riverland still awaiting stormwater permit from City and working with Church on drainage easement. Central Park culver replacement – staff looked at RFQ and taking to Council for approval. Central Park and Riverland Drive – County Council approved to move forward with

elongated roundabout and working to begin ROW acquisition in late Spring. Folly Bike Ped Improvement Project – Submitted plans for comments and Toole Design, Consultant for ReThink Folly, reviewed as well with not many comments. Should get maint. agreement from DOT within next 2 weeks. Ft. Johnson and Secessionville Rd – developing constructions plans. Needs Water Main relocation so project won't begin until 2022. Maybank and Woodland Shores – started out as midblock crossing and now includes multiuse path on Maybank because they were able to get federal funding. Mayor Woolsey asked about Camp and Ft. Johnson and DeToma said working on utility coordination and hoping to have something to public in next 3 months. Ms. Mackenzie Kelly with County discussed resurfacing project and gave an overview of plan and what neighborhoods are completed and remaining. Councilwoman Johnson asked DeToma about Secessionville and Ft. Johnson in regard to what the million-dollar cost was for, and she responded it is for CWS to move the water main which CWS will be responsible for most of it and their small 4% share is included in estimate already. Councilwoman Jackson thanked Ms. Kelly for her work with jurisdictions on her communication and responsiveness.

3. Stop Light Timing – Benjamin Keith with City Transportation discussed this– have been waiting on school district to do a study at new middle school before light at Camp and Folly was going to be relooked at as City maintains this intersection light. Suggestion was to look at timing aspect of light and if there is a cost associated with it may need school district to help with costs. Still evaluating options. Folly and Ft. Johnson – this is a DOT maintained light and Mr. Johnson with DOT is awaiting on developers traffic impact analysis and haven't completed yet because their buildout is not yet complete but expecting study in February. Sen. Senn said there is a constant stream of complaints about both these intersections and hoping afternoon timing at Camp and Folly can be looked at quickly and morning traffic at Publix that needs attention. Honeycutt says sounds like we should have something on this by our April meeting. Councilwoman Mignano wonders why the left turn light can't just be changed back as it was before Publix was built, and Honeycutt said they are requiring a new study before changing back.

New Business –

1. James Island Sheriff's Patrol / New Dedicated Deputy– Mayor Woolsey announced that the Town signed a contract with the Sheriff's Office for a dedicated deputy. They continue to have many off-duty deputies but now they have Deputy King dedicated to the Town on a regular basis. Deputy King introduced himself to the group. Sgt. James with the Island Sheriff's Patrol also spoke to the group about how well Deputy King has been doing on James Island. Councilwoman Johnson asked how many patrol cars we have on James Island. Deputy James said he currently has 37 that they rotate on James Island and normally have 3 or 4 working at night.

5. Corner of Camp / Folly Redevelopment – Town Administrator Ashley Kellahan briefed the group that a Chase Bank has submitted an application for redeveloping that corner where Subway once was and currently its under Site Plan and Stormwater plan review. Currently working with the developer on including a bus pullout lane.

6. James Island Arts and Cultural Center – Kellahan shared some pictures of the new center and the progress there. Minor renovations but large change order with installing a new HVAC unit. Said the Town received a Hometown Economic Development grant for \$25,000 to help offset those costs. Tentative opening is for early summer 2021.

7. Presentation by Mark Wilbert, City Resilience Director – Councilwoman Jackson introduced Mr. Wilbert who gave a presentation on the ACOE Seawall which she considers and innovative protection system.

Flooding that happens with high tide occurs downtown approximately 89 times a year. Environmental compliance will be ongoing and working on study to how surrounding communities are impacted and should have that completed in February. Net benefits the wall will see is 88 million every year over a 50-year period. Cost benefit ratio is 2.3 but may be increased to 2.5 with new updated plan coming out in February. Final study recommendation is Fall 2021. Construction could start as early as 2027.

8. Howle Ave Greenbelt Application – Councilman Appel discussed the project that Chair Honeycutt has championed. It is a 3.65-acre site that will be utilized for a passive park and stormwater retention and City has approved submitting it as a project for Greenbelt. Councilman Milliken asked if there was a site plan to share as he is interested in how walking trail may link into other access points nearby. Honeycutt shared her screen to show the plan and how there is a lot of opportunity to improve walkability here. Councilman Milliken said he hoped it could also link up to Riverland Dr. accessing the County Park and maybe even a link to McLeod Plantation. Said it would be great to get the developer of Riverland Oaks to include access as well. Honeycutt noted any chance they have to improve walkability certainly helps with their Greenbelt application.

9. Jl Creek TMDL MOA – Councilman Appel discussed how the stakeholder task force has been working on solutions to this problem and talking about watershed plans and grants available. Progress has been made with finalizing the MOA between the Town, County and City.

10. Maybank Intersection Improvements – Keith Benjamin with the City Transportation discussed this area and exploring all options to improve safety here. They are looking for a consensus from DOT on how best to move forward. The entrance of the Golf Course is not acceptable from a safety perspective and City received CTC funding and County is leveraging those funds with helping to secure complete streets funding through COG. The project is now a 1.2 million project. **Honeycutt said will include this on next task list for next meeting.**

11. Discussion of Urban Growth Boundary on James Island – Commissioner Milliken discussed the importance of this boundary and how it impacts the JIPSD. She discussed the map which was shared with the group and how it was set in place decades ago. Inside the UGB uses are more commercial, industrial and high density while outside the UGB uses are supposed to be more rural in nature, focused on historic preservation, and low density. County has removed UGB on James Island, but City's remains and concern is they are looking an update it in their 10-year revision. She noted from a PSD perspective the pump stations that are in this area could be impacted and more costs on upgrading these facilities. It impacts drainage tremendously. Would request the City put this change off for 5 more years and relook at it when they do their 5-year review. Councilwoman Honeycutt thanked her for her proactive approach on this.

Councilwoman Honeycutt said she will make sure to push out information the County receives regarding vaccine rollout.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.