

The Town of James Island held its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1238-B Camp Road, James Island, SC on Thursday, March 15, 2018. The following members of Council were present: Leonard Blank, Mayor Pro-tem, Garrett Milliken, Darren "Troy" Mullinax, Joshua P. Stokes, and Mayor Bill Woolsey, presided. Also, Ashley Kellahan, Town Administrator, Bonum S. Wilson, Town Attorney, Merrell Roe, Finance Officer, Mark Johnson, Public Works Director, Sergeant Shawn James, Island Sheriff's Patrol, and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Opening Exercises: Mayor Woolsey called the meeting to order; led Council in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. FOIA: This meeting was published and posted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island.

Public Comment:

Mark Teseniar, 467 Fort Johnson Rd., spoke about concerns at Pinckney Park as Council moves towards Phase II. Mr. Teseniar said he taught in Charleston County public schools for 33 years and has built several houses. He mentions this because he has some knowledge in putting things together like this. He is a believer in local government and thanked Council for the opportunity to address them. Overall, he rejoices living adjacent to the park as opposed to a dense housing development. The Town has done a nice job and the park gets a lot of use. The concerns he has are: 1) the park is not as passive as he had thought when the master plan was presented, nor is it as natural. There are many beautiful plantings, but he is unsure that they are natural. There are concrete curbs in the parking lot and the parking lot is large; the pathways are oversized and not so natural and he fears a continuation of this trend. He has spoken to the Mayor on a few occasions and the Mayor agrees that some things did not turn out the way he wanted. 2) On the master plan, the picnic shelter was located on the west/east end of the park; now it is moved almost adjacent to the playground. He thinks if it is there, it would infringe upon the meadow (a major feature sold in the original master plan). He believes a better job could be done based on the renderings that were originally presented. Mr. Teseniar said he used a 50 ft. tape and moved it a minimum of 25 steps to have it tucked into the natural wood line. This, he said, would maintain the Mayor's objective, have it close to playground, and preserve the overflow parking. This would make it more natural and not take away from the meadow. He would appreciate this and could show how it could work. 3) night-time lighting be minimized by having motion sensors. 4) buffers placed at strategic spots would help minimize noise. He asked to work with the Town on these concerns.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes of February 15, 2018 Regular Town Council Meeting: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Milliken and passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

- a. Finance Report: Finance Officer, Merrell Roe. Written report provided and accepted as information.
- b. Administrator Report: Town Administrator, Ashley Kellahan. Written report provided and accepted as information.
- c. Public Works Report: Public Works Director, Mark Johnson. Written report provided and accepted as information. Councilman Stokes asked the status of the Light House Point project. Mrs. Kellahan responded that the drainage piece is slowing the project; but we are looking splitting the project to have the sidewalk portion separate. Councilman Milliken asked the status of the Seaside Lane Right-of-Way acquisition drainage project. Mrs. Kellahan said we have the right-of-way and it will soon go to bid.

- d. Island Sheriffs' Patrol Report: Sergeant James gave an update on the parking situation at Grand Concourse/James Island High School. A meeting will be held with the traffic division, school resource, and school Principal regarding this issue. He informed Council that Deputy Obelt has been monitoring parking in the area. Crime statistics and the February Island Sheriffs' Patrol report was accepted as information.

Request for Approval:

Sterling Drive Improvements: Rakes Building & Maintenance Contractors -DBA Blutide Marine Construction: Mrs. Kellahan reported that three (3) bids were received and Blutide Marine was the low bidder at \$104,105. Motion in favor was made by Councilman Blank, seconded by Councilman Stokes. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Youth Soccer Club Fields/Town Market Cost Share on New Fence: Mrs. Kellahan reported that Alexandra Purro (Nano Market) and Town Market vendors have been requesting a new fence with gate access onto Fort Johnson Road for pedestrians and vendors to utilize. The James Island Youth Soccer Club was also interested. The Town received four (4) quotes for a living fence from low bidder Flatley Carpentry, LLC at \$5,800. The Town and James Island Youth Soccer will split the cost at \$2,900 each. Motion in favor was made by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Blank. In response to Councilman Stokes' question about installation, Mr. Johnson responded that it should be done in 2-3 weeks. Motion passed unanimously.

Renew Contract with Anne Peterson, Esq. for Lobbying Services ending June 2018: Councilman Stokes requested that the agenda item be withdrawn if there were no objections. There were no objections and the request was withdrawn.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: No report

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilman Milliken reported on James Island Pride Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pickup on March 10. Eight (8) volunteers picked up 18 bags of trash totaling 270 pounds. The next pickup is May 5. Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m. Helping Hands will host a service event at the Town Hall. Helping Hands is looking for volunteer groups to sign up for upcoming opportunities to assist people that do not have the ability to take care of their yards. The specific target are youth groups with adult leadership. If anyone has such a group, contact Mary Beth Berry, Chair, Helping Hands, 843-425-6473. James Island Arts hosted its Fifth Annual Art Auction on February 24. Special thanks to Town staff: Mayor Woolsey, Mark Johnson, Merrell Roe, Douglas Sparling. There was a Juried Art Show and prizes were awarded to the top finishers in elementary, middle and high school divisions, music performances, and an international renowned blues guitar player, Robert Lightfoot. Recognition was given to Katherine Williams, Chair, of James Island Arts, who spearheaded the committee's efforts. The total proceeds of \$350.00 each will be given to eleven Art Teachers. Poetry Reading will be held on Sunday, March 18 from 2-4 p.m. at McLeod Plantation, featuring Cave Canum poet, Gary Jackson. The poetry workshop scheduled for Saturday, the 17 is cancelled. Councilman Milliken announced that his services as a liaison for James Island Arts is no longer needed as they now have the ability to form their own organization apart from James Island Pride. This will allow them to function more independently of James Island Pride and be able to do more things with the resources the Town might allow them. The Town will continue to support James Island Arts during this transition and he is pleased that the Town has proposed to support them at a higher level. James Island Arts has wonderful things planned for the future and he looks forward to supporting them in a volunteer capacity.

Children's Commission: Councilman Stokes reported the Second Annual Easter Egg Roll on Saturday, March 31 at the James Island Youth Soccer Club. The Easter Egg Roll will be done in conjunction with the

Town Marker. Alexandra Purro, Nano Farms, heads this up and is in the audience. The Town Market will run from 9-1 p.m. and the Easter Egg Roll will be held 11-1 p.m. Councilman Stokes invited everyone to come enjoy the Town Market and the activities planned; jump castle, obstacle course, food trucks, eggs with Town's logo, and more.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Mullinax announced the next Neighborhood Council meeting on Thursday, March 22 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

History Commission: Mayor Woolsey reported that the History Commission at its last meeting voted to have the Town sponsor Charleston Victory Day. This will involve James Island History Commission having a table/booth at Liberty Square (downtown). The cost has not been determined and a proposal will be presented to Council. Charleston Victory Day represents the day the British were defeated during the Revolutionary War in Charleston.

Rethink Folly Road Committee Report: Mayor Woolsey reported that the committee held a special meeting and the body approved the Town's proposal for a pocket park at Camp and Folly. At the Charleston County Council meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, the proposal failed 5-4, so the County is not leasing the property to the Town at the modest amount. Mayor Woolsey said he does not think this is dead, and the Town may be able to come to another arrangement and he is optimistic.

Presentation of Draft Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019: Mrs. Kellahan informed Council there were no changes from what was presented at the Budget Workshop and provided a brief overview. A public hearing is scheduled for April 19 along with first reading. (Copy of Draft Budget).

Proclamations/Resolutions:

Proclamation: 2018 Yom Ha Shoah Holocaust Commemoration/Candle Lighting: Mayor Woolsey read a proclamation in commemoration of the Holocaust. Motion in favor was made by Councilman Stokes, seconded by Councilman Milliken and passed unanimously. Ilene Turbow, member of the Charleston Jewish Community Center, read a prayer. Afterward, Council participated in a candle lighting.

Ordinances up for Second Reading: None

Ordinances up for First Reading: None

New Business: None

Executive Session: Not Needed

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Frances Simmons  
Town Clerk