

Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2024

The March meeting of the Town of James Island Neighborhood Council was convened at 7 pm by Chairman Zennie Quinn.

After the opening Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Quinn called on Town Councilman Troy Mullinax to make comments. Councilman Mullinax thanked both Chairman Quinn and Code Enforcement officer James Hackett for their assistance during these past years in both the forming and maintaining of the Neighborhood Council. He also acknowledged both the dedication and hard work that former Public Works Director Mark Johnson put over the past eleven years into the initial formation of the Neighborhood Council and his assistance in overseeing it's growth over the years. He also mentioned Mr. Johnson's work in organizing both the annual National Night Out and Hurricane Expo events. Councilman Mullinax went on to say that Mr. Johnson was beginning work on April 1 with Beaufort County and wanted to wish him the best.

Mullinax went on to inform attendees that the Fort Johnson/Camp Road Roundabout had been approved by the Town Council and was on track to proceed. He concluded his report by mentioning that the Town's new Town Administrator Michael Hemmer had been working with the Town during these past few weeks on a limited basis but would be taking over his full duties on April 1.

James Hackett of Code Enforcement spoke of the status regarding both the vacant house and disabled vehicle in Centerville. The owner of the house, who resides out of Town, allowed his brother to move into the house. The house has been repaired and the vehicle has been removed. Both tickets have now been dismissed. A neglected home in Kentwood was also discussed. The grass has been cut and the county has been made aware of the condition of the house.

Melissa Flick who is working on an interim basis over the public work department provided updates regarding several drainage projects throughout the Town. She, along with Mayor Lyon and Town Administrator Hemmer will be meeting every two weeks with the county regarding both drainage and stormwater issues. Ms. Flick mentioned that there was an incident on Mellencamp Road where someone had put in their own pipe and culvert, thus causing flooding conditions in the immediate area. The Town was working to remedy this problem. Flooding issues on Kentwood and in the Lighthouse Point community will be addressed soon at these meetings as well as drainage issues in both the Quail Run community and the Oakcrest area. She mentioned that the City fines residents that place debris in ditches and culverts which could help prevent future flooding issues.

Neighborhood Council member Henrietta Martin asked about the paving of Greenhill Road as well as ditch maintenance issues in the Honeyhill community. Ms. Flick said that the county planned to pave the road soon and the ditch issues were being looked into.

Leigh Ohlandt had questions regarding the culverts and drainage issues on both Oceanview and West Oceanview roads. Ms. Flick said that both the Town and county were working on these projects and soon third party contractors were being looked at in assisting with these projects.

Chairman Quinn briefly indicated that School Board member Carol Temple had requested that he pass along information regarding a student vaping awareness meeting that would be held on April 8th at the James Island High School from 6 to 8.

Deputy King asked citizens if they had any concerns. Ms. Ohlandt did indicate that there had been some speeding down Oceanview. Deputy King said that he was glad to see the installation of speed humps throughout the community, especially those on Seaside where he had seen speeders reaching 70 plus miles per hour before they were installed. Deputy King also informed the group that the Island Sheriff's patrol was now coming down on those who choose to park at Edisons to pick up their children from the High School. He said that this was necessary in that it was becoming a safety issue in the immediate area.

Neighborhood Council Bill Lyon informed the members present of the annual Lighthouse Point picnic on April 6 that will be held from noon to 3.

Chairman Quinn spoke on issues that could be done to make the community better, including block parties, neighborhood safety walks and yard of the month projects. He also hit upon the issues regarding cleaning up after your dog and making sure that your house number is visible to first responders. He also said that good sources to get community information out would be through Nextdoor, Facebook and outdoor posters.

The meeting concluded at 8:09 pm.