

Town of James Island Neighborhood Council Minutes  
January 25, 2024

On Thursday, January 24, the Neighborhood Council of the Town of James Island held its January meeting in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall

Neighborhood Council Chairman Zennie Quinn called the meeting to order at 7 pm and introduced Mayor Brook Lyon to the attendees. Mayor Lyon spoke of her plans during the upcoming months and special programs that she has implemented during her first few months as Mayor. She spoke of the many civic meetings that she has attended since assuming office and of the municipal meetings that she has attended and plans to attend during the next several weeks. There is one such municipal meeting that will soon occur that will include the Mayors of Folly Beach, the City of Charleston and the City of North Charleston. It is the Mayor's hope to continue the efforts of maintaining relations with the other area municipalities in order to continue cooperation for joint projects such as sidewalks and drainage.

Mayor Lyon spoke on her open door policy and her efforts to reach out personally to citizens. Each Friday after Council meetings, the Mayor has implemented a morning with the Mayor program where citizens are offered the opportunity to speak with the Mayor regarding concerns that they may have. Mayor Lyon said that direct communications are key to keeping citizens happy. She spoke on other subjects as well, including possible plans to purchase the community center from the county, the upcoming tree trimming schedule of Dominion Power, and Council efforts to promote a balance regarding adjusting the Town's policy regarding Auxiliary Dwelling Units (ADU's) and Bed and Breakfasts. There has been a community meeting regarding this issue with another one planned during the coming weeks. Identifying land for possible Greenbelt purchases was also mentioned as a goal of the Town.

The subject of the possibility of organizing a walk in some select communities by the Neighborhood Council was discussed with some members offering to assist with organizing such events.

Lieutenant Shawn James of the Island Sheriff's Patrol spoke on issues regarding public safety issues on James Island. He said that both crime and accidents were down during the recent Holiday season. He did speak of a recent shooting on Lansdowne that was quickly solved. As always, he reminded attendees not to keep their weapons in an unlocked car. Lieutenant James also said that the Town has more officers patrolling the area than most other areas in the County. There is a severe shortage in the County's law enforcement Department, but fortunately James Island is well covered.

James Hackett of the Town Code Enforcement spoke briefly regarding his recent caseload which included dealing with the removal of non-operational vehicles, the cleanup of debris at the old Hideaway business location and the removal of someone residing in a RV on private property.

Mark Johnson, Director of the Town's Public Works Department, spoke of ongoing projects being worked on throughout the Town. He told attendees that Phase 3 of the Dills Bluff sidewalk project, as well as one planned on Regatta, are still out for bid. Drainage projects in both Stonepost/Oceanview and Quail Run are scheduled to be completed in March.

Chairman Quinn's closing remarks briefly mentioned the ongoing Court case in Folly Beach regarding their issue regarding the Bed and Breakfast and ADU issue in that community.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm.