

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 1122 Dills Bluff Road, James Island, SC. This meeting was also live streamed on the Town's website at www.jamesislandsc.us/livestream-townmeetings and was held in accordance with the S.C. Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island.

The following members of Council were present: Dan Boles, Lewis Dodson, Julia Drayton-Crumblin, Dr. Cynthia Mignano, Darren "Troy" Mullinax, Michael O. Williams, and Mayor Brook Lyon, who presided. Also present: Town Attorney, Brian Quisenberry, Finance Director, Mike Hemmer, Public Works and Licensing Manager, Melissa Flick, Code Enforcement and Facilities, Parker Richardson, Island Sheriff's Patrol, Captain Shawn James and Deputy Taryn Booth, and Town Clerk, Frances Simmons.

Mayor Lyon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She announced that the Town encourages the public to provide comments prior to its Town Council meetings. Residents wishing to address the Council are limited to three (3) minutes and must sign in to speak. Comments may also be sent ahead by emailing to: info@jamesislandsc.us, mail, or placed in the drop box at the Town Hall.

Mayor Lyon introduced herself as Mayor, the members of Town Council, and welcomed new Councilmembers Julia Drayton-Crumblin and Michael O. Williams.

Opening Exercises: Councilman Boles offered a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Order of Business:

Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore: Mayor Lyon announced that the Mayor Pro-Tempore is elected each year in January. She thanked Councilwoman Mignano for her service in this role over the past year and recognized Councilman Mullinax for serving during the first rotation with by the number of votes he received. Mayor Lyon said in accordance with the rotation Councilman Boles would be the next to serve as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

Mayor Lyon moved for the appointment of Councilman Boles to serve as Mayor Pro-Tempore for a one-year term, seconded by Councilman Dodson. There were no other nominations. Passed unanimously Councilman Boles accepted and was congratulated on the appointment.

Public Comments: No one signed in to speak.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes: Town Council Regular Meeting, December 18, 2025: Mayor Lyon said she would like to make an addition to the December 18, 2025, minutes under accomplishments. She had not included Council addressing the first steps for ADU's (Accessory Dwelling Units) that the Town did in a responsible manner. The Town hosted many workshops with the public in attendance. This was important issue to all of Council during their campaign and she felt that it should be added as it will help with Affordable Housing.

Mayor Lyon moved to amend the December 18, 2025, minutes to add "first steps for the ADU process", seconded by Councilman Mullinax. No discussion. The amendment passed unanimously. The motion to approve the minutes with the amendment was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Boles. No discussion. Minutes were approved unanimously with the amendment.

Information Reports:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Lyon introduced Taryn Booth, the new Town Deputy. Deputy Booth has been working closely with staff during the last several weeks and is already a great help. We are very pleased to have her on board. Captain James will introduce her further during the Island Sheriff's Patrol report.

Update on Art and Community Center at the Hillman Lot: We continue to meet with the team and are ahead of schedule in the permitting process. We hope to break ground by May. The team has completed the stormwater permitting and has secured the sewer permit. By securing the sewer permits before January 1, 2026, it resulted in us saving \$10,000 due to rising price increases and is a great cost saver.

Folly Road Safety Study/Medians/Santee Stoplight Update: Mayor Lyon referred to the Resolution included in the Council's packet. She noted that the Neighborhood Council will also be in discussion about this matter. She thanked Mike Hemmer for lining up a presentation by SCDOT at our February Council meeting. She stated that citizens are collecting petitions and other information to express concerns that Town businesses and residents may be negatively impacted by the proposed solutions for medians on Folly Road and the absence of a stoplight at Santee Street.

MASC Training held on January 7: Mayor Lyon announced that Desiree Fragoso, Field Rep. with MASC (Municipal Association of SC) provided training for Town Council. The training was informative and everyone learned a great deal. Ms. Fragoso services 93 cities/towns. She was very complimentary about the Town's transparency; how we post meeting packets online in advance, and how the public is informed about social media events and general information. Mayor Lyon complimented Clerk Simmons for her hard work and she was pleased to hear Ms. Fragoso thinks the Town is doing a great job.

Town Hall Repairs: Mayor Lyon gave an update on the gutter installation at Town Hall. She encouraged Council to look at the completed work. The gutters are attractive and effective and will help alleviate some issues that we have had in the past. The deck replacement project is scheduled to begin in two weeks. The ballistic outfitting approved last year began on Monday. The panic button at the Front Desk was tested with the assistance of Deputy Booth and is functioning properly to enhance safety.

Upcoming Events: Mayor Lyon shared information on the following upcoming events:

- Poetry Reading and Open Mic with Victor Crouch, Thursday, January 29, 7:00 p.m.
- Town Market February 6, 6-8 p.m.
- Tree Giveaway, February 7, Tree Council in conjunction with the Charleston Tree Conservancy, 9-12 Noon.

Finance Report: Mike Hemmer, Finance Director, stated that the monthly report was provided in the Council packet. He stated that the report is for the period ending December 31, 2025, half-way through the fiscal year. He mentioned that an amended budget may be forthcoming for Council's consideration. There were no questions. The report was accepted as information.

Island Sheriff's Patrol Report: Captain James introduced the new Island Sheriff's Patrol Deputy, Taryn Booth. He stated that for the past five years, Deputy Chris King served this community exceptionally well, built strong relationships, and handled issues professionally for the Sheriff's Office and for the Town's Island Sheriff's Patrol. We are grateful for his service and the foundation that he helped to establish.

Moving forward, he is proud to have Deputy Taryn Booth as the new permanent Town of James Island Deputy. He said Deputy Booth served as a patrol deputy under his chain of command for nearly a year. During that time, he had the opportunity to observe her work ethic, judgment, and approach to policing, which gave him the confidence that she would be well suited for this assignment.

In addition to her work with the Sheriff's Office, Deputy Booth is a Sergeant in the US Army and is a member of the diving team. She brings a calm, professional approach to the job. She listens, is compassionate, does not overreact and treats people with respect. These are qualities that are essential for community-based policing."

Captain James added that although she has only been in this role for a short time, she has already demonstrated the professionalism and commitment that gives him full confidence that she will do well here. Deputy Booth was congratulated with a round of applause.

Captain James' report included a summary of crimes and infractions that occurred during the month and over the Christmas holidays. He encouraged citizens not to leave firearms in their vehicles. He also shared information about scams and provided informational flyers to the public.

Public Works Report: Public Works and Licensing Manager Melissa Flick provided an overview of the Public Works report that was accepted as information. Councilwoman Mignano inquired whether there has been recent correspondence with SCDOT and the County regarding the pavement work on Greenhill Road. Ms. Flick responded that she and Mayor Lyon have sent emails to both entities. She stated that she will follow up and will include Councilwoman Mignano and Mayor Lyon in the communication.

Code Enforcement Report: The Code Enforcement Report was provided to Council in their meeting packets. Ms. Richardson availed herself to answer questions from Council. Report accepted as information.

Requests for Consideration by Staff:

Pipe Repair Estimates: North Stiles Drive/Schaffer Street: Melissa Flick presented a request for pipe repairs at North Stiles Drive/Schaffer St. under the roadway at the pond where repair are needed. Town Council asked questions about the difference in slip lining the pipe or a foam injection. Councilwoman Mignano asked about adding a collar around the end of the pipe to further prevent water seepage. Ms. Flick explained that Charleston County would foam around the pipe including the ends to prevent further water intrusion and sediment migration. If the pipe is slip lined, the size of the pipe is reduced and the issue of water getting around the current pipe is not corrected allowing the continued loss of material and damage to the roadbed. Ms. Flick also gave an overview of the repair requested for Mayflower Drive and Julia Street/Chandler. Council reviewed each of the requests separately.

After discussion, it was determined that the best option for the repair at North Stiles/Schaffer Street. was to award to Charleston County Public Works. A motion was made by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilman Boles to award the repairs to Charleston County Public Works at the cost of \$16,496.40.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Councilman Williams	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Unanimous

Mayflower Drive: Staff recommends slip line repair by PDC in the amount of \$21,836 to PDC Pipeline and Drainage. Motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Mullinax.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye

Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin Aye
Councilwoman Mignano Aye
Councilman Mullinax Aye
Councilman Williams Aye
Mayor Lyon Aye

Unanimous

Julia Street/Chander: Staff recommends the estimate from PDC Pipeline and Drainage for \$20,877.50. Mayor Lyon stated that we could not get an estimate from Charleston County because this is a DOT road. This would be a slip line repair. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Councilman Dodson.

Vote

Councilman Boles Aye
Councilman Dodson Aye
Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin Aye
Councilwoman Mignano Aye
Councilman Mullinax Aye
Councilman Williams Aye
Mayor Lyon Aye

Unanimous

Requests for Consideration by Council: None.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Mayor Lyon announced that there is no Planning Commission or BZA meetings this month.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilwoman Mignano announced that James Island Pride will meet on January 21 at 6:00 p.m. The dates for the Helping Hands litter pickups will be announced later.

Children's Committee: No Report.

Neighborhood Council: Councilman Boles announced that the Neighborhood Council will meet on Thursday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m. and plan to have discussion about the Folly Road medians.

History Committee: Mayor Lyon reported that the History Committee hosted a booth at the Town Market that focused on the Revolutionary War. A challenging quiz was offered and 18 people took part. One person scored 80 percent; six people scored 6 out of 10, and the remaining scored below five correct answers. She said the event was well received and prizes were awarded to the top scorer. February's theme will be on Black History Month and possibly another quiz. The History Council is planning a retreat for March. The Historic Marker will be installed soon for Three Trees on Fort Johnson Road.

ReThink Folly Road: Mayor Lyon reported that the ReThink Folly Road Steering Committee met yesterday and the meeting was well attended. Discussion topics included the proposed medians for Folly Road, a traffic light at Santee,, neighborhood issues, and consultants. She congratulated Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin for being elected as Vice-Chair. City Councilwoman Leslie Scardon was elected as Chair. Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin will begin giving reports and updates for ReThink Folly.

Drainage Committee: Councilman Mullinax announced that he hopes to have a meeting in spring and will announce a date after it is scheduled.

Business Development Committee: Councilman Dodson announced that the Business Development Committee will meet on January 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Trees Advisory Committee: Mayor Lyon reported that the Trees Advisory Committee is hosting a tree giveaway on February 7th. She has spoken with Principal Sayers at JI Middle School and is excited about plans to plant trees around the school campus. Tree canopy awards are currently underway. Mayor Lyon also met with a representative from First Baptist Church recognizing the church's stunning trees. A date will be planned to present the Tree Steward Award to the church, and a special tree will receive the Tree Canopy Award with a medallion.

James Island Intergovernmental Council: Councilwoman Mignano announced that the JI Intergovernmental Council meeting will be held on January 28, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Accommodations Tax Committee: No Report.

James Island Arts Council: Mayor Lyon announced that the Arts Council will meet on February 17 at 7:00 p.m. and will begin to meet on the third Tuesdays for regular meetings.

Parks and Gardens Council: Mayor Lyon announced that the Parks and Gardens Council is getting off the ground and more information will be forthcoming.

Committee Changes: Mayor Lyon stated that she has spoken to all of Council about committee reassignments. She presented the following changes:

<u>Environment and Beautification</u>	Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin
<u>Children's Committee</u>	Councilwoman Mignano
<u>Drainage Committee</u>	Councilman Boles
<u>Neighborhood Council</u>	Councilman Mullinax
<u>History Committee</u>	Councilman Williams

Proclamations and Resolutions:

Resolution #2026-01: Resolution to Oppose Medians along Folly Road as part of the SCDOT Folly Road Safety Study and Improvements Project and to Request a Traffic Light at the Intersection of Santee Street and Folly Road. Mayor Lyon stated that it was brought to attention at the ReThink Folly Road Steering Committee meeting yesterday that in the Folly Road Complete Streets Study (page 310) it recommended a stoplight at Santee Street. She noted that this could provide additional support in requesting the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to reconsider its current plans. Mayor Lyon also thanked Planning Director Kristen Crane for providing copies of the booklets.

A motion to approve Resolution #2026-01 was made by Councilman Mullinax and seconded by Councilman Dodson, followed by discussion.

Councilman Dodson commented that we should do everything possible to improve street safety but expressed opposition to raised medians. The raised medians are not good for the businesses and the residents in Bayfront and Centerville and spoke of needing a smarter option.

Councilman Williams asked whether alternative plans exists, and, if the current plan is halted, how long would it take before action could be taken. Councilman Dodson responded that we are not slowing down the plans and noted that the DOT operates on five-year planning intervals. Councilman Dodson gave a scenario of the proposed raised median plan and reiterated the need for a traffic signal at Santee Street. He also noted that Shawn Salley with SCDOT is scheduled for the February Town Council meeting.

Councilwoman Mignano stated that the raised medians would negatively impact Fire and EMS and Councilman Mullinax spoke about medians at Ashley Phosphate Road. Mayor Lyon discussed the possibility of a traffic light or crosswalks at the intersection as alternative solutions.

Councilman Boles encouraged residents to participate in the discussion by attending the Neighborhood Council meeting and give ideas and feedback.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Councilman Williams	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Unanimous

Ordinances up for First Reading. None.

Ordinances up for Second/Final Reading: None.

Old Business:

Mayor Lyon displayed the newly added table piece constructed by Mr. Watts and the Town Clerk's table. Mr. Watts needs to return to do some finishing work. She said that he could take both Council tables and apply epoxy coating to match the new piece. That would include filling the grooves. The cost for this work would be \$800 per table. Mayor Lyon noted that the expense falls within her authorized spending limit and does not require a formal Council approval, but she wanted Council's input on whether they wish her to proceed.

Councilwoman Mignano and Councilman Dodson expressed that they would like to see the work completed. Councilman Boles raised concerns that applying epoxy could reduce the value of the cedar tables. Councilman Williams stated that he would do a blotter to use on the tables and bring it to the February meeting. It was decided not to proceed with epoxy.

New Business:

Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals: Mayor Lyon stated that Council now has seven members. Five members currently have appointees to the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals. Council Members Drayton-Crumblin and Williams will be granted appointees to both boards. This will be accomplished by ordinance and could be placed on the February agenda. The appointments will have staggered terms beginning in August. Mayor Lyon asked Council Members Drayton-Crumblin and Williams to think about their potential appointees. This process will take several months.

Executive Session: Mayor Lyon announced that the Town Council may enter into an Executive Session in accordance with Code of Laws of South Carolina 30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss receipt of legal advice for the

litigation matter KT Properties, LLC vs. Town of James Island. Upon returning to Open Session the Council may act on matters discussed in the Executive Session.

Mayor Lyon asked for a motion to enter into the Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. Councilman Boles moved, seconded by Councilman Dodson.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Councilman Williams	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Unanimous

Return to Regular Session: Mayor Lyon asked for a motion to return to Open Session at 8:52 p.m. Motion made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Mayor Lyon announced that no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Vote

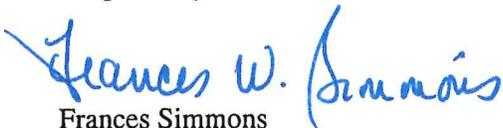
Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Councilman Williams	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye

Unanimous

Announcements/Closing Comments: All members of Council thanked the staff and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons
Town Clerk