

The Town of James Island held a Special Town Council meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in person at the Town Hall, 1122 Dills Bluff Rd., James Island, SC. This meeting was also live-streamed on the Town’s website, www.jamesislandsc.us/livestream-town-meetings.

The following members of Council were present: Boles, Dodson, Mignano (arrived before the executive session), Mullinax, and Mayor Lyon, who presided. Also, Bonum S. Wilson, Town Attorney, Caroline Cleveland, Cleveland & Conley, LLC (Labor & Employment Attorney), and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk.

Call to Order: Mayor Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked those who wished to join in prayer.

Executive Session: Mayor Lyon announced that the Town Council will enter into an executive session in accordance with 30-4-70(a) Code of Laws of South Carolina for legal advice concerning personnel and contractual matters. Upon returning to open session the Council may act on matters discussed in the executive session. A motion to enter the executive session at 6:32 p.m. was made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Dodson.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Return to Open Session: Mayor Lyon announced that no votes were taken during the executive session and called for a motion to return to open session at 7:10 p.m. Councilman Boles moved, seconded by Councilman Dodson.

Vote:

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Mayor Lyon asked Council if there were any motions to come forth. The following motions were made:

Councilwoman Mignano moved to end the employment relationship with the current Town Administrator so that the new Mayor can select the person she will be working with. This will be a “without cause” termination. A vote to approve will also authorize the Mayor to move forward with satisfying whatever contractual obligations might exist in relation to that separation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mullinax.

Vote:

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Councilman Dodson moved that Council authorize Mayor Lyon to engage Jack O’Toole to temporarily assist the Mayor to ensure that all Town needs are met in the interim until a new Administrator can be hired. This

engagement will be on a contractual basis, month to month for up to six months. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boles.

Vote:

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Councilman Mullinax moved that Council authorize Mayor Lyon to engage Cleveland & Conley, LLC, to provide employment law advice to the Town on a continuing as-needed basis. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mignano.

Vote:

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Councilman Mullinax	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Passed unanimously	

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons
Town Clerk