

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1122 Dills Bluff Road, James Island, SC, Thursday, March 19, 2020. The following members of Council were present: Councilmembers Boles, Mignano, Milliken, Mullinax, and Mayor Woolsey, who presided. Also, Town Administrator, Ashley Kellahan, Public Works Director, Mark Johnson, Town Attorney, Bonum S. Wilson, Sgt. Martin, Island Sheriff's Patrol (for Sgt. Shawn James) and Town Clerk, Frances Simmons.

Opening Exercises: Mayor Woolsey called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. Councilman Boles led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked Council to partake in a moment of silence. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Public Hearing: Ordinance #2020-02: Proposed Amendments to the Town of James Island Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR)§153.093 Folly Road Corridor Overlay District Adding Vehicles Sales as a Prohibited Use: Mayor Woolsey opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. The following person spoke:

Mr. Joe Walter spoke in opposition to removing vehicle sales as a permitted use from the Commercial Core area in the Folly Road Corridor Overlay District but to require it as a Special Exception. No others spoke and Mayor Woolsey closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Milliken requested to amend the agenda to add the following items for the Town to take into consideration as a result of the Coronavirus; Councilman Boles, seconded and passed unanimously.

Councilman Milliken moved to defer the collection of hospitality and accommodations taxes during the pandemic. He said the City and Charleston County has suspended that payment for 90 days and he thought the Town should do the same. Mayor Woolsey said the hospitality tax is addressed in the Emergency Ordinance #02-2020, #3. Councilman Mullinax seconded. Passed unanimously to be added to the agenda.

Councilman Milliken moved for the Closure of Dock Street and Pinckney Parks during the pandemic. Councilman Mullinax seconded. Passed unanimously to add this item to the agenda.

Councilman Milliken moved to amend the agenda to allow nonessential staff to telecommute from home during the pandemic. Councilman Mullinax seconded. Passed unanimously to add this item to the agenda.

Mayor Woolsey moved to amend the agenda to add Emergency Ordinance E-01-2020 Pertaining to Electronic Meetings, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Passed unanimously to add this item to the agenda.

Ordinance #E-02-2020: An Emergency Ordinance Pertaining to Suspension of Ordinances and Other Emergency Protocol: Mayor Woolsey gave an overview and explained the Ordinance. He said item #3 defers the Town collecting hospitality taxes for 60 days due to the ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19. Businesses would continue to collect taxes from their patrons but would not be required to remit monies at this time. The Ordinance also addresses the suspension of enforcing the Environmentally Accepted Packaging and Products Ordinance (Plastics Ban) passed by the Town for 60 days. Mayor Woolsey moved for approval, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Mayor Woolsey said the Ordinance could be revisited or readopted after 60 days if needed. Passed unanimously.

Closure of Town Parks: Councilman Milliken said in light of the fact that young people are capable of contracting COVID-19 he recommended closing Dock Street and Pinckney Parks to help reduce the risks. Councilman Mullinax seconded. During discussion it was determined that we cannot stop people from going to the parks; however, the Town could post signs there for people to practice social distancing. The use of playground equipment would be prohibited to help prevent the possible spread of virus on hard

surfaces. The parks closing would be in effect for 60 days and revisited if needed. Passed unanimously.

Nonessential Staff to Telecommute: Councilman Milliken moved for approval, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Passed unanimously.

Ordinance # E-01-2020: An Emergency Ordinance Pertaining to Electronic Meetings: Mayor Woolsey gave an overview and explained the Ordinance. Councilman Milliken moved for approval, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Passed unanimously.

Presentation of Community Hero Awards by James Island Pride: Councilman Milliken requested to defer the presentation of Arlene Stewart to a later date. The request was granted without objection.

Public Comments: The following person spoke:

Joe Walters spoke in support of any traffic calming measures for Oceanview Road.

The following persons submitted comments via email to Council in support of calming traffic on Oceanview Road:

Angela Sawadse, 1214 Oceanview Rd.

Jay Bell, 1171 Oceanview Rd.

Doris Clark, 1241 Oceanview Rd.

Jennifer Nelson, 1210 Oceanview Rd.

Cathy and John Ellyn, 1111 W. Oceanview Rd.

Wade Horn 1009 W. Oceanview Rd.

Leigh Ohlandt, 962 W. Oceanview Rd.

Dana Ellis sent an email in favor of the James Island Arts Cultural Center

Consent Agenda:

a. Minutes: February 20, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting

b. 2020 Yom HaShoah Holocaust Commemoration Proclamation

Councilman Milliken moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

- a. Finance Report: Town Administrator, Ashley Kellahan presented an overview and answered Councilman Milliken's questions about an expenditure for Public Works on Page 4. She also answered questions about expenditures listed under Community Services for Repair Care/Habitat.
- b. Administrator's Report: Mrs. Kellahan presented an overview and answered questions. Councilman Milliken referred to Dominion/Lewis Tree trimmings and suggested that a letter be sent to them with the recommendations from the Town's Arborists. Mrs. Kellahan said Mr. Wilson is drafting a letter. Mrs. Kellahan gave an update on the precautions that the Town and staff have taken during the outbreak of the Coronavirus.

Presentation of Draft FY 2020-2021 Annual Budget: Mrs. Kellahan reported there were no major changes since the Budget Workshop was held. She asked Council to provide feedback or changes to her before First Reading.

Councilman Milliken asked that consideration be given to cancelling Town sponsored events i.e., Easter) due to the Coronavirus. Mrs. Kellahan will reach out to Alexandra Purro about events that were scheduled.

Public Works: Public Works Director, Mark Johnson presented the written report. Afterward questions were answered about drainage concerns in Lighthouse Point. He also shared information on drainage concerns behind Schooner Road (Belle Tare) and conversed with Councilwoman Mignano about the drainage @ Fort Johnson and Folly Road.

Island Sheriff's Patrol: Sgt. Martin announced that Sgt. James was ill and is now better. The Island Sheriff's Patrol and Crime Reports were not available. Sgt. Martin noted there were no violent crimes during the month.

Requests for Approval:

Traffic Calming Policy Revision: Councilman Milliken moved for discussion, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Councilman Boles stated that he requested deferral at the last Town Council meeting. He said the way it was amended to require that 2/3 of the property owners on a street where a traffic measure is proposed, is sufficient. Mayor Woolsey gave explanation of the 2/3 requirement. He said staff has developed a policy to make it consistent with what the Town is following. These changes would allow staff and Council more discretion with implementing and making recommendations for traffic calming to neighborhoods. Mrs. Kellahan and Mr. Johnson answered questions from Council and Mr. Johnson provided an overview and explanation of speeding percentiles. Councilman Boles commented about people that come to these meetings and are up in arms about traffic calming. He said we need to get the policy right before adopting it. Councilman Milliken referred to the criteria on Page 5, the sentence that stated *that the Town of James Island will first perform an in-house traffic study* by moving to strike the second part of which read: "and review whether the data warrants further study", Councilman Mullinax seconded. The motion to approve the Traffic Calming Policy Passed with that amendment. Councilman Boles voted No.

Amendment to 1248 Camp Rd. Lease (old Library): Mrs. Kellahan reported that the County was unable to provide a copy of the amended lease agreement due to the illness of a staff member and staff shifting their of duties due to the Coronavirus. Councilman Milliken moved to defer until the contract is received, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Passed unanimously.

James Island Arts & Cultural Interior Renovation/Furniture Package Planning and Bidding: Motion in favor made by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Mayor Woolsey. Councilman Milliken said he did not want to vote on this now to see what the HVAC system would cost. Councilman Milliken moved to defer, seconded by Councilman Boles. Motion to Defer Failed. Main Motion Passed.

Agreement with DataMax: Mrs. Kellahan presented a request to enter into agreement with DataMax. This information was shared to Council at the Budget Workshop. DataMax is a revenue generating company that collects revenues for cities and municipalities from businesses companies, such as business licenses. Motion in favor made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Councilman Milliken moved to amend the motion for DataMax to provide monthly reports. Councilman Boles seconded. Passed unanimously as amended.

Award of RFP #1-2020 for Town Arborist Services: Mrs. Kellahan presented a request for the Town to enter agreement with three (3) qualified firms to provide arborist services. The following firms were

recommended: Chris Gerards, Natural Directions, and Schneider Tree Care. Councilman Milliken moved for approval, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Passed unanimously.

Purchase Heavy Equipment/Excavator (asap) using Other Capital Improvements Project Funds: Motion made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Councilman Boles said after the Budget Workshop, he thought it would be an excellent idea to purchase heavy equipment (tractor) for the Town's use; especially with the approaching hurricane season and having the opportunity to provide services to our citizens, such as digging out ditches. Mayor Woolsey responded that a tractor is proposed in next year's budget. He said the shed at Pinckney Park would not be ready until next fiscal year and there is no place to store the equipment now. He also mentioned that staff would need to be trained to dig ditches and did not believe they would get this equipment right away. Funding is not available in this budget. As discussion ensued, Mrs. Kellahan further reiterated Mayor Woolsey's explanation by explaining the projects accounted for in this year's Capital Improvements Budget. Councilman Milliken recommended that the request be considered in next year's budget along with staff training. Motion failed 2-2 for an immediate purchase.

Fund Traffic Calming Measures for Oceanview using remaining Other Capital Improvements Projects Fund: Motion in favor made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Mayor Woolsey explained that this request was not available in the Other Capital Improvements Project Fund for this year. After explanation and discussion, Councilman Boles asked that the process begin by gathering the data. He then moved with an amendment that staff provide a report showing the breakdown of the \$100,000 in the Other Capital Improvements Projects for this fiscal year of all of the traffic calming projects. Councilwoman Mignano seconded. The amendment passed. Main Motion failed. Mrs. Kellahan to provide the information

Purchase Drainage Easement using remaining Other Capital Improvements Projects Funds: Withdrawn.

Rotation of Pre-meeting Prayer Among Council and Mayor: Motion in favor made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Passed unanimously.

Rescission of October 2019 Vote in Favor of the Subway Lot Easement: Motion in favor made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Councilman Boles spoke in favor of rescinding the decision made by Council in October. Mayor Woolsey questioned the terminology "rescission" and Mr. Wilson explained it should be "Overturn". Councilman Boles moved to amend the motion to overturn the decision of Council's October 2019 meeting. Councilwoman Mignano seconded. Councilman Milliken said his decision changed when the parking was lost because it changed the usefulness of the property. Mayor Woolsey explained what Council approved was after hours parking. Councilwoman Mignano talked about the CARTA bus stop and parking there would be useless because it is a very busy and dangerous intersection; and the purchase made no sense. Mayor Woolsey further explained that it was not to have people park there all day. He commented that the primary use was for the Charleston Arts Theatre and public parking for patrons at night. People parking there for the bus was not the idea. Councilman Boles conversed with Mayor Woolsey about the signing of a contract and its validity if Council overturned this decision. As discussion continued, Councilman Mullinax moved to defer further discussion. There was no second and the motion to failed. Councilman Boles suggested entering into an executive session.

Executive Session: Councilman Boles moved to enter into an executive session to discuss contractual and legal matters. Councilman Milliken seconded and passed. Councilman Mullinax voted No.

Return to Regular Session: Council returned to open session at 8:37 p.m. Mayor Woolsey announced that no votes were taken during the Executive Session. A motion to defer was made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Land Use: No report

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilman Milliken announced the postponement of the litter pickup due to the Coronavirus.

Children's Committee: No report.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Mullinax moved for the appointment of the following persons to the Neighborhood Council. Motion was seconded by Councilman Milliken. The following persons were appointed/reappointed:

Zennie Quinn, Lynwood

Lebby Campbell, Stonepost

Richard Tassin, Whitehouse Plantation

Robin Hardin, Fort Johnson Estates

Nina Rogers, Centerville

Kelli Bridges, Stiles Point

Leigh Ohlandt, Oeanview

Diana Belknap, Lighthouse Point

Richard Schramm, Farmington

Henrietta Martin, Honeyhill

History Committee: Mayor Woolsey announced that the History Council is planning an event in April, "The First Shot" that may need to be rescheduled.

Drainage Committee: Councilman Mullinax announced the next meeting in May. A date will be announced.

Rethink Folly Road: Mayor Woolsey announced that the Rethink Folly Road meeting was cancelled. The Rethink Folly State of the Plan hosted by Toole and Town (at Martin's BBQ) was well attended.

Business Development:

- Nomination to Business Development Council: Councilman Mullinax moved for the appointment of Kelly Hall, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.

Trees Advisory Committee: Councilman Milliken gave a recap from the recent meeting. The group discussed its missions statement, tree surveys, and software a program.

James Island Intergovernmental Council: No report.

Proclamations and Resolutions:

Resolution #2020-06 Increase Size of Town Council: Councilman Mullinax requested deferral because further guidance is needed from Charleston County Elections. Councilman Milliken seconded and it was granted without objection.

Ordinances up for Second Reading:

Ordinance #2020-01: Proposed Amendments to the Town of James Island Zoning and Land Use Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR): 153.332 Off-Street Parking and Loading; Addition of Section J "Bicycle Parking" with Standards for bicycle parking facilities: Motion in favor was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Passed unanimously,

Ordinance #2020-02: Proposed Amendments to the Town of James Island Zoning and Land Use Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR) 153.093 Folly Road Corridor Overlay District, Adding Vehicle Sales as a Prohibited Use: Motion in favor was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.

Ordinances up for First Reading: None

New Business:

Discussion of Temporary Solution for Sinkhole on Taliaferro: Councilwoman Mignano led discussion and asked for temporary help for the residents on Taliaferro for a sinkhole that has surfaced there. She said this is a State road and is a large capital improvement project for them. She said it would be good if the Town could provide temporary relief to the residents in the meantime. Councilwoman Mignano said this is a safety issue for the residents and has been for some time. Mayor Woolsey suggested she offer a Resolution on the April Town Council agenda to be sent to the DOT. He also suggested placing this as an item of discussion at the next James Island Intergovernmental Council meeting where our State Representatives/Senator Senn may be present. Councilwoman Mignano suggested that staff ask the County for some assistance now by placing gravel or some type of fill for the time being.

Comparison between Tax Rebate to Citizens vs. Cost Sharing Agreement: No longer needed to be discussed.

Announcements/Closing Remarks: Council thanked staff, Ashley Kellahan, and Frances Simmons for posting information about the coronavirus on social media.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons
Town Clerk