

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 7:00 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 YouTube Channel.

The following members of Council were present: Boles, Mignano, Milliken, Mullinax, and Mayor Woolsey, presided. Also, Niki Grimball, Town Administrator, Merrell Roe, Finance Director, Mark Johnson, Public Works Director, Kristen Crane, Planning Director, Flannery Wood, Planner II, Town Attorney Bonum S. Wilson, Lt. Shawn James, Island Sheriffs Patrol, and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk. A quorum was present to conduct business. This meeting was held in accordance with the SC Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island. Notification provided to the public.

Opening Exercises: Mayor Woolsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked Town Council to join in the prayer and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing: Ordinance #2023-01: Proposed Zoning Map Amendment (re-zoning) on property located at 1439 Jeffords Street from Low-density Residential (RSL) to Residential Office (OR) Zoning District for a pervious parking lot and stormwater facilities to support an adjacent lot/use (TMS# 427-01-00-062):

Mayor Woolsey introduced the Public Hearing and opened for comments at 7:02 p.m.

Christopher Emode, 4738 Fetteressa Avenue: is the applicant making the request for the rezoning at 1439 Jeffords and here to answer Council's questions.

Hal Ricker, 1429 Jeffords Street: here to learn more about the rezoning request.

Trey Williams, 1426 Jeffords Street: here to learn more about the rezoning request.

David Vernon, 2108 St. James Drive: is here for the presentation on the rezoning and to answer questions from Council.

Mayor Woolsey closed the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Public Comment:

Amy Emode, 4738 Fetteressa Avenue: is looking to purchase the property at 1439 Jeffords Street and rezone it for parking spaces for a future swim school. She said their lot is too small and she believes this would be a good addition to Jeffords Street; to keep it quiet; and not allow more business, just a quiet staff parking lot. She is available to answer questions from Council. Mayor Woolsey apologized for not recognizing her during the Public Hearing.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of December 15, 2022, Regular Town Council Meeting: Councilman Milliken moved to approve the December 15, 2022, meeting minutes; Councilman Mullinax seconded. Passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

Finance Report: Finance Director, Merrell Roe, gave an overview of November and December Finance Reports and covered revenue and expenses, including: franchise fees, LOST revenues, three (3) payrolls in December, update on projects, asset management, community service (Seaside Lane), and the Oceanview-Stone Post drainage.

Town Administrator's Report: Town Administrator, Niki Grimball reported a full month in December with a great amount of projects being wrapped up. She said staff is excited to begin a new year with ongoing and

new projects. The Oceanview/Stone Post Drainage Improvement project is out for bid. We will review the bids in February with a recommendation to Council in February to select a contractor. Staff plans to rebid the Woodhaven Drainage Improvement Project. The new website is now online. She said some reorganizing was done making it more user-friendly and informative. Staff has been working to implement the new GoGov software. The Citizen Request Module is near completion and we hope to go live at the end of January. The Citizen Request Module is the app portion that citizens can download to access various pages on the website, submit requests for code enforcement, drainage, or to use a town-facility. Ms. Grimball said she submitted the Letter of Intent today for the 22-23 PARD Grant. The grant amount is \$5,600. The full application is due the end of March.

Public Works Report: Public Works Director Mark Johnson provided an overview of the PW report that included activities performed during the month: staff met with the City of Charleston Office of Resiliency to establish relations and plan for coordinated efforts to meet rising sea levels; attendance at the annual SCASM Board of Directors meeting; monitored solar panel installation at Town Hall and the James Island Arts & Cultural Center; two septic tank inspections were done in December. This is 54% of the responding residents, 12% of the total needed. Staff continues traffic studies on Yorktown and the gathering data on Julian Clark and Dills Bluff. Mr. Johnson answered Councilman Milliken's question about raw data on septic tank inspections. Letters will be resent to the residents.

Island Sheriff Patrol (ISP): Lt. James reported a busy month and gave an update on recent crimes that included dirt bike incidences and auto break-ins. Traffic is still being monitored on Clearview Drive and Pauline Avenue. Seltz stats have been prepared and given to PW Director, Mark Johnson. ISP continues to monitor problematic areas to determine if traffic calming measures are needed to bring to Council's attention.

Requests for Approval by Staff: None.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Councilwoman Mignano reported that the Planning Commission and the BZA met this month. The Planning Commission approved a request to rezone property for a parking lot for an indoor pool. The BZA approved with conditions the removal of two trees for the roundabout project at Camp and Fort Johnson and approved a variance for a fence on Harborview Road.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilman Milliken reported that James Island Pride hosted a successful litter pickup this past weekend. 16 volunteers collected and removed 30 bags of litter. The volunteers were from JI Charter High School and the Exchange Club. He said it was a great, cold morning but 30 bags of litter were collected that weighed a minimum of 15 pounds per bag and it resulted in over 450 pounds of trash collected from our roadways in two hours. He said sadly there is more to do and made a call for volunteers.

Community Hero Nomination: Councilman Milliken asked Merrell Roe to come forward to participate in presenting the JI Pride Community Hero Award to Zennie Quinn. Councilman Milliken said what is wonderful about this award is that he was not recognized by Pride, but by Town staff. Ms. Roe recognized Zennie Quinn for always being available to help out at the Town Hall when called upon and for his active role on the Neighborhood Council. He is responsible and lends a hand quickly to help whenever he is needed. Zennie received a certificate of appreciation.

Children's Committee: No Report.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Mullinax announced the next meeting of Neighborhood Council on Thursday, January 26 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. There will be a presentation by Charleston Water System on Wastewater and Plum Island Construction. Everyone is invited to attend.

History Committee: Mayor Woolsey reported that the History Committee met and is working on the Civil War event, First Shot in April, and the Juneteenth Commemoration on June 19. More information available as plans move forward.

ReThink Folly Road Committee: Mayor Woolsey announced the next meeting of ReThink Folly on Wednesday, February 22. Ms. Grimbball added that Flannery Wood will be taking a lead in managing this initiative and would be sending an email to determine what time people would like to meet as this will be an in-person meeting.

Drainage Committee: No Report.

Business Development Committee: No Report.

Trees Advisory Committee: Councilman Milliken announced that the Trees Advisory Committee would like to make appointments to the Tree Advisory Council because current members' terms have expired.

Appointments to Tree Advisory Council:

- Councilman Milliken moved for the reappointment of Paul Cantrell, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.
- Councilman Milliken moved for the reappointment of Robin Hardin, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Passed unanimously.
- Councilman Milliken moved for the appointment of Julie Hallman, seconded by Councilman Boles, Passed unanimously.
- Councilman Boles moved for the reappointment of David Tomblin, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Passed unanimously.
- Councilwoman Mignano moved for the reappointment of Jenny Welch, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Passed unanimously.
- Mayor Woolsey moved for the reappointment of Kathy Woolsey, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.
- Councilman Mullinax moved for the reappointment of Amy Fabri, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Tree Advisory Council will be Tuesday, February 14 @4:30 p.m.

James Island Intergovernmental Council: Mayor Woolsey announced the next meeting on Wednesday, January 25 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Proclamations and Resolutions

Resolution #2023-01: Island Sheriffs Patrol (ISP) Deputy of the Year, 2022: Mayor Woolsey read into the record Resolution # 2023-01 recognizing Lieutenant Herman Martin, the Island Sheriff's Patrol Deputy of the Year. Mayor Woolsey moved for approval of Resolution #2023-01, seconded by Councilman

Mullinax and passed unanimously.

Lt. James said he has known Lt. Martin for more than 25 years. He credited Lt. Martin as “a deputy like no other.” He works all day long 9-5; goes home to take a nap and comes back at least three days a week. He is always on-call for every traffic incident where there is an injury or death, whether it is EMS or fire, so his phone never stops. He has put in 22 extra weeks here on the island. When it comes to dedication he takes his “hat off to Lt. Martin”. Everybody knows him and loves him and is a great advocate for the Town of James Island. Lt. Martin received a standing ovation, plaque, and a check in honor of this achievement.

Ordinances up for First Reading:

Ordinance #2023-01: Proposed Zoning Map Amendment on property located at 1439 Jeffords Street from Low-Density Residential (RSL) to Residential Office (OR) Zoning District for pervious parking lot and stormwater facilities to support an adjacent lot/use (TMS# 427-01-00-062): Ms. Grimbball said this is the request of Ms. Emode who spoke during the Public Hearing. The request is to convert a portion of a lot to support additional parking areas. The lot will remain pervious and provide stormwater facilities for a swim school. Councilwoman Mignano moved for approval, seconded by Councilman Mullinax.

Councilman Boles asked if anyone submitting comments spoke in opposition to the request. Mayor Woolsey said no, there were no comments against it. Mayor Woolsey announced that Kristen Crane (Planning Director) is present to answer questions as well as the applicants. Councilman Boles said he looked on Google Maps and 1439 Jeffords appears to be at the end of the street. Ms. Crane confirmed that it is at the end of Jeffords and there is a flag lot that goes to the subject parcel, and a flag lot in the back, (adjacent lot subdivided in the 80's) which she showed on the conceptual drawing. She said there would be no access from Jeffords onto the lot. Councilman Boles asked and Ms. Crane confirmed that the lot would be accessed from Folly Road. The swim school will be located on 1444 Folly and she believes most of the parking for the people going to the swim school would remain on this lot. Councilman Boles asked if between now and the second reading of the ordinance if comments could be made and Ms. Crane said yes.

Ms. Crane reviewed with Councilman Milliken on the map where the pool and parking area would be. Mayor Woolsey said it would be on the vacant lot next to the Emanuel Baptist Church. After discussion, the First Reading passed unanimously.

Ordinances up for Second Reading: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

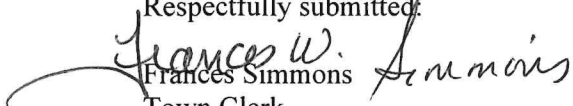
Executive Session: Not Required.

Announcements/Closing Remarks:

All members of Council congratulated Lt. Martin on his selection as Island Sheriffs Patrol Deputy of the Year.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

  
Frances Simmons  
Town Clerk