

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Town Hall, 1122 Dills Bluff Road, James Island, SC. This meeting was also live-streamed on the Town's website: www.jamesislandsc.com/livestream-townmeetings and was held in accordance with the SC Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island.

The following members of Council were present: Dan Boles, Lewis Dodson, Cynthia Mignano, and Mayor Brook Lyon, who presided. Absent: Councilman Troy Mullinax (gave notice). Also present: Brian Quisenberry, Town Attorney, Mike Hemmer, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Melissa Flick, Permitting and Licensing Manager, Lt. James, Island Sheriff's Patrol, Deputy Sheriff, Chris King, and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk.

Opening Exercises: Mayor Lyon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She wished everyone a happy Juneteenth, the celebration of freedom, and wanted to recognize and honor that.

Mayor Lyon announced that notice of this meeting was published and posted in accordance with the SC Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island. The Town encourages the public to provide comments prior to Town Council meetings. Residents wishing to address Council are limited to three minutes to speak and must sign in. Comments may also be sent ahead of the meeting by emailing them to info@jamesislandsc.us, mail to P.O. Box 12240, Charleston, SC, or placed inside the drop box outside of the Town Hall. Mayor Lyon asked those who wished to join in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

Marilyn Clifford, 811 W. Madison Ave: Thank you for allowing public comments. Similar to other meetings I have gone to, comments are accepted and there is no banter back and forth. I want to call to Council's attention that the last time I attended a Council meeting when there was the time to speak one of the Councilmembers thought it would be productive to circle back and attack the people that made comments earlier without giving us a chance to rebuttal back to him. I hope that you learned from that meeting that it is probably not a professional way to handle your meetings. It's not like a courtroom where you make notes and come back to them and pick up on something said that you think you can use in your favor. I still want to express my "no support" for taking away the Cost Sharing Agreement. That is fine because you're going to do what you're going to do and that's ok. It's not what you're doing, it's how you're doing it. I read that the Town was closed for business today in honor of Juneteenth. Tonight is probably the most important meeting of the entire Town because you're going to pass a budget and I don't see a lot of people here supporting or being able to afford that opportunity. If they read that you're closed they're going to think that you're closed. I certainly did! I am glad that I revisited that. It reminds me of March 14 at 4:43, a Friday notifying us of the meeting that would be on March 20 and I did not open it until March 17 because it was 4:45. The timing of getting information out. If y'all could consider improving that it would be great and not sending conflicting messages like "We're closed but you are not. Town business is closed but we're conducting it here. This is the only entity that can afford to give any type of tax credit. We can tax you and y'all can make your own tax too but the PSD down the road can't give you a tax credit only y'all can. But that's going to be taken away and that's ok because it is your prerogative it's just that I wish you would reconsider how you're doing business with a little more transparency, maybe not these conflicting messages of "hey I support the Cost Sharing" Agreement" and as your next Mayor I'm going to work with the JIPSD and then see a resolution sponsored just by you. I never saw any public debate about it. If y'all would just be a little more transparent and a little more timely with your notices and a little clear, I think all of the citizens would appreciate that. Thank you. It's not easy to serve and I understand. God bless you all for what you do.

Mayor Lyon addressed that the Town advertises and publishes its meetings for the year and wanted to keep the meetings that were scheduled. She thanked those who were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of Town Council Regular Meeting, May 15, 2025: Motion to approve the minutes were made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Use of Pinckney Park Pavilion:

Children's Bible Study: Every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon through mid-August: Mayor Lyon explained the Town's policy that groups requesting multiple meetings requires approval by Town Council. Motion to approve the Children's Bible Study was made by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Mayor Lyon announced the absence of Councilman Mullinax due to attending a family wedding.

Information Reports:

Finance Report: Mike Hemmer, Interim Finance Director presented the written Finance Report and it was accepted as information.

Island Sheriff's Patrol Report: Lt. James informed everyone about the 6-foot snake that Deputy Chris King removed from Town Hall. He gave an update on recent crimes and infractions and issues that we are having with dirt bikes. He shared that a mobile stealth stat was recently purchased. This version does a good job in tracking time and speed and can be set for the size of the vehicle. It was recently placed on Seaside Lane. You can even track the size of a vehicle and its speed.

Public Works Report: Melissa Flick, Permitting and Licensing Manager, presented the written Public Works Report and it was accepted as information. Mayor Lyon thanked Melissa and Stan for taking their Saturday to man a booth at the Lowe's (Daniel Ellis) for the Hurricane Expo.

Requests for Consideration by Staff: None.

Requests for Consideration by Council: None.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee:

Appointment to BZA: Mayor Lyon announced that Councilwoman Mignano's appointment to the BZA is Schuyler Blair. Mr. Blair's application was provided for consideration of Council. Motion to approve Schuyler Blair to the Board of Zoning Appeals was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Dodson. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Mayor Lyon reported that the Planning Commission did not meet in June but will meet in July to hear a rezoning of the property that was to be the Charleston Swim Academy on Folly Road. Mayor Lyon announced that the BZA met this month. She called the meeting one of the most amazing that she has attended. At that meeting the Board approved a daycare facility in the Honey Hill community. The applicant did her homework and had a petition with full support of the community and every seat in Council Chambers was packed with supporters. The request was approved with conditions. This is a great way of showing community support and how things work. The BZA will not meet in July.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Stan Kozikowski announced Amy Ball as the new Chair for James Island Pride beginning in August for a two year term. A James Island Pride "Gorilla Cleanup" will

be held on Saturday, July 12. Please meet at Town Hall at 8:00 a.m. for assignments. The Pride Committee is considering ordering “hats” for Helping Hands, but further research will be done before making a final decision.

Children’s Committee: No Report.

Neighborhood Council: Councilman Boles announced the Neighborhood Council meeting on June 26 at 6:00 p.m. The guest speaker, Mrs. Eva Heins, will tell her life story of being born and raised in Salzburg Austria. This is the area depicted in the movie “The Sound of Music” and where Hitler’s troops moved into Austria in 1938. This year marks 80 years of the end of World War II. Councilman Boles invited everyone to attend and listen to this historic presentation.

Appointments: Councilman Boles moved for the following appointments to the Neighborhood Council: Maggie Little, representing Stonepost; Sandrine Camporro and Wendy Teel representing Whitehouse, seconded by Councilman Dodson. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

History Committee: Mayor Lyon announced the History Committee did not meet in June. She gave an update of the celebration at Sol Legare dedicating the historical marker for the Sea Shore Farmers Lodge. Staff and members of the History Committee met with Bill “Cubby” Wilder to celebrate the well-attended event. Updates will be provided for another marker that the History Committee plans to present soon.

Rethink Folly Road: Mayor Lyon announced the next meeting on July 16 at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Drainage Committee: No Report.

Business Development Committee: No Report.

Trees Advisory Committee: Mayor Lyon reported that the Trees Advisory Committee met last week and had a productive meeting. Discussion included a tree giveaway in November at the Town Market and a drive-through (in parking lot) on a Saturday in February. A Tree Canopy Award was presented to Norty and Lynda Glover on Monday for their stunning Live Oak tree. The committee is also working on putting a calendar together of pictures of the trees that were awarded to honor the recipients.

Appointments: Councilwoman Mignano moved for the following appointments to the Trees Advisory Committee: Susan Milliken and Lynda Glover, seconded by Councilman Dodson. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

James Island Intergovernmental Council: Councilwoman Mignano announced the next meeting of the James Island Intergovernmental Council on Wednesday, July 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Accommodations Tax Committee: No Report.

James Island Arts Council: Mayor Lyon announced that members are still be recruited to serve on this committee.

Proclamations and Resolutions:

Resolution #2025-09: Resolution Opposing New Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing: Motion to approve was made by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilman Boles. Mayor Lyon added how important it is that we protect our shores, environment and tourist industries. To piggyback on the importance, she shared a story of a big spill that occurred in Charleston Harbor and in the Gulf some time ago.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Unanimous	

Ordinances up for First Reading: None.

Ordinances up for Second/Final Reading:

Ordinance #2025-04: An Ordinance Adopting the FY 2025-2026 Budget for the Town of James Island: Motion to approve second/final reading of Ordinance #2024-04 was made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Dodson. No discussion.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Unanimous	

Ordinance #2025-05: Planning and Zoning Fee Schedule. This Ordinance was tabled to the July meeting in order to advertise for the Public Hearing for July 17. Motion to table was made by Mayor Lyon, seconded by Councilman Boles. No discussion.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Unanimous	

Old Business:

Mayor Lyon gave an update of the pre-construction meeting for the James Island Arts and Community Center. She informed Council that over 40 people that represented 15 companies were present to hear about the plans for the new community center. Bids are due on July 10 and we should have a number of good companies to choose from.

Mayor Lyon gave an update on the flag ceremony scheduled for Thursday, June 26 at 11:00 a.m. and invited everyone to attend.

The last Town Market was a huge success with approximately 500 people in attendance. There will be no Town Market in July and August but will resume in September.

New Business: None.

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)(1) &(2) regarding discussion of employee matters, receipt of legal advice for the litigation matter of 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 moved to enter into an Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Dodson at 7:34 p.m.

Vote

Councilman Boles	Aye
Councilman Dodson	Aye
Councilwoman Mignano	Aye
Mayor Lyon	Aye
Unanimous	

Return to Regular Session: Mayor Lyon asked for a motion to return to open session at 8:53 p.m. The motion was made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. Passed unanimously. Mayor Lyon announced that no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Announcements/Closing Comments: Councilman Dodson thanked the staff for their hard work and encouraged everyone to stay hydrated.

Councilwoman Mignano thanked everyone and wished all a great weekend.

Councilman Boles thanked everyone for their public comment and hopes to have more at the next meeting. He encouraged everyone to come out and let Council know what they think.

Mayor Lyon thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and encouraged everyone to attend the Hurricane Expo and the Flag Ceremony events.

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