

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at 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, Permitting 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. and introduced herself as Mayor, Town Council, and staff. She recognized Sheriff Carl Ritchie and guests from Charleston County Sheriff's Office: Undersheriff Tyrone Simmons, Chief Deputy Louis Burnsed, Captain Paul Tittle, and Lieutenant Kasey Owens. The Sheriff's Office was present to take part in the presentation honoring Deputy Jacob Brueckner, Island Sheriff's Patrol Deputy of the Year, 2025. She also introduced JI PSD Commission Chair, Marilyn Clifford.

The Town encourages public participation and welcomes comments prior to the Town Council meetings. Residents wishing to address Council are limited to three (3) minutes and must sign in prior to speaking. Written comments may also be submitted in advance by emailing info@jamesislandsc.us by mail, or by placing them in the drop box at Town Hall.

Opening Exercises: Councilman Dodson led Council in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lyon made a motion to amend the agenda to move ahead Resolution #2026-04 to recognize the Island Sheriff's Patrol Deputy of the Year 2025, seconded by Councilman Boles. No discussion. **Unanimous.**

Resolution #2026-04: Recognizing Island Sheriff Patrol of the Year, Deputy Jacob Brueckner: Motion to approve Resolution # 2026-04 was made by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. No discussion. **Unanimous.**

Mayor Lyon called Deputy Brueckner forward and read the Resolution into the record. Deputy Brueckner was presented with a plaque and \$100.00 in recognition of this honor. Following the presentation, photographs were taken with Deputy Brueckner's family, the Sheriff's Office, Mayor Lyon, and Council.

Mayor Lyon recognized Captain James and Deputy Booth, celebrating their birthdays, which fell on March 16. Council members and attendees joined in wishing them a happy birthday and were invited to enjoy cake.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Audit: Love Bailey, CPA: Mr. Bailey presented the 2024-2025 Annual Audit. The audit is a five-year comparative review (2021-2025) of the Town's financial position. Mr. Bailey provided an overview of revenues and expenditures, hospitality and accommodations, taxes, capital outlay, and internal controls.

Mr. Bailey informed Council that the audit resulted in an unmodified opinion, indicating that the Town's financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Town remains in a strong financial position, supported by stable revenues, controlled operating trends, and solid liquidity. The fiscal year included significant capital investments, reflecting the Town's continued commitment to long-term community improvements through the use of grants and financing.

Mr. Bailey responded to questions from Council and will return to work with staff on journal entry procedures. Mayor Lyon thanked Mr. Bailey for his presentation. Audit attached.

Presentation by Jennifer Tyrrell, Community Science & Research Program at the Audubon, South Carolina.: Ms. Tyrrell thanked Council for the opportunity to share information on coyotes and delivered a PowerPoint presentation. Presentation attached.

Mayor Lyon thanked Ms. Tyrrell for her presentation commenting that we receive numerous calls from residents concerned about the safety of their children and pets of coyotes.

Councilman Williams asked whether the coyote population on James Island appears to be increasing or decreasing. Ms. Tyrrell responded that based on casual observation, the population seems relatively steady. However, she explained that without formal biological tracking methods such as trapping and monitoring efforts conducted in places like Kiawah Island, it is difficult to determine population trends with accuracy. She added that she is not aware of any current monitoring efforts by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) but will follow up and provide additional information to Councilman Williams.

Public Comment:

Joseph Walters, 792 Folly Road: Mr. Walters thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to speak and for their service. He addressed the proposed raised medians on Folly Road, noting the ongoing community discussion surrounding the issue. He stated that raised medians can lead to higher traffic speeds due to the reduction of “left-hand” turning friction into shopping centers. As a result, traffic tends to move in faster, continuous platoons, which may increase the likelihood of driver-side T-bone collisions.

Mr. Walters asked Council to consider that a vehicle traveling at 40 miles per hour covers 250 feet in approximately 4.26 seconds. He further noted that under normal driving conditions, it takes an average modern vehicle about 4.5 seconds to accelerate to 40 miles per hour. Without acceleration lanes exiting shopping centers, drivers must start from a complete stop and merge into traffic moving at full speed, creating a potentially dangerous situation.

He expressed concern that, to his knowledge, no ingress and egress traffic counts from the commercial core shopping centers have been included in the data used to justify the raised medians. In closing, Mr. Walters questioned whether raised medians might reduce one type of collision while increasing another. He added that the changes would likely divert commercial semi-tractor trailer traffic through the Bayfront and Centerville subdivisions, which could reduce overall safety for James Island residents.

Edward Greene, 1115 Seaside Lane: Mr. Greene, an elder at James Island Presbyterian Church, shared that the congregation includes approximately 1,100 members. He extended an invitation to the Mayor and Council to attend the church’s Annual May Day event on Saturday, May 3 at 11:00 a.m. The church, led by Senior Pastor Dr. Brian Henderson and Associate Pastor C.C. Armstrong, will be celebrating 96 years of history on James Island. Mr. Greene invited the Mayor and Council to participate in the parade and expressed hope that they will be able to attend.

George Hyams, 870 Folly Road: Mr. Hyams spoke regarding the proposed changes to Folly Road. He has done a significant amount of research on this issue and has serious concerns about how this proposal will affect safety and local businesses. He understand that safety is a priority, but it appears the engineers are relying on data that is six to eight years old. Data that does not reflect current conditions. At that time, traffic volumes were much lower, and speed limits were higher. Today, traffic has increased significantly, but it also moves much slower. As a result, the nature of accidents has changed. From what he has observed,

many accidents are caused by drivers attempting to merge or “beat the line” in faster-moving traffic, not necessarily by the conditions this proposal is trying to address.

Another concern is that the analysis being used seems overly generalized. The same modeling is being applied to areas like Greenville, Columbia, and Myrtle Beach. Those cities have multiple access points and alternate routes. In contrast, our area has very limited access.

Bill Lyon, 669 Port Circle: Mr. Lyon stated that he is a member of the Town’s Neighborhood Council and stated that the Neighborhood Council collected over 1,000 signatures in opposition to the proposed medians on Folly Road. He further commented that, in his view, approximately 90 percent of James Island residents would be against the medians.

Marilyn Clifford, 811 W. Madison Avenue: stated that where she lives is affectionately called the “Chick-fil-A Speedway.” People have already figured out that we are not Mount Pleasant. We do not have frontage roads; our neighborhood streets *are* the frontage roads. West Madison Avenue, Jordan Street, Patterson, and Bayfront are carrying traffic they were never designed to handle. She attended the SCDOT presentations and understands it is a very difficult decision to make. She does not oppose the entire project and would support 85% of it. She displayed a folder of pages of the petition from her neighbors. She did not do an online survey because responses could come from anywhere. She went door to door because that is the heart of James Island, and repeatedly heard people say, “Vote no, this is not safe.”

Ms. Clifford said neighborhood streets have a 30-mph speed limit, the same as Camp Road and that is unacceptable given the conditions. There are no sidewalks in many areas, yet they are expected to absorb more traffic. Whether they are Town roads or SCDOT roads, the reality is living with the consequences. We may be a patchwork of jurisdictions, but all share the same priorities; safety and preserving the character of this island. This project may help people get to Folly Beach more efficiently, but at what cost? The safety of residents? Her 88-year-old mother checking her mailbox? Children getting off the school bus? Pets crossing the street? These are real, everyday concerns. There are also practical issues. Who is going to maintain the proposed medians? We have seen what happens elsewhere when maintenance does not keep up and becomes a hazard, not a solution.

Ms. Clifford spoke about the proposed U-turn lanes, and asked if anyone has ever seen a fire engine or pumper truck trying to make that kind of turn? That is simply not feasible. Emergency access must be a part of this conversation. People were told this plan is data-driven and statistically supported. But speaking from experience, they are the ones walking these streets, raising families here, and trying to stay safe. At the same time, we do not want to throw the baby out with the bathwater. There are good elements in this plan. This is also federal funding, and we recognize the opportunity that brings. Everyone is asking that SCDOT meet them halfway; to listen, to adjust, and to work with the community to find a solution that truly fits James Island. As it stands today, this is not a viable solution for our community.

Adam Moore, Nabors Drive: Mayor Lyon read the comment received from Mr. Moore into the record. Attached.

John Peters, 1301 Hampshire Road: Mr. Peters stated that he is opposed to the proposed medians. He acknowledged that Town Council has limited control over the project, noting that the SCDOT will ultimately make the final decision.

He expressed concern that the data and metrics being used to justify the medians are flawed and outdated. He argued that even if statistics show only a small percentage of incidents, serious accidents including fatalities will still occur on Folly Road. He emphasized that accidents would continue to involve both

pedestrians and bicyclists as well as vehicles, and he does not believe the proposed changes will meaningfully improve safety.

Mr. Peters further stated that the medians will restrict traffic flow and worsen congestion. He described current traffic conditions as already heavily congested and predicted the changes would increase “beehive” conditions, leading to more bottlenecks and potentially more rear-end (bumper-to-bumper) collisions.

He also raised concerns about maintenance, noting that existing medians are not well marked or reflective. He noted that many drivers have already struck current medians, indicating that adding more could increase hazards rather than reduce them. Additionally, Mr. Peters highlighted growing safety concerns regarding e-bikes on the island. He warned that without stronger enforcement and safety measures, a serious accident involving a child is likely. He urged the Sheriff’s Office to increase enforcement and take proactive steps to protect young riders, emphasizing the risk of a vehicle-versus-child incident.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of Town Council Regular Meeting, February 19, 2026: A motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026, meeting was made by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Lyon reported on the following topics:

- Update on the Art and Community Center at the Hillman lot. Permits has been received and groundbreaking is scheduled for the third week of April 23
- Update on the Greenhill Road drainage and paving: SCDOT is digging the drainage ditch on Dills Bluff and cleaning pipes. They ran into a surprise unknown waterline which has slowed progress and will be addressed. County is planning to clean and brush pavement and then we will reaccess.
- Town Hall repairs
- Update on pavilions for Mill Point and Dock Street Parks: Laura Cabiness has provided a schematic for Mill Point and is working on one for Dock Street.
- She and Planner, Kristen Crane met with the Council of Governments (COG) regarding the Town’s Comprehensive Plan
- An upcoming Transportation Sales Tax (TST) meeting will be held March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.
- Narcan Training was held last night at Town Hall. The next Narcan Training is April 15.
- Open mic Poetry reading is scheduled for March 25. There were 76 attendees at the February event.
- First Friday Town Market will be held April 3. Captain Shawn James will be the DJ at this event.

Finance Report: Mr. Hemmer presented the March Finance Report that reflected the period ending February 28, 2026. He announced that a Budget Workshop for the 2027 proposed budget will be held on Thursday, April 2 and that an amended budget would be prepared as well for May. Report accepted as information.

Island Sheriff’s Patrol: Captain James addressed the ongoing concerns regarding e-bikes, particularly noting a significant increase in activity in the Fort Johnson and Harborview areas. He explained that the current laws governing e-bikes are complex and often confusing, as they attempt to distinguish between bicycles, mopeds, and motor vehicles based on factors such as the presence of pedals and motor wattage. He outlined that:

- E-bikes with pedals and a motor of **750 watts or less** are classified as bicycles.
- Those between **750 and 1,500 watts** are treated as mopeds.

- Those exceeding **1,500 watts** are considered motor vehicles.

However, enforcement becomes more difficult when bikes do not have pedals. In cases where such vehicles are under 750 watts, there is currently a statutory gap that limits enforcement. If they exceed 750 watts, they may be treated as mopeds. A major challenge for law enforcement is determining the actual wattage of these vehicles, as this information is often not readily available or verifiable in the field.

He emphasized that officers frequently encounter riders engaging in reckless behavior—such as performing stunts, weaving through traffic, or riding at excessive speeds—rather than simply riding responsibly. In these cases, enforcement efforts often shift toward holding parents accountable, particularly when underage riders are operating vehicles that legally require a license.

Captain James also stressed the importance of community involvement. Despite numerous complaints voiced informally, there has been a lack of official calls for service. He urged residents to report incidents through the non-emergency dispatch line (843-743-7200), noting that increased call volume helps direct law enforcement presence and response.

Law enforcement has begun tracking encounters and increasing patrols, especially during peak times such as after school hours, weekends, and school breaks. Education remains the initial approach but repeat encounters may lead to stronger enforcement actions.

In addition to e-bike concerns, Captain James provided a brief update on recent criminal activity for the month. He also highlighted the impact of the hands-free driving law. Increased enforcement, including issuing multiple citations in a single day, appears to be reducing distracted driving. While not a complete solution, he expressed confidence that continued enforcement will help decrease traffic accidents, particularly rear-end collisions.

Public Works Report: Melissa Flick, Permitting and Licensing Manager, presented an overview of the Public Works Report, which was accepted as information. She also informed Mr. Greene, who was in attendance, that the City of Charleston has awarded a contract to clean and trim the end of the connector and Folly Road.

Code Enforcement Report: Ms. Richardson presented the monthly Code Enforcement Report, which was received as information. Councilwoman Mignano asked about a property in the 1200 block of Fort Johnson Road involving a two-story garage, noting her belief that the property may fall within the City of Charleston's jurisdiction. Ms. Richardson stated she would follow up with Councilwoman Mignano to obtain more specific information.

Requests for Consideration by Staff:

Audio Visual Equipment Update Estimate: Mayor Lyon presented an estimate to update the audio-visual (A/V) equipment in Council Chambers, noting that the current system is inconsistent and frequently causes technical issues. Staff have often needed to come in during off-hours to assist groups encountering problems. Mr. Hemmer confirmed that these issues are ongoing.

A quote of **\$21,000** was received from **Bespoke Smarter Homes** for the upgrade to the A/V system in Council Chambers. Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin made a motion to approve the expenditure, which was seconded by Councilman Dodson. Mr. Hemmer confirmed that funding is available within the **Capital Improvements budget**, as some planned items will not need to be purchased at this time. He also addressed Council questions regarding the expected lifespan of the upgraded system. Mayor Lyon added that this will be a great enhancement for our meetings as well as for groups who use Council Chambers.

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:

Nabors Drive Proposal for Construction Drawings and Permitting: Mayor Lyon introduced the agenda item and announced that Laura Cabiness was present to answer questions.

Council was reminded that this project has been in development for quite some time. The Town has maintained \$235,000 in its capital budget for the project since before the current administration. The total estimated project cost is approximately \$700,000. The breakdown of the road is roughly 50% in the City, 33% in the Town, and 13% in the County.

Mayor Lyon noted that the project represents an important connection for the community and has been a priority for many residents. The Town was recently awarded \$230,000 from the Transportation Sales Tax (TST) Committee, which would be used toward this project if approved. Combined with the Town's existing budget allocation, a total of \$465,000 is currently available.

It was further noted that while the City does not currently have funding allocated in its budget, it has applied for TST funding to contribute to the project. Councilwoman Leslie Skardon has submitted a request on behalf of the City, and there is optimism that additional funding will be secured. Hopefully the City will come through with funding.

During discussion, it was confirmed that the TST funds are earmarked specifically for this project and cannot be redirected.

A motion was made by Councilman Boles and seconded by Councilman Mullinax to approve the proposal. No further discussion.

Vote

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

Unanimous

Mayor Lyon concluded by noting that the approval would be welcome news for residents in the Nabors Drive community.

Refurbish/Repair Trim at Town Hall: Mayor Lyon presented a request for refurbishment and repair of wood trim at Town Hall. She said the trim is showing significant wear and deterioration, similar to the previous

condition of the Town’s deck prior to its recent repairs. The wood has not been properly maintained and requires sanding, staining, and sealing to prevent further damage and potential rot.

Four quotes were received for the project. One was submitted by Rogers American Construction Company, a General Contractor that previously completed the Town’s deck and shutter work with high-quality results. The remaining three quotes were from painting contractors, Pettigrew Painting, LLC; Palm Multiservices; and O&R Sanchez Painting, recommended by a long-time Sherwin-Williams representative.

Council was advised that the quotes varied widely in cost. Concerns were raised regarding Palm Multiservices’ estimate, specifically that the cost for power washing appeared excessively high while other portions of the bid seemed underpriced. O&R Sanchez Painting was noted to be professional and thorough, but their overall cost was considered significantly higher than the other proposals.

Based on prior experience and overall value, Mayor Lyon recommended either Rogers American Construction Company or Pettigrew Painting, LLC, with a preference for Pettigrew Painting due to its more competitive pricing and confidence in the quality of work. All contractors were confirmed to carry workers’ compensation and liability insurance.

A motion was initially made and seconded but later withdrawn to allow for more specificity. A revised motion was made by Councilwoman Mignano to approve Pettigrew Painting, LLC for the project, seconded by Councilman Boles.

During discussion, it was confirmed that the scope of work includes power washing, light sanding, and application of two coats of stain to all trim, including soffits, columns, window frames, shutters, and porch ceilings. It was also noted that the building siding may only require cleaning rather than repainting, depending on the results of the power washing.

Mayor Lyon noted the importance of proactive maintenance to preserve the existing wood and avoid costly replacements. It was further noted that regular staining every few years will be necessary to maintain the condition of the trim going forward.

Vote

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

Unanimous

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Mayor Lyon announced that no Planning or Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meetings were held this month. The Planning Commission will hear a rezoning case in April and the BZA will hear three setback cases.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin reported that James Island Pride has rescheduled its meetings to take place prior to Town Council meetings at 6:00 p.m. The group will host a community-wide litter pickup on May 9 in partnership with Adopt-a-Highway and Keep

Charleston Beautiful. All James Island residents are encouraged to participate. Flyers have already been distributed throughout the community.

Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin shared that she has coordinated with local law enforcement to ensure coverage in the Riverland Drive area. Additional cleanup locations are expected to include Highway 30 near Wells Fargo and the former IHOP site, along with several smaller neighborhood areas. Final location details will be shared with the public once confirmed. This initiative represents an exciting opportunity to enhance the beauty of James Island, and strong community participation is anticipated.

The committee is proposing to rename the Environment and Beautification Committee to “James Island Pride Beautification” to provide a clearer and more recognizable identity within the community.

Children’s Committee: Councilwoman Mignano announced that the Children’s Committee is planning to host its second annual Children’s Festival on April 24. Plans are being finalized and additional information will be shared soon.

Neighborhood Council: Councilman Mullinax announced the next meeting of Neighborhood Council on March 26 at 6:00 p.m. One topic of discussion by the Council will be about e-bikes.

History Committee: Councilman Williams reported that the History Council participated in a retreat at Mill Point Park this past Saturday, where a deeper dive into several ongoing initiatives were discussed. The primary focus remains consistent over the past year to year-and-a-half working on historic markers and the Town Market. He noted that the Town Market has proven to be an especially effective platform for both engagement and education. This past month, the focus was on historic markers and in the coming month they plan to highlight the Arts Center and explore its role in helping to communicate the history of that site.

Appointment of Jason Williams: Motion to appoint Jason Williams to serve on the History Council was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Mullinax. Councilman Williams added that Mr. Williams is a history teacher at the Magnet School and comes highly recommended. **Unanimous**

ReThink Folly Road: Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin reported that the Steering Committee has updated its 2026 work plan for the year. She complimented Councilwoman Leslie Skardon for playing a significant role in helping guide this effort, ensuring that the Committee remains focused on key priorities, particularly those related to ongoing projects along Folly Road. In addition, the Town’s website will be updated to reflect current initiatives and progress. Once those updates are complete, information will be shared including detailed information on the various phases of work taking place along the Folly Road corridor.

Drainage Committee: No Report.

Business Development Committee: No Report.

Trees Advisory Committee: Mayor Lyon reported that the Tree Advisory Committee met today at Camp Road Middle School. She and Councilwoman Drayton-Crumblin were in attendance, and it was a great experience. They observe students planting some of Shumard Oaks that were distributed during our recent tree giveaway. Deputy Booth and Parker Richardson also joined them and overall, it was a very enjoyable and rewarding event.

James Island Intergovernmental Council: Mayor Lyon announced that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Accommodations Tax Committee: No Report.

James Island Arts Council: Mayor Lyon announced that the Arts Council met this week and is working on a gallery display. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Renderings of the Arts and Community Center were on display for everyone to see.

Parks and Gardens Council: Mayor Lyon announced that plans are gearing up for spring projects in the Town.

Proclamations and Resolutions:

Resolution #2026-05: Municipal Agreement Folly Road (SC 171) Safety Improvements: Mayor Lyon stated that she spoke earlier today with Spencer Wetmore regarding the issue. She acknowledged the significant public attention, noting media presence from Channels 5 and 4, a large turnout of residents, and substantial community concern reflected in petition signatures.

She stated that Council could approve the municipal agreement authorizing the Mayor to sign, table the matter, reject it, or pursue an alternative course of action. She noted the document was sent shortly after Shawn Salley had previously indicated he would explore additional options.

A motion was made by Councilman Dodson, seconded by Councilman Mullinax, to authorize the Mayor to formally request that the South Carolina Department of Transportation remove the controversial medians from the Folly Road Project in the Town of James Island jurisdiction and replace them with other effective safety measures.

Mayor Lyon emphasized that while the Town supports the majority of the proposed safety improvements, there are serious concerns about the medians. She cited potential impacts on neighborhoods, businesses, and traffic flow, including the risk of vehicle backups extending into through lanes. She also relayed that Representative Wetmore indicated federal funding for sidewalks and other improvements may depend on inclusion of the medians, though it remains unclear whether alternative designs have been formally presented to federal agencies.

Councilman Mullinax recommended reaching out to federal representatives, including Nancy Mace, Lindsey Graham, and Tim Scott, to obtain clarification directly from federal sources rather than relying solely on SCDOT. He emphasized the importance of independent verification regarding funding requirements.

Discussion continued with concerns about SCDOT and the current plan. Mayor Lyon noted that during a follow-up meeting, Mr. Salley appeared noncommittal and somewhat defensive of the project and did not provide a clear answer on whether changes would be pursued.

Council members expressed unified opposition to the medians while strongly supporting the remainder of the project. Emphasis was placed on preserving approximately 90% of the proposed improvements while advocating for modifications to the median design. Several members stressed the need for sustained and proactive engagement at the federal level to ensure funding is not jeopardized.

An additional point raised included: The need to consult the South Carolina Attorney General regarding potential liability concerns.

Observations that many accidents cited were rear-end collisions, not those typically mitigated by medians. Reference to the newly implemented hands-free driving law as a potential factor in reducing accidents.

Concerns based on experiences in other municipalities where medians have negatively impacted businesses and traffic flow.

Councilman Boles stated the issue as fundamentally political and that community opposition should carry decisive weight.

Mayor Lyon asked for the motion to be restated.

MOTION: to authorize the Mayor to formally request that the South Carolina Department of Transportation remove the controversial medians from the Folly Road Project in the Town of James Island jurisdiction and replace them with other effective safety measures.

Vote

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

Unanimous

Mayor Lyon confirmed that she will proceed with the formal request to SCDOT and that Council will coordinate outreach to federal officials to advocate for the project's continuation without the medians.

Resolution #2026-06: Consideration of Funding from SC Senate and House for Drainage in Bayfront S/D: Mayor Lyon introduced the agenda item that state legislators are offering earmark funding opportunities this year. She stated that Town Engineer Laura Cabiness assisted significantly with choosing the project and that, according to the Island-Wide Drainage Study, the Bayfront area ranks among the highest priority locations for drainage improvements. She called on Melissa Flick, Permitting and Licensing Manager, to provide an overview.

Ms. Flick stated that Bayfront is one of the most impacted areas within the James Island Creek Basin. She highlighted a specific example of a resident on Kemper Drive whose property is severely affected by an outfall that causes ongoing erosion during storms and high tides. The situation is further complicated by overlapping jurisdictional responsibilities involving the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the Town of James Island, Charleston County, and the City of Charleston, as the drainage system transitions into the creek.

Council was advised that while the issue is particularly visible at this property, it reflects a broader neighborhood drainage problem. Addressing the outfall is considered a critical first step in improving overall drainage conditions in the area. Ms. Flick also noted that increased traffic diversion into Bayfront could exacerbate existing drainage and roadway concerns if improvements are not made.

The proposed funding request would require a 20% local match, estimated at \$126,000. If awarded, the Town plans to utilize available funds from its Stormwater account with Charleston County, which currently maintains a balance exceeding \$500,000, with additional annual contributions. The match would be incorporated into the upcoming fiscal year budget, and eligible costs may be reimbursable through the Stormwater fund. A motion was made by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Councilman Boles. No discussion.

Vote

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

Unanimous

Resolution #2026-07: Request to Apply for PARD Grant: Mayor Lyon stated that this is another grant with a 20% match. The grant is in the amount of \$7,360.89 and our match is approximately \$1,500. This grant is to assist in developing and improving local parks and recreation facilities. We plan to use it for Dock Street Park where we are currently planning to build restrooms on the site where the playground is and then move the playground over towards the water. This would be a perfect fit for Dock Street, and it desperately needs a facelift. We have done some minor upfitting and are currently completing repairs on the dock. This will be a great help. No discussion.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Boles, 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

Mayor Lyon added that as with all PARD grants we do not get the money until we do the work and send in a request for reimbursement for the grant. We hope this will be done within the next budget year.

Ordinances up for First Reading: None.

Ordinances up for Second/Final Reading:

Ordinance #20226-01: An Ordinance Amending the Town of James Island Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR) Article 153.026, Section (D) and Article 153.027, Section (D) to increase the Membership of the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals: Mayor Lyon stated that this Ordinance is intended to allow the newly elected Council members to make their appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Planning Commission. The change increases the number of members on each body from five to seven members. No discussion.

Vote

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

Mayor Lyon
Unanimous

Aye

Old Business: None.

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) (2) for the receipt of legal advice regarding litigation matters regarding KT Properties, LLC vs. Town of James Island and contractual matters involving third party services. Upon returning to Open Session the Council may act on matters in the Executive Session.

Motion to enter into the Executive Session was made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilman Dodson. No discussion. **Unanimous** to enter at 9:14 p.m.

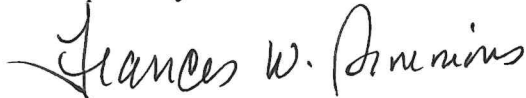
Return to Regular Session: Mayor Lyon asked for a motion to return to Open Session at 9:58 p.m. Motion made by Councilman Boles, seconded by Councilwoman Mignano. **Unanimous.** Mayor Lyon announced that no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Announcements:

All of Council thanked the staff and everyone that attended tonight's meeting. Councilman Williams added a special thank you to Autumn Fralix with Animal Control for removing the injured ducks on his property.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons
Town Clerk