

The Town of James Island held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 21, 2022 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, PW Director, Bonum S. Wilson, Town Attorney, Deputy Chris King, Island Sheriff's Patrol Division. A quorum was present to conduct business. This meeting was held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island with notification provided to the public.

Opening Exercises: Councilman Boles offered a moment of silence for the late Alan Laughlin and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Proclamations and Resolutions: Mayor Woolsey requested to move this agenda item up on the agenda and it was granted without objection of Council.

Resolution #2022-11: Recognition of Lillian Smith, Helping Hands: Councilman Milliken read into the record a resolution recognizing Lillian Smith for outstanding service as a volunteer with the Helping Hands Committee and James Island Pride. Ms. Smith served as the James Island Charter HS liaison for the past three years and has inspired and organized others to serve as volunteers in the upkeep of our island's environmental efforts. Ms. Smith was presented a gift from Chair Stan Kozikowski in appreciation for her service.

Resolution #2022-12: Recognition of Amy Ball, James Island Pride: Councilman Milliken read into the record a resolution recognizing Amy Ball for her service on the James Island Pride Committee. Ms. Ball has served as Chair of James Island Pride since May 2017 and has initiated and managed countless positive environmental efforts to keep James Island beautiful.

Mayor Woolsey moved to approve Resolutions #2022-11 and #2022-12, Councilman Milliken, seconded and passed unanimously.

Public Comment: The following persons addressed Council:

Ali Newman, 4986 Wetland Crossing: Ms. Newman addressed the Maybank/Riverland Drive intersections and a car accident that she was involved in there three weeks ago. She noted there has been 135 accidents at this intersection and expressed interest in solutions how to resolve these accidents.

Jane Brown, 805 Tennent St.: Ms. Brown asked about the results from the Charleston County Sheriff's Office and Town for the Clearview Drive/Tennent Street Traffic Study. She suggested the Town fund monies to establish basketball and tennis courts at North Stiles Park so children would not have to play in the streets.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of June 16, Regular Town Council Meeting: Motion to approve was made by Councilman Milliken, seconded by Councilman Mullinax, and passed unanimously.

Information Reports:

Finance Report: Written Report provided and with an overview given by Finance Director, Merrell Roe. Councilwoman Mignano questioned the cost for janitorial services and Ms. Roe explained that Zeb's, our long-term janitorial service, went out of business.

**Town Administrator's Report:** Written Report provided. Ms. Grimbball, Town Administrator, gave a summary from the month's activities including the offer for the part-time Program Support Specialist at JJ Arts & Cultural Center which will allow the Center to be open during extended hours during the week and on Saturdays.

**Comprehensive Emergency Plan Annual Review:** Ms. Grimbball provided an overview of the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Emergency Plan. Some tasks were modified to place staff members to more applicable areas of experience and also to fill vacant positions. Annual activities includes: Readiness Assessment Action Plan, Business Impact analysis, Response Plans, Contact Lists, annual Plan Testing and Public Information Distribution Procedures. Updates and training opportunities will be ongoing.

**Public Works Report:** Written Report provided. Public Works Director, Mark Johnson, gave an overview of the projects and activities for the month of June.

**Island Sheriff's Patrol Report:** Deputy Chris King provided the Island Sheriff's Patrol Report and updated Council on crimes that are open and those resolved.

**Requests for Approval by Staff:**

**James Island Creek TMDL Sampling: 2022-2023 Contract Scope and Fee:** Ms. Grimbball presented for approval the Scope of Services for the James Island Creek TMDL by Wolpert Engineering. Services to consist of collecting wet and dry weather grab samples at five locations within the James Island Creek Watershed, with funding allocated for additional sampling and testing. This project includes the collection of the grab samples, laboratory analysis for enterococcus, and associated reporting for a 12 month period (August 2022-August 2023). Total annual contract cost is \$67,900. Breakdown by jurisdictions: Town of James Island, (34%) \$23,086; City of Charleston (58%) \$39,382; and Charleston County (8%) \$5,432.00. Motion to approve by Councilman Milliken, seconded by Councilman Mullinax and passed unanimously.

**Camp Road Drainage Basin Study: Contract Scope and Fee:** Ms. Grimbball presented for approval the contract Scope and Fee for the Camp Road Drainage Basin Study by Thomas & Hutton. The project consists of studying the existing conditions and proposed drainage improvements to address drainage and flooding conditions within a portion of the Camp Road Basin at \$59,800. Phases includes: General Consulting, Survey Phase, and Study and Reporting. Motion to approve by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Mullinax and passed unanimously.

**Renewal of Capital Consulting Group, LLC Lobbyist Contract:** Ms. Grimbball presented a renewal contract for Capital Consulting Group, the Town's lobbyist. Effective date of the contract is July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 at \$48,000 in coequal monthly installments of \$2,000. Motion to approve by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Councilman Boles. Councilman Boles verified that the contract could be canceled with 30 days' notice, to which Ms. Grimbball confirmed. Motion passed unanimously.

**Brantley Park Annual Landscape Maintenance Proposal:** Public Works Director, Mark Johnson requested approval for an annual maintenance agreement at Brantley Park for bi-weekly landscaping services with Heartpine Landscaping for \$1800. Motion to approve by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Councilman Boles and passed unanimously.

**Lighthouse Point Annual Landscape Maintenance Proposal:** Ms. Grimbball requested approval for the Lighthouse Point Annual Landscape Maintenance proposal for bi-weekly landscaping services with Heartpine at the cost of \$1,440/year. Motion to approve by Councilman Mullinax, seconded by Councilman Boles. Councilman Milliken asked if this was different from the other areas currently maintained at Lighthouse Point, to which Ms. Grimbball confirmed. The motion passed unanimously.

Driveway Apron Repair at 846 S. Piccadilly: Public Works Director, Mark Johnson, requested approval for the repair of the driveway apron by Charleston County Public Works at 846 S. Piccadilly to include repair of culvert joints with fabric and pour new concrete. Cost: \$11,607. Motion to approve by Councilwoman Mignano, seconded by Councilman Milliken and passed unanimously.

Stormwater Box Repair at 1473 Camp Road: Public Works Director, Mark Johnson, requested approval for the repair of the stormwater box and culvert box connections by Charleston County Public Works at \$12,361. Motion to approve by Councilman Milliken, seconded by Councilman Boles. Passed unanimously.

Action Items:

Nomination for Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals: Roy Smith: Councilman Milliken moved for the reappointment of Roy Smith to serve a 4-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Boles seconded. Motion passed unanimously for Mr. Smith to serve.

Nomination for Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals: Amy Fabri: Councilwoman Mignano moved for the reappointment of Amy Fabri to serve a 4-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Boles seconded. Motion passed unanimously for Ms. Fabri to serve.

Request for Approval: JLA Engineering to Conduct a Traffic Calming Analysis in Clearview subdivision (deferred from June 16 meeting): Mayor Woolsey stated that this item has been tabled at the June Town Council meeting, at which time staff was directed to analyze the data collected by the Town and that of the Island Sheriff's Patrol. Public Works Director, Mark Johnson, provided details of the analysis conducted with the most recent data. Councilwoman Mignano asked for clarification from Mr. Johnson about how the data would indicate whether further study would be needed. Mr. Johnson explained the method of analysis and how the rate of speed over the posted limit would warrant further study. Councilman Milliken asked if the data supports further study. Mr. Johnson and Deputy Chris King agreed that the data obtained by the Sheriff's Office did not support moving forward to implement additional traffic calming methods. Mayor Woolsey clarified that the intention of the proposal that was tabled at the June meeting was not to conduct a traffic analysis, but instead to provide recommendations for calming traffic speeds if necessary. Councilman Mullinax stated that he would be most interested in providing a radar sign in this area as it would be a less expensive option that could provide significant results in reducing neighborhood speed. Mayor Woolsey noted that the Town has a non-permanent radar sign that he would like for the Public Works Department to put in this area. Councilwoman Mignano reiterated that the radar sign could be a solution to settle the concerns of the residents. Mayor Woolsey recalled a price that had been requested for a permanent radar sign, but staff was unable to recall the amount for placement of a permanent sign. Councilwoman Mignano restated that Town Council heard the Clearview residents' concerns and will be placing the Town's radar sign on Tennant Street so that drivers can have some self-reflection about their speed while also not spending \$8,500 on a study that would only produce recommendations to calm traffic. Mayor Woolsey called for the vote on the motion for approval made by Councilman Mullinax at the June Town Council meeting, seconded by Councilman Milliken. Council voted unanimously against the motion on the floor. Motion failed.

Request for Approval: Allocation of \$5,000 to address and resolve audio issues for videotaped/YouTube and live on-person meetings at Town Hall. Councilman Milliken described the reasoning for this request, as it has become apparent that the need for reliable and functional streaming be provided to the residents who are watching the meetings from home. Councilwoman Mignano reiterated how important this is, and how difficult it has been to listen to the meetings with the current configuration of the audio for live streaming. Ms. Grimball provided Council with information she collected prior to the meeting, noting that

there had been \$70,000 allocated in the FY 22-23 budget for upgrading the audio/video equipment, and with the new information, she would initiate contract to find solutions for Council review. The request to allocate an additional \$5,000 to this effort was withdrawn by Councilman Milliken seeing as funding had already been allocated for this purpose.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Councilwoman Mignano reported that Planning Commission did not meet last month, but that the BZA heard a special exception request for a KFC near the corner of Folly and Camp Roads. She stated that the BZA voted to defer the case another month in order to have the Town procure an outside review of the traffic study that was provided by the applicant.

Environment and Beautification Committee: Councilman Milliken stated the goals and work of James Island Pride and asked that residents consider helping out as the organization is in need of new members. He provided the dates of the upcoming meeting on August 18 at 5:30 p.m. and litter pickup on September 10 from 9-11 a.m.

Children's Committee: No Report.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman Mullinax moved for the appointments of : Josh Fowler to serve as the representative on the James Island Neighborhood Council for Stone Post and Sylvia Jeffries to represent Stiles Point. Motion seconded by Councilman Boles and passed unanimously.

History Committee: No Report

Rethink Folly Road Steering Committee: No Report.

Drainage Committee: No Report:

Business Development Committee: No Report.

Trees Advisory Committee: No Report

James Island Intergovernmental Council: Mayor Woolsey announced the next meeting date is still to be determined.

Proclamations/Resolution (continued)

Resolution #2022-13: Hate Crimes Bill: Councilman Milliken moved for the approval of the Hate Crimes Resolution supported by the Town of James Island and its passage in the SC General Assembly. SC is one of only two states in the nation that does not have a statewide law specifically addressing enhanced penalties for hate crimes. Charleston County, State Legislators and others have advocated for House Bill 3620, the "Clementa C. Pinckney Hate Crimes Act", named for State Senator and Pastor of Mother Emanuel AME Church in downtown Charleston, who was gunned down along with a group of his parishioners in a mass shooting fueled by hate June 17, 2015. The Resolution will be forwarded to representatives of the State of SC General Assembly to urge their support in passing Bill 3620. Motion seconded by Councilman Boles and passed unanimously.

Ordinances up for First Reading: None

Ordinances up for Second/Final Reading: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Request for Approval: Additional \$11,000 for the JIACC Solar Panel Project to Relocate Electric Meter:

Mayor Woolsey announced that this item was requested to be added to the agenda by the Town Administrator and called for a motion. Councilman Milliken made a motion and Councilman Mullinax seconded. Ms. Grimball explained that staff was seeking additional funding after being notified that Dominion Energy requires the existing meter be removed from the power pole prior to connecting the new solar panels. The fee proposal would be to place the new meter on a stand located near the road and in scale with the existing utilities already there. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Milliken, seconded by Mayor Woolsey. Councilwoman Mignano asked for clarification about how this connection differs from what is installed on a residence. Mayor Woolsey explained that the actual meter box that is typically located on a house is mounted on a Dominion power pole at this site. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session: Not Needed.

Announcements/Closing Comments:

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons  
Town Clerk