



**Council**

Samuel E. Murray  
*Mayor*

Mary Beth Heyward  
*Mayor Pro Tempore*

Jerry Ashmore  
Robert Landrum  
Darryl Owens

Van Willis  
*Town Manager*

T. Alan Beach  
*Chief of Police*

Jeffrey S. Coppinger  
*Operations*

Linda Bridges  
*Planning*

**Minutes  
Council Meeting  
Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

**December 13, 2017**

**Members Present:** Mayor Samuel Murray and Councilmembers Jerry Ashmore, Mary Beth Heyward, Robert Landrum and Darryl Owens

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Van Willis, Planning Administrator Linda Bridges, Police Deputy Chief Ron Wekenmann, Fire Chief Reece Bertholf and Municipal Clerk Brooke Plank-Buccola

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Murray called the Council meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. INVOCATION**

Councilmember Ashmore offered the invocation.

**III. OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILMEMBERS:**

**a. Councilmembers: Mary Beth Heyward, Robert Landrum and Darryl Owens**

Judge Grimsley administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers Mary Beth Heyward, Robert Landrum and Darryl Owens.

#### **IV. PRESENTATION:**

##### **a. Ray McBride – Bookmobile**

Mr. Ray McBride showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Bookmobile and information on the public libraries in the County.

##### **b. Buddy Brown – HPRF**

Mr. Buddy Brown, chairperson of the HPRF, presented Fire Chief Reece Bertholf with rescue mask for pets.

#### **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- A. Minutes from the Public Hearing on November 1, 2017**
- B. Minutes from the Council Workshop on November 1, 2017**
- C. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of November 8, 2017**

Councilmember Heyward made a motion to adopt the minutes from the Public Hearing of November 1, 2017, Council Workshop of November 1, 2017 and the Council Meeting on November 8, 2017. Councilmember Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### **VI. COUNCIL BRIEFING**

As of today, the deed was given to Mr. Tedder for the property swap of the shrimp dock with potential processing facility and dockside parking lot. A finalized contract has been created for the Reily Group in the old Dockside building. They plan to restore the building, which will be open around June. The developers are still receiving offers on the residential portion. The dry stack should open the end of January contingent on the delivery of the new fork lift. Discussions are still being held regarding the path for the Spanish Moss Trail.

The Department of Transportation has been contacted regarding repaving Mascaro Lane. They have deferred the decision to their Charleston office. If DOT will agree to repave the road, then the Town will consider taking ownership and maintaining it in the future.

The design work for the Waddell project is being finalized. The original plan would impact nine trees, but DOT was able to reduce that number down to three. The trees will need to be removed to remedy stormwater drainage issues in that area. The Naval Hospital's new CO received proposition of moving the fence favorably. The final decision will still need to come from Jacksonville.

St. Marks is still discussing their interest in acquiring the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Church.

The Porter's Chapel site plan is in place. The National Park Service has shown interest in this project and is curious on how it will be used (especially since this is the site of the old Smith Plantation). It is estimated that the move and renovation will cost \$120 - \$180,000. The projected timeline can move quickly, but it may prove beneficial to be patient for possible grants.

Parks and Recreation Commission have identified areas for work and repairs and have begun to move forward with them.

Mr. Willis has been in contact with the Department of Administration regarding the net proceeds for the sale of the port. The money has been set aside from what they have sent the SC Port Authority. The value is \$438,000, and this money is obligated to be spent on public infrastructure. Mr. Willis requested Council presence as discussions move further in late January.

Work is being completed on Lenora Drive to solve some of the stormwater drainage issues occurring on properties on Drayton Drive. The Town and the Greenery have been working together to repair the aerator at the Duck Blind Pond.

A Joint Council Meeting for Port Royal and the City of Beaufort is scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>. The agenda is still being finalized, but impact fees (for both traffic and the library) will be a point of discussion.

Chief Bertholf announced that the new fire station will be on line January 1<sup>st</sup>. He has received 100% acceptance for the 15 vacant fire fighter positions. They will begin work on January 6<sup>th</sup> based on the stipulation of the grant that they received. The personnel at that station will be on a 12 hour shifts.

Councilmember Owens inquired about the status of the Coca Cola plant on Ribaut Road. Mr. Willis said that the Economic Development committee has their eyes on it at this time. From what he understands, an interested party has put an offer in on the building, but nothing official has been released as of yet.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**At this time, the Mayor will recognize members of the audience who have submitted speaker forms to address the Council on agenda items. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.**

Mr. Chris Marsh is a resident of Port Royal and wanted to speak on behalf of banning the plastic bags. He is in support of banning plastic bags and feels this will give our economy a boost with a show of advancement in the area.

Mr. David Strange is a full time resident of Port Royal and is also a volunteer on Hunting Island for the sea turtles. He voiced his concern on the amount of plastic/bags he finds on the beach and how dangerous they are for the sea creatures.

Ms. Jennifer Sharp is a resident of Picket Fences and is a part of the environmental team. Her team has been attending the Farmer's Market and has been handing out Port Royal tote bags to attendees. She is in favor of the banning of plastic bags and has a petition with 916 signatures endorsing the banning of the plastic bags in the area.

Ms. Kathleen Bray is very pleased with how the new system for bulk pick up has been working out. She was originally doubtful of the new method, but see that it is working and will continue to keep an eye out.

Ms. Venaye McGlashan is a resident of St. Helena Island, a retired veterinarian, and in favor of banning plastic bags.

Ms. Rikki Parker is in support of banning plastic bags and is pleased with the promotion of the Town tote bags being handed out at the Port Royal Farmer's Market.

Mr. Ted Taplon is vice president of Friends of Hunting Island and is in support of the banning of plastic bags.

Mr. Christopher Inglese, the attorney for the County, is here as a resource for the Town on what has been going on with the plastic bag banning in Beaufort County. The City of Beaufort has passed first reading on the ban, but did include an amendment saying that businesses do not need to provide a bag.

## **VIII. FIRST READINGS:**

### **A. Ordinance 2017-25. An ordinance to create a new Part 6 Chapter 6 of the Town Code of Ordinances, and adopted by reference Beaufort County Ordinance Chapter 38, Article 6, pertaining to the regulation of single-use plastic bags.**

Councilmember Owens moved to adopt Ordinance 2017-25 and Councilmember Ashmore seconded the motion. Councilmember Heyward is in support of hearing more on the plastic bag ban. Mayor Murray asked Mr. Inglese if he received any negative feedback and if so what was it? A retail business in the area spoke about the cost increase would be to have paper bags versus plastic. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **IX. COUNCIL ACTION**

### **A. Appointments**

#### **a. Redevelopment Commission – 1 appointment**

Council had no one to appointment to the redevelopment commission at this time, but will search in the community to fill the position.

**b. Anchor Park**

Owners of the incoming Boutique Inn have requested a portion of Anchor Park. The Town is willing to consider this request, but owners will need to comply with terms set by the Town over a period of time. The contract will have the property in landscape compliance and will need to do construction as planned. The owners will have 5 years to comply or they will need to pay the Town the agreed upon price. The owners were not present during tonight's meeting. Council requested to table this discussion until they can speak with the owners.

**c. Approval of extension to Greenery Contract**

Before discussion began, Councilmember Ashmore recused himself from the room and discussion. The Greenery's contract with the Town is up for approval for extension. Due to scope of work the Greenery has increased the cost of contract by 1.7%. This contract receives two – 1 year opportunities and then will go back out for bid. Mayor Murray asked to work an estimate on adding on Johnny Murrall Circle to the maintenance they already do. Councilmember Owens made a motion to approve the extension of the Greenery contract for another year. Councilmember Heyward seconded the motion. The motion passed with four votes for extending the contract (the votes were made by Mayor Murray, Councilmember Heyward, Councilmember Landrum and Councilmember Owens). Councilmember Ashmore abstained from the vote.

**X. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:**

- A. Tuesday, December 19, 2017, 4:00pm – Redevelopment Commission, Town Hall, 700 Paris Avenue**
- B. Tuesday, December 19, 2017, 5:30pm – Parks & Recreation Commission, Town Hall, 700 Paris Avenue**
- C. Tuesday, December 19, 2017, Joint Council Meeting, 5:30pm 1911 Boundary Street**
- D. Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26, 2017, Town Hall, Public Works and the Administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of Christmas**

January 12<sup>th</sup> is the one year recognition of the reconstruction national park's designation. A tour of the sites will be held with help from the National Park Service and Historical Port Royal Foundation.

**XI. COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Ashmore is glad to see the improvements and signage for the bulk pick ups.

Councilmember Owens is pleased with the improvements made with bulk pick ups and the passing of the first reading on the plastic bag ban. He also shared his gratitude with everyone on being re-elected as Councilmember.

Councilmember Heyward echoed what her fellow councilmembers have said, and she hopes everyone has a happy holiday season.

Councilmember Landrum shared his agreeance with the other councilmembers, and also that he is very pleased as a maritime community to see the plastic bag ban pass first reading.

Mayor Murray wants to make sure to schedule the boardwalk ceremony sometime at the end of January.

County Councilmember Howard is happy to hear about the first reading on the plastic bag ban and also of the progress on the Waddell Road project.

## **XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**At this time, the Mayor will recognize members of the audience who have submitted speaker forms to address the Council on non-agenda items. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.**

Ms. Kathleen Bray felt that the participation for the Christmas golf cart parade was outstanding. She also wanted to suggest combining the Christmas tree lighting with the golf cart parade in the future.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comments, Councilmember Heyward made a motion to adjourn. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brooke Plank-Buccola  
Municipal Clerk

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting was posted on the Town bulletin board two weeks prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda

was given to the local news media and posted at the meeting location twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

The Town of Port Royal does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operations of programs, services, or activities. Qualified individuals who need accessible communication aids and services or other accommodations to participate in programs and activities are invited to make your needs and preferences known to the 504/ADA coordinator. If at all possible, please give us at least a three to five day advance notice so we can adequately meet your needs. 504/ADA coordinator at 843-986-2245