



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**

January 10, 2018

Members Present: Mayor Samuel Murray and Councilmembers Jerry Ashmore, Robert Landrum and Darryl Owens

Members Absent: Mary Beth Heyward (sick)

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

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Murray called the Council meeting to order at 6:37 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION

Councilmember Owens offered the invocation.

III. PROCLAMATION:

a. National School Choice Week

No representative was in attendance. The Mayor continued with the meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of December 13, 2017

Councilmember Ashmore made a motion to adopt the minutes from the Council Meeting on December 13, 2017. Councilmember Landrum seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote, four votes in favor (Mayor Murray, Councilmembers Ashmore, Landrum, and Owens). Councilmember Heyward was absent.

V. COUNCIL BRIEFING

Mr. Chris Butler updated the Council on the port property and re-emphasized that any questions can be directed to either him or Mr. Whit Suber. Buyers have closed on the restaurant at the shrimp dock, and they plan on being open the beginning of June. The name of the restaurant will be the Fish Camp on 11th Street. The dry stack is expected to open towards the end of January or middle of February, as their new forklift has been delivered. Plans for the roads between 10th Street and 13th Street are almost finalized. The Spanish Moss Trail construction will be submitted for bids soon. Councilmember Ashmore wondered when the fences around the port would start coming down. Mr. Butler stated that they have begun removing fencing near the drystack, and they plan to continue removal. For safety concerns, he has questioned his insurance agent to find out about removing more of the fence. The beautification of the drystack is still being designed. The drystack will not have space to hold any boat trailers. Mr. Willis is still working with the Office of General Counsel for the net proceeds. They have requested additional information, and Mr. Willis has provided it all to them. That money will go into infrastructure improvements for the Town.

The status of Mascaro Lane is unchanged. DOT has been very busy with the recent inclement weather, but they have passed the information to the Charleston office for review.

Plans for the Waddell project are still under development. The plan is to minimize the number of trees impacted due to stormwater concerns. Naval Hospital had another personnel change over, resulting in a different Lieutenant with whom the Town is now working with.

The second reading on the plastic bag ban has been removed from this month's agenda due to the public hearing cancellation for weather. The public hearing will now be held in February, and this issue will be back up for second reading at February's council meeting. The plastic bag ban has passed the first reading in all Beaufort County municipalities.

Mr. Willis has been in contact Ms. Jane Fredrick, who is on the committee deciding the future of the church. St. Marks should make their decision whether to acquire the 11th Street Church in late January.

Recently, the Town has received numerous calls for scheduling events at the Shed. Town staff has been scaling back on accepting contracts at this time. With all of the new inquiries, direction from the Council is needed for what should be done. This topic is suggested to be on the February agenda.

The workshop and public hearing will continue as scheduled on February 7th. Council Retreat is tentatively scheduled for March 24th.

Mr. Tony Maglione is preparing the bid documents for relocation and construction of Porter's Chapel.

Pickleball is doing really well over at the Shed and have increased the number of days they play. Parks and Recreation Commission will be relocating art and making plans for improvements over at the Naval Heritage Park.

A Stormwater Taskforce meeting is coming up, and Mr. Joe Devito has expressed a willingness to attend these meetings as he lives in that general area. Clearing the ditches over by Lenora Park seems to be allowing the water to flow better. The Town is waiting to hear back from the grant writers for the Cypress Wetlands project.

The fire station on highway 170 is now open and is fully staffed. The reserve pool was depleted due to attrition from the full time slots at the new station, so signs for firefighter reservist applications are being displayed at this time. The dedication of the fire station in Port Royal has not been scheduled yet due to an inability to confirm the dates Mr. DeLoach served. Council decided it best to generalize the dates of service.

No major issues occurred during the snow storm. A good size gap was found on top of the Bell Bridge after the storm. DOT came out to inspect it and had no concern. They said that bridges are known to contract during extreme cold weather conditions.

Ms. Wexell will be giving a presentation during February's Council Workshop regarding the most recent audit.

Redevelopment Commission has submitted a letter requesting advice from Council on their role and how to move forward with the Commission. Mr. Willis suggested having this as a retreat topic.

VI. 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.

No comments were made at this time by the public.

VII. FIRST READING:

- A. Ordinance 2018-1. An ordinance authorizing the Participation by the Town of Port Royal in Federal Court Litigation by the South Carolina Environmental Law Project (SCELP) to Challenge the Permitting by the Federal Government of Seismic Testing and Drilling in Atlantic Coastal Waters, including Waters Off Beaufort County and the South Carolina Coast**

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to pass the first reading of Ordinance 2018-1. Councilmember Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote, four votes in favor (Mayor Murray, Councilmembers Ashmore, Landrum, and Owens). Councilmember Heyward was absent.

IX. COUNCIL'S ACTION:

A. Appointments

- a. Redevelopment Commission – 1 appointment**
- b. Metro Planning Commission – 1 appointment**
- c. Historic Preservation Commission – 1 reappointment**

Council had no recommendations or volunteers for the two commissions needing new appointments. Town staff is conferring with the volunteer from the Historic Preservation Commission whether they would like to be reappointed. Council hopes to have all positions filled next month.

B. Anchor Park

The owners of the property adjacent to Anchor Park plan to construct a boutique hotel there. They have requested conveyance of the Anchor Park property to help improve parking and buffering. This will be contingent on the property owners maintaining the landscaping and completing the intended plan. If the contract is not adhered to, the property owners will have to purchase the property from the Town at an approved upon appraiser's price. Mr. David Black spoke on behalf of his partners regarding what they envision for Port Royal. They would like to build a boutique hotel with 50 to 60 rooms, a shop, and a restaurant. Councilmember Ashmore made a motion to allow the Town Manager to finalize the contract on the Anchor Park property. Councilmember Owens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote, four votes in favor

(Mayor Murray, Councilmembers Ashmore, Landrum, and Owens). Councilmember Heyward was absent.

C. Approval of Automatic Aid Agreement with the Bluffton Fire District

With the opening of the new station on Highway 170, Chief Bertholf explained to Council that the location will aid as far as the commercial buildings on Lemon Island. The mutual aid agreement will benefit both the new station with assistance and Bluffton in the Callawassie area. This is a no cost agreement. Councilmember Owens made a motion to approve the automatic aid agreement with the Bluffton Fire District. Councilmember Ashmore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote, four votes in favor (Mayor Murray, Councilmembers Ashmore, Landrum, and Owens). Councilmember Heyward was absent.

X. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

- A. Monday, January 15, 2018, Town Hall, Public Works and the Administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- B. Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 4:00pm – Redevelopment Commission, Town Hall, 700 Paris Avenue**
- C. Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 5:30pm – Parks & Recreation Commission, Town Hall, 700 Paris Avenue**

As a reminder, on Friday, January 12, 2018, the Reconstruction Era Tour will be held at 10:00am.

XI. COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:

Councilmember Landrum had no comments.

Councilmember Owens had no comments.

Councilmember Ashmore requested to plan the dates for the re-dedication of the boardwalk and the dedication ceremony for the Port Royal Fire Station.

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. Tricia Fidyrich questioned the tree removal at the development on Ribaut Road. Ms. Linda Bridges confirmed there was tree mitigation to the property. They will be planting back, but it did not meet the Town's mitigated number therefore a dollar value was also contributed to the Dan Lemieux Tree Fund. She also noticed that there is blue tape on some of the trees along Madrid Ave near the alligator pond and wondered what it was for. Ms. Bridges indicated this could be due to survey work and was able to confirm that there are no permits out for that property area.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, Councilmember Owens made a motion to adjourn. The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

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