

**THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
TOWN COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Saturday, March 26, 2020**

**Time: 2:00 p.m.**

**Present from Town Council:** John J. McCann, *Mayor*; Bill Harkins, *Mayor Pro-Tempore*; David Ames, Tamara Becker, Marc Grant, Tom Lennox, Glenn Stanford, *Council Members*

**Present from Town Staff:** Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Joshua Gruber, *Assistant Town Manager*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Executive Assistant/Town Clerk*.

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**1. Call to Order**

Mayor McCann called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. By way of roll call, Mayor McCann confirmed attendance of each member of Council.

Mayor McCann gave a brief update on the recent meetings he and the Town Manager, Mr. Riley had been participating in. He said in the recent meeting with the regional municipalities, they had all agreed to follow the Town's lead in asking the Governor for a stay-at-home order.

- 2. FOIA Compliance** - Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Hilton Head Island.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.

**4. Consideration of a Resolution**

Consideration of a Resolution of the Town Council of Hilton Head Island calling upon Governor Henry McMaster to issue a mandatory Stay at Home Order for the State of South Carolina for such period of time as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. The members of Council had a brief discussion on this item. Mr. Riley explained the reason behind taking this first step in asking the Governor for a stay-at-home order. He further explained that after some research and review of opinions from the Attorney General's office, local municipalities do not have legal authority to call their own order. By way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

## **5. Consideration of Approval of a Statement from Council to the Community**

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. The members of Council had a brief discussion on this item. Mr. Harkins amended his motion to include after number six, “encourage those who are able to, to begin following these guidelines immediately”; and at the bottom of the statement include “please follow the Town’s website for important updates and information.” Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call, the amended motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

## **6. Consideration of Authorizing Letters to State and Federal Officials Seeking Economic and Medical Assistance**

Mr. Ames moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. The members of Council had a brief discussion on this item. By way of roll call, the motion was approved by 7-0.

## **7. Consideration of a Letter Asking the Hospital to Share Daily Information on Patients Being Treated for COVID-19**

Mr. Harkins moved to remove this item from the agenda. Mr. Stanford seconded. The members of Council had a brief discussion on this item. Mr. Riley stated that only DHEC is reporting the positive numbers, not the hospitals or doctors independently. He further stated that the data is soon to be reported by ZIP Code. Mr. Harkins amended his motion, moving that a letter be sent to DHEC to report by ZIP Code. Mr. Stanford seconded. By way of roll call the amended motion to draft a letter to DHEC and not the hospital failed by a vote of 3-4, Mr. Ames, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Grant, and Mr. Stanford opposed. Mayor McCann said that at the next meeting, this item would be further discussed, and a decision made then. He said that the Hospital Board did vote to not provide any direct reporting to the Town and provide all reporting through DHEC.

Mr. Ames moved to approve this item as proposed, acknowledging that it can be rescinded upon receipt of ZIP Code data from DHEC. Mrs. Becker seconded. By way of roll call, the motion was approved by a vote of 5-2, Mayor McCann and Mr. Harkins opposed.

## **8. Discussion of Future Meeting Schedule**

Mayor McCann confirmed that the next meeting would take place on Monday, March 30, 2020.

## **9. Adjournment**

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

**Approved: April 28, 2020**

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John J. McCann, Mayor