



Town of Hilton Head Island
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.
MEETING MINUTES

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

Present from Town Staff: Marc Orlando, *Town Manager*; Josh Gruber, *Deputy Town Manager*; Shawn Colin, *Advisor to the Town Manager*; Angie Stone, *Assistant Town Manager*; John Troyer, *Finance Director*; April Akins, *Revenue Services Manager*; Chris Yates, *Interim Director of Community Development*; Teri Lewis, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Town Clerk*

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCann called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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. Roll Call

Roll was taken by the Town Clerk, and attendance was confirmed.

4. Pledge to the Flag

Mayor McCann asked for a motion to move all of the New Business items up to the top of the agenda just in case Mr. Lennox had to leave prior to the end of the New Business discussions. Mr. Harkins moved to approve the move. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

5. New Business

a. First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2021-20 – Business License Model Ordinance

First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2021-20 to repeal and replace certain portions of the Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, to include Sections 10-1-10 through Section 10-1-210 and replace with revised Code Sections 10-1-10 through 10-1-250; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. Ms. Akins presented an overview of the changes and updates to the ordinance. She answered questions posed to her about the changes. With no further discussion, the motion to approved carried by a vote of 7-0.

b. Consideration of the Affiliated Agency Town Funding Standardization Process

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. Mr. Troyer reviewed the recommendation, providing a high level overview of the proposed program and the noted that this matter had been previously discussed in the Finance and Administrative Committee. With no discussion from the members of Town Council, the motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

c. Consideration of the American Rescue Plan Funding Appropriations

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. Mr. Orlando reviewed the funding and the recommendation and what the funds could be used for. He discussed the timing for utilizing the funds and explained how the Town would be teaming up with the Community Foundation to administer a grant awards program to local groups and organizations that had been directly impacted by COVID-19. Mr. Orlando answered various questions from the Mayor and members of Town Council. With no further discussion, the motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

d. Consideration of the Proposed Calendar Year 2022 Town Council Meeting Schedule

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. With no discussion, the motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Report of the Town Manager

a. Items of Interest

i. Building Safety Program – Chris Yates, Interim Director of Community Development

Mr. Yates reviewed the Building Safety Program. He said the Town enforces the latest versions of the International Building Code and the International Residential Building Code as adopted and/or modified by the South Carolina Building Codes Council. He said the receipt of a Certificate of Occupancy allows a property owner to safely occupy a building. Mr. Yates said, in light of the tragic events that occurred in Surfside, Florida, the Town is proactively contacting the owners of all commercial property located on the Island with recommendations of action.

b. Quarterly Update of the Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation Project Workplan – Teri Lewis, Deputy Director of Community Development

Ms. Lewis reviewed some of the highlights of the Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation Project Workplan. This included the current status of the Gullah Market, the genealogical research the Heritage Library has been doing for the Genealogy Clinics, and other key items. She also answered questions posed to her from Council.

7. Reports from the Members of Town Council

a. General Reports from Town Council

Mayor McCann discussed what took place at the August 17, 2021 Town Council meeting, noting that the citizens who were in attendance were well organized. He said that a better job has to be done to respond to these types of situations and be better prepared. Mr. Orlando responded to the Mayor, reporting that he has directed staff to begin working on the security for the building and especially in Council Chambers. Each member of Council also addressed the situation from the prior meeting, expressing similar concerns as the Mayor had.

b. Report of the Lowcountry Area Transportation Study – Councilman Stanford

Mr. Stanford reported that at a recent meeting, the group discussed the 278 project and the project manager reported on the preferred alternative. He said that the project manager acknowledged that there had been many questions raised about the no left turns, and stated that revisions to the preferred alternative are likely to occur.

c. Report of the Lowcountry Council of Governments – Councilwoman Becker

Mrs. Becker said that she did not have a report for the Council of Governments, but reported on the Island Rec. Strategic Planning meeting she attended. She said they discussed the organizational and operating challenges they were going through. Mrs. Becker stated it was a good meeting.

d. Report of the Southern Lowcountry Regional Board – Councilman Lennox

Mr. Lennox reported that the board received a report from the County Administrator about the Regional Housing Trust Fund. He said a final draft should be available in the coming month.

e. Report of the Community Services & Public Safety Committee – Councilman Harkins

Mr. Harkins reported on the items discussed at the July 26, 2021 meeting. He said he would expect to see those items, on the next Town Council agenda. Mr. Harkins said those items are the Office of Cultural Affairs Strategic Plan and various easements and drainage agreements. He said that they also discussed an ordinance that would limit the use of beach tents. Mr. Harkins said that the Committee sent it back to staff for further review and refinement.

f. Report of the Finance & Administrative Committee – Councilman Lennox

Mr. Lennox reported that the Committee recently met where they discussed the Affiliated Agency Town Funding Standardization Process and the American Rescue Plan Funding Appropriations.

8. Appearance by Citizens

Skip Hoagland: addressed the Mayor and Town Council on matters related to the use of Town funds.

Matt Sweeny: addressed the Mayor and Town Council on matters related to the American Rescue Plan funds.

XoDan Lee: addressed the Mayor and Town Council on matters related to the American Rescue Plan funds.

9. Adjournment

By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Approved: September 21, 2021

Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

John J. McCann, Mayor