

Town Council Regular Meeting

January 23, 2024

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MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL & FOIA STATEMENT

Mayor Kleinman called the January 23, 2024, Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 2:30 PM. Councilmen Hamilton, Kortvelesy, May, and Weis, Town Administrator Joe Cronin, Zoning Administrator Tyler Newman, and Assistant Town Administrator Katharine Watkins participated in the meeting. The Assistant Town Administrator confirmed the requirements of the SC Freedom of Information Act have been satisfied.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Mayor Kleinman nominated Darryl May as Mayor Pro-Tempore. All voted in favor.

Darryl May was appointed as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Town Council Regular Meeting: December 19, 2023

Councilman Weis moved to approve the previous meeting minutes of December 19th; Councilman May seconded. All voted in favor.

The previous meeting minutes of December 19th were approved.

B. Special Called Meeting: January 4, 2024

Councilman May moved to approve the previous meeting minutes of January 4th; Councilman Weis seconded. All voted in favor.

There was a note prior to the vote of a grammatical scrivener's error to be corrected prior to the posting of the minutes.

The previous meeting minutes of January 4th were approved.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There are no Presentations.

5. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

There are no Public Hearing Items.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

7. REPORTS OF TOWN BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

A. Advisory Committees

● ~~Community Promotion and Engagement Committee~~

- Environment and Wildlife Committee: Gordon Weis, Chair

Councilman Weis summarized the goals for the Environment & Wildlife Committee and noted the committee will be meeting on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00am.

- Public Safety Committee: Dan Kortvelesy, Chair

Councilman Kortvelesy summarized the goals for the Public Safety Committee for the year.

● ~~Public Works Committee~~

B. Special Committees:

- Special Committee on Short-Term Rentals: Darryl May, Chair

Councilman May summarized the goals and timeline of the Special Committee on Short-Term Rentals.

Discussions were had with members of the audience.

- Special Committee on Finance: Raymond Hamilton, Chair

Councilman Hamilton summarized the goals and timeline of the Special Committee on Finance.

- Special Committee on ARPA Expenditures: Mayor Bruce Kleinman, Chair

Mayor Kleinman summarized the goals and timeline for the Special Committee on ARPA.

C. Ad Hoc Committees: No report

D. Board of Zoning Appeals: No report

E. **Planning Commission**: No report

F. **State Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee**: No report

G. **Utility Commission**: Larry Buchman

Commissioner Buchman summarized the January 17th Seabrook Island Utility Commission meeting and the financials and operations for the month of December and the year to date.

Discussions were had with members of council.

8. REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS

A. **Mayor**

- Pending amendments to Chapter 2 (Administration) of the Town Code

Mayor Kleinman summarized the proposed amendments to Chapter 2 (Administration) of the Town Code.

- Discussion of proposed Island Park Place Medical Village (Betsy Kerrison Parkway)

Mayor Kleinman noted there is a proposed Island Park Place Medical Village (Betsy Kerrison Parkway) and summarized the proposal as submitted to Charleson County Council for their January 25th meeting.

Discussions were had with members of council.

B. **Town Administrator**

- Town Council Strategic Planning Meeting

Town Administrator Cronin noted the upcoming Strategic Planning Meeting with the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC). Date to be determined.

Discussions were had with members of council.

- Request from BCDCOG for a letter of support on behalf of their application for NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Funding Opportunity

Town Administrator Cronin summarized the BCDCOG request for a letter of support on behalf of their application for NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Funding Opportunity.

Discussions were had with members of council.

- Notification from Charleston County for project requests for FY 2025 Transportation Sales Tax (TST) Annual Allocation Program

Town Administrator Cronin summarized the notification received from Charleston County for project requests for FY 2025 Transportation Sales Tax (TST) Annual Allocation Program.

Discussions were had with members of council.

Town Administrator Cronin offered thanks to St. Johns Fire District for everything they did during the nor'easter and assistance had during the most recent flooding events.

C. Assistant Town Administrator

- Report of Financials for the Month of November 2023
 - Total fund balance ending on November 30, 2023, was \$9,480,729 an amount about \$1,310,420 more than the balance as November 2022.
 - Revenues for November totaled \$62,111 representing about 115.8% of the 2023 annual budget and being about \$38,102 less than for the same period in 2022.
 - Expenditures for November totaled \$122,577 which is about 78.5% of the 2023 annual budget.
 - Expenditures for the year to date are approximately \$40,540 more compared to the same period of 2022.
 - Excess expenditures over revenues were \$60,466 for November compared to an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$18,175 in 2022, representing a decrease in revenue.
- Update on new account codes for FY 2024

Assistant Town Administrator Watkins updated members of council on the status of the new account codes for FY 2024.

D. Zoning Administrator

- Code Enforcement Summary

Zoning Administrator Newman summarized the code enforcement, planning and zoning, and short-term rental activity since the previous Town Council meeting.

Zoning Administrator noted the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting for February was cancelled.

Discussions were had with members of council.

9. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

There are no Ordinances for Second Reading.

10. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

There are no Ordinances for First Reading.

11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

A. Appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Committees

- Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee (2 Vacancies)
- Board of Zoning Appeals (1 Vacancy)
- ~~Community Promotion and Engagement Committee~~
- Environment and Wildlife Committee (4 Vacancies)
- Planning Commission (3 Vacancies)
- Public Safety Committee (4 Vacancies)
- ~~Public Works Committee~~
- Special Committee on Short-Term Rentals (4-8 Vacancies)
- Special Committee on Finance (4-8 Vacancies)
- Special Committee on ARPA Expenditures (4-8 Vacancies)

Mayor Kleinman noted prior to nominations for appointments to the boards, commissions, and committees that there were 80 applicants who applied and thanked everyone for their interest.

Mayor Kleinman nominated Gary Walton for the at-large vacancy on the ATAX Advisory Committee. All voted in favor.

Gary Walton was appointed for the unexpired at-large term to the ATAX Advisory Committee term expiring December 31, 2024.

Mayor Kleinman moved to postpone the appointment of the cultural vacancy on the ATAX Advisory Committee; Councilman May seconded. All voted in favor.

The cultural vacancy appointment for the ATAX Advisory Committee was postponed.

Mayor Kleinman nominated Sue Schenning to the Board of Zoning Appeals. All voted in favor.

Sue Schenning was appointed to fill the unexpired term on the Board of Zoning Appeals with a term expiring December 31, 2025.

Councilman Weis nominated Dean Mor, Mark Andrews, Fred Demler, and James Geiger for the Environment and Wildlife Committee. All voted in favor.

Dean Morr, Mark Andrews, Fred Demler, and James Geiger were appointed to the Environment and Wildlife Committee with a term ending January 6, 2026.

Mayor Kleinman nominated George Fink, Mary Jo Manning, and Tom Hund to the Planning Commission. All voted in favor.

George Fink, Mary Jo Manning, and Tom Hund were appointed to the Planning Commission terms ending on December 31, 2025.

Councilman Kortvelesy nominated Ed Mahr, Frank Farfone, John Kinne, and Virginia Asabelle to the Public Safety Committee. All voted in favor.

Ed Mahr, Frank Farfone, John Kinne, and Virginia Asabelle were appointed to the Public Safety Committee terms ending January 6, 2024.

Mayor Kleinman nominated Alan Glenn, Elizabeth Lagana, Karen Nuttall, Leonard Koppersmith, Lynn Lillibridge, Robert Gilmore, and Susan McLaughin to the Special Committee on APRA Expenditures. All voted in favor.

Alan Glenn, Elizabeth Lagana, Karen Nuttall, Leonard Koppersmith, Lynn Lillibridge, Robert Gilmore, and Susan McLaughin were appointed to the Special Committee on APRA Expenditures.

Councilman Hamilton nominated Aldrich Boss, Chris Hix, Joy Palmer, Richie Bavasso, and Roger Threfall to the Special Committee on Finance. All voted in favor.

Aldrich Boss, Chris Hix, Joy Palmer, Richie Bavasso, and Roger Threfall were appointed to the Special Committee on Finance.

Councilman May nominated Deb Lehman, Oliver Sever, Nancy Buck, Ted Johnson, Susan Murray, Starr Murphy, Tracey Kirchoff, and Johanna Young to the Special Committee on Short-Term Rentals. All voted in favor.

Deb Lehman, Oliver Sever, Nancy Buck, Ted Johnson, Susan Murray, Starr Murphy, Tracey Kirchoff, and Johanna Young were appointed to the Special Committee on Short-Term Rentals.

Mayor Kleinman updated members of council on the appointments for the Public Works Committee and Community Promotions and Engagement Committee.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

There are no Items for Information or Discussion.

13. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

A. Discussion of items incident to proposed contractual arrangements (Town Attorney)

Please Note: Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on items discussed during Executive Session.

Councilman Weis moved to enter into executive session; Councilman Kortvelesy seconded. All voted in favor.

The council went into executive session at 4:23PM.

Councilman May moved to enter back into open session; Councilman Weis seconded. All voted in favor.

The council went back into open session at 4:42PM.

Councilman May to cancel the RFP, applicants being rejected without prejudice; Councilman Kortvelesy seconded. All voted in favor.

The RFP was cancelled, and the applicants were rejected without prejudice.

Mayor Kleinman appointed an ad hoc committee for screening potential Town Attorneys composed of himself and Councilman May.

15. COUNCIL COMMENTS

NONE.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Kortvelesy moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Weis seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:44PM.

Date: January 23, 2024

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*
Assistant Town Administrator

Note: These minutes are not verbatim minutes. To listen to the meeting, please use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/@townofseabrookisland5287/streams>