

Town Council Strategic Priorities Workshop

February 18, 2025 @ 10:30 AM

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Seabrook Island Town Hall, Council Chambers
2001 Seabrook Island Road
Seabrook Island, SC 29455



MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kleinman called the meeting to order at 10:28 am.

ROLL CALL

Town Council Members Present: Mayor Kleinman; Councilmembers Darryl May, Gordon Weis, and Dan Kortvelesy.

Town Staff Present: Joe Cronin (Town Administrator), Tyler Newman (Zoning Administrator), Abigail Grooms (Communications Director), Peter Wiggins (Clerk/Treasurer), and Desiree Fragoso (Municipal Association of South Carolina).

FOIA STATEMENT

The Town Clerk confirmed that the meeting was advertised in compliance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Agendas were posted and furnished to local news media and all other persons requesting notification.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 28, 2025

Town Council Regular Meeting

Mr. Kortvelesy made a motion to approve the minutes from the Town Council Regular Meeting of January 28, 2025, seconded by Mr. Weis.

The motion was approved UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

2024 Strategic Priorities Update

Mayor Kleinman gave an update on the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Strategic Priorities.

He stated the priorities for 2022-2023 were Seabrook Island Road, enhancing code enforcement, establishing a short-term rental policy, creating a garage, conducting a personnel and facility needs assessment, providing for pathway amenities, upgrading the town's licensing and permitting software, and updating the town's beach rules.

2025 Strategic Priorities Discussion

Mayor Kleinman stated the priorities for 2023-2024 were adopting a beach management plan, reviewing the town's short-term rental ordinances, adopting a marshfront management plan, adopt a five-year update to the town's comprehensive plan, evaluate the town's ability to participate in beach renourishment and maintenance, address issues with Seabrook Island Road, improve the town's coordination with outside organizations such as the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association (SIPOA) and the Seabrook Island Club, assess future staffing needs and address long-term capital needs for storage, office space, and other public facilities, and to diversify and enhance the town's communications capabilities.

Ms. Fragoso solicited priorities from each of the three councilmembers in attendance, including the mayor. The priorities were as follows:

Mayor Kleinman

- Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements
- Town Hall Project
- Establish 4-year Terms for Council and Mayor
- Evaluate Dissolving the Seabrook Island Utility Commission and Merging Functions with the Town of Seabrook Island
- Review Package of Amendments to the Development Standards Ordinance
- Work Toward a Regional Agreement on the Urban Growth Boundary
- Evaluate Increasing the Number of Councilmembers to Six from Four
- Formally Establish Town Departments

Councilman Weis

- Environment and Wildlife Committee Communication
- Environment and Wildlife Committee Coordination with SIPOA
- Marshfront Management Plan External Relationships

Councilman Kortvelesy

- Updating Comprehensive Emergency Plan
- Improve Emergency Communications
- Improve Internet Access on Seabrook Island
- Address Aging Housing Stock on Seabrook Island
- Economic Development

Councilman May

- Improving External Relationships
- Coordinate with SIPOA on Enforcement and Zoning Issues
- Coordinate with Kiawah Island on Common Objectives and Issues
- Address Structural Safety of Commercial Buildings

Mr. Cronin added two goals. He stated he wished that council consider an employee classification and compensation study and replacing beach signage or updating beach rules.

At 11:54 am, the council recessed for lunch.

At 12:44 pm, the council resumed open session.

Ms. Fragoso asked the council members to rank their top nine priorities from the morning session. She stated this will help establish the town's formal list of 2025 Strategic Priorities. The following priorities are grouped by each councilmember with the most important goals listed first:

Mayor Kleinman

- Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements
- Town Hall Project
- Establish 4-year Terms for Council and Mayor
- Review Package of Amendments to the Development Standards Ordinance
- Coordinate with SIPOA on Enforcement and Zoning Issues
- Coordinate with Kiawah Island on Common Objectives and Issues
- Updating Comprehensive Emergency Plan
- Improve Emergency Communications
- Work Toward a Regional Agreement on the Urban Growth Boundary

Councilman Weis

- Marshfront Management Plan External Relationships
- Update Beach Rules Ordinance
- Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements
- Environment and Wildlife Committee Communication
- Marshfront Management Plan External Relationships
- Updating Comprehensive Emergency Plan

Councilman Kortvelesy

- Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements
- Updating Comprehensive Emergency Plan
- Town Hall Project
- Improve Emergency Communications
- Economic Development
- Review Package of Amendments to the Development Standards Ordinance
- Address Aging Housing Stock on Seabrook Island
- Coordinate with Kiawah Island on Common Objectives and Issues
- Update Beach Rules Ordinance

Councilman May

- Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements
- Coordinate with SIPOA on Enforcement and Zoning Issues
- Review Package of Amendments to the Development Standards Ordinance
- Coordinate with SIPOA on Enforcement and Zoning Issues
- Establish 4-year Terms for Council and Mayor
- Coordinate with Kiawah Island on Common Objectives and Issues
- Evaluate the Dissolving of the Seabrook Island Utility Commission and Merging Functions with the Town of Seabrook Island
- Address Aging Housing Stock on Seabrook Island
- Work Toward a Regional Agreement on the Urban Growth Boundary

The top eleven priorities, beginning with the most important, are listed below:

- 1.) Seabrook Island Road Drainage Improvements (12 votes)
- 2.) Review Package of Amendments to the Development Standards Ordinance (10 votes)
- 3.) Town Hall Project (7 votes)
- 4.) Strengthen Relationships/Regional Coordination with Kiawah Island and Charleston County (7 votes)
- 5.) Updating Comprehensive Emergency Plan (6 votes)
- 6.) Establish 4-year Terms for Council and Mayor (5 votes)
- 7.) Marshfront Management Plan External Relationships (5 votes)
- 8.) Coordinate with SIPOA on Beach Maintenance (4 votes)
- 9.) Update Beach Rules Ordinance/Signage (4 votes)
- 10.) Improve Emergency Communications (3 votes)
- 11.) Address Aging Housing Stock on Seabrook Island (3 votes)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kleinman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.

Peter D. Wiggins II, MPA
Clerk/Treasurer