

TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, July 13, 2021

MINUTES

The July 13, 2021 Ways and Means Committee meeting was conducted as a video conference using Zoom and was simultaneously made available to the public via YouTube live stream and by conference call, all in keeping with practices adopted to address the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Mayor Gregg, Councilmembers Finke, Fox, and Goldstein, Town Clerk Watkins and Town Administrator Cronin participated in the meeting. Mayor Gregg confirmed with the Town Clerk that notice of the meeting was properly posted, and the requirements of the SC Freedom of Information Act were met.

Mayor John Gregg

- Cessation of Town State of Emergency and resumption of in-person Council Meetings

Mayor Greg reminded members that the Governor declared a State of Emergency in South Carolina on March 13, 2020, in consequence of the Coronavirus Pandemic. Correspondingly, the Mayor declared a State of Emergency within the Town on March 17, 2020. Since those declarations, through numerous executive orders and emergency ordinances, the Town has undertaken response to the Pandemic. On June 7, 2021, the Governor ended the State of Emergency in South Carolina. With the adoption of emergency ordinances through Emergency Ordinance 2021-03 (now expired) and with issuance of Executive Order 2020-07, the restrictions imposed by the Mayor's executive orders have been made voluntary or repealed in their entirety. In view of expiration of Emergency Ordinance 2021-03 and the other cessation of restrictions undertaken in response to the Pandemic, Mayor Gregg proposed the cessation of the State of Emergency within the Town.

Council Members had no comments, assumed to be in favor of the proposed cessation. Mayor Gregg noted that he will work with the Town Administrator to send out a declaration to this effect.

- SCDHEC notice of preliminary approval of Town's "debris site" at Club Equestrian Center

Mayor Gregg gave members a copy of the notification for the preliminary approval from SCDHEC to use the pasture at the Equestrian Center as a temporary debris site and will give Council updates as they come.

- Schedule of presentation of 2020 Annual Audit (Mauldin Jenkins)

Mayor Greg reminded members copies of the report of the Town's audit services provider for its audit for fiscal year 2020 are available in Town Hall, and it is also available on the Town website www.townofseabrookisland.org.

Council discussed having the auditor presentation during the July meeting or the August meeting depending on when the auditor is available.

- Tropical Storm Elsa Damage Reports

Mayor Gregg reminded residents that they can report any damages that happened from Tropical Storm Elsa to Charleston County using an on-line Citizen Damage Report form available at:

<https://www.crisistrack.com/public/charlestonSC/request.html>

Town Councilmembers:

Jeri Finke

Councilwoman Finke discussed the protocols for in person meetings with the public.

Council discussed moving back operations as they were prior to the pandemic, but still following the recommendations from the CDC on those who are non-vaccinated to please wear a mask.

Patricia Fox

- Communications

Councilwoman Fox updated members on what communications went out from the town in the local publications.

The Seabrooker had an article written by Mayor Gregg wishing Faye Allbritton farewell and welcoming the new clerk, Katharine Watkins.

In *Tidelines* there were twelve items given: an update on eBikes to not use them on the beach, calling beach patrol if there is an issue on the beach, Seabrook Island Utility Commission (SIUC) updates on fire hydrant testing, a review of the 4th of July events, a tropical storm advisory, and Town Council and Committee Meeting posts.

Councilwoman Fox also mentioned that there were seven *Code Red* emails sent out to residents regarding Tropical Storm Elsa.

Barry Goldstein

- Discussion on upcoming DRC exercise on July 23rd from 9am to 1pm

Councilman Goldstein notified members of the upcoming virtual Disaster Recovery Council (DRC) exercise on July 23rd from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

Town Administrator Joe Cronin

- Debris monitoring services RFP update

Town Administrator Cronin updated Council on the status of the debris monitoring RFP and the town has received two proposals which have been reviewed by the Public Safety Committee and their recommendations will be given to Council during the July Town Council Meeting.

- DSO/Zoning Map Update

Town Administrator Cronin informed Council the new draft zoning map has been created and the next step in the process will be to have a public information meeting for public input.

Council discussed the timeframe for the public meeting and when the draft map will be posted on the website, and where the meeting will be held.

Prior to adjournment, Councilwoman Finke inquired as to the timeframe for the new Zoning Administrator/Chief Code Enforcement Officer, expected start of the most recent approved bid, and the timeframe for the adoption of the model business license ordinance.

Councilwoman Finke moved to adjourn; Councilwoman Fox seconded. All voted in favor. Council adjourned at 1:36pm.

Date July 14th, 2021

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*
Town Clerk/Treasurer