

**Minutes
Council Workshop
Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

August 1, 2007

Members Present: Mayor Samuel Murray and Councilmembers
Vernon DeLoach, Mary Beth Heyward, Joe Lee
and Henry Robinson

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Planning Administrator
Linda Bridges, Police Captain Alan Beach and
Municipal Clerk Tanya Payne

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Murray called the Workshop to order at 6:34 pm.

II. REVIEW AGENDA FOR THE AUGUST 8, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING

Town Manager Willis reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Council Meeting on August 8, 2007. He told Council an ordinance would be placed on the agenda concerning the outdoor display of merchandise and said the Joint Municipal Planning Commission would be considering this issue at its meeting on August 6th.

Town Manager Willis briefed Council concerning:

- a Community Safety Check Program where elderly citizens in the town would receive phone calls to check on their well-being
- a visioning forum for the Town by citizens of the Town
- Casablanca drainage is under budget; can be used for more drainage in the Casablanca area or transferred to another area; would need environmental study
- no bids received for West Paris Avenue sidewalk
- drainage for 10th and Paris Avenue is in design phase
- working on Venus Lane connectivity with North Paris Avenue
- Midtown signal should be blinking tomorrow.

- Port marketing materials on the web at www.naiavantportroyal.com
- Summer Music Series underway
- First Friday event sponsored by OVA merchants
- financial reports provided in Council packets
- engineers evaluate drainage at four sights
- Farmers Market sign permitted
- Purple Heart Monument request

Town Manager Willis reviewed second reading ordinances to convey right of way for sidewalks on London Avenue, annex and zone 1.4 acres on Fullwood Lane and to embody terms of agreement with Beaufort County concerning the November 2007 Town election.

Town Manager Willis reviewed first reading ordinances to annex and zone 5.63 acres located on Robert Smalls Parkway and Castle Rock Road. He showed the property on the map and told Council the zoning request for this property was for MU-1 zoning. Mr. Willis said the JMPC would take up this issue at its August meeting.

Town Manager Willis explained Ordinance 2007-54 would rescind recently passed Ordinance 2007-20 and allow the outdoor display of merchandise within five feet of the building. Also on the agenda was a Resolution concerning the adoption of the Northern Beaufort County Regional Plan. He said the JMPC had endorsed this plan and that a representative from Beaufort County would attend the Council meeting.

Councilmember DeLoach said he could not support the Plan and explained nothing Port Royal had requested had been included. He said no cost study had been performed and it would be expensive for the Town. Councilmember DeLoach said the County would have would control of the plan with no input from the Town.

Town Manager Willis told Council that after analyzing expected revenue for the new year he was comfortable with maintaining the proposed 74 mils for this year's budget. He told them he would need Council's endorsement of the milage in order to pass the information on to the County.

Town Manager Willis discussed the possibility of establishing an historic preservation ordinance for buildings in the Town that are at least ninety years old. He explained staff would be working with the Historic Port Royal Foundation and Town citizens to create a feasible ordinance that would work for the Town. Mr. Willis said there was a 1997 survey of the Town's buildings but said they would need an updated list. He told Council he would need a motion to approve moving forward with this ordinance.

Councilmember Lee said there would be a meeting on August 13th to get the process underway.

Town Manager Willis explained reappointments would be needed for members on the Design Review Board and the Housing Advisory Board. He also told Council the Old Village Association would be requesting funds from the Town to start a Visitors Center.

Nancy Vista told Council the OVA was looking at ways to “put Port Royal on the map” as far as businesses were concerned. She said many people do not know about the shops located in the Town. She said there was potential to attract visitors to the Town through its history and festivals. Ms. Vista said the group had been working with the Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce to get a satellite center in the Town but explained the Chamber did not have the funds to do so. She said the group had already prepared a plan of action, hired an events coordinator and a grants writer. Ms. Vista told Council that eventually the center would be self sufficient but needed funds to get the center opened.

III. IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION:

- A. Thursday, August 2, 2007, 5:30 pm – Design Review Board, 700 Paris Avenue**
- B. Monday, August 6, 2007, 5:30 pm – Joint Municipal Planning Commission, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**
- C. Wednesday, August 8, 2007, 6:30 pm - Council Meeting, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

Town Manager Willis reviewed the list of important dates and information. He told those present about the First Friday event that would be taking place on the first Friday of each month in order to attract visitors to the Town. Mr. Willis also told everyone about the Summer Performance Series being presented in the Town on various Saturdays over the next several weeks.

Mayor Murray introduced Randy Bates who was running for the vacant House of Representatives in the September 4th election.

John Ellerbe opposed the development going up on the corner of 16th Street and London Avenue. He said the homes were like trailers and that they were too close together. He said they did not fit into the description of Port Royal.

Mike Jones, President, Historic Port Royal Foundation, had some questions concerning the proposed historic ordinance.

Kitt Bruce asked for a 120 day moratorium on building of multi-family developments until the historic district is defined.

Town Manager Willis explained that town homes have been allowed in the Town since the 1980s and that the Town needed to be careful of devaluing resident's property when creating the ordinance.

Councilmember Lee explained the ordinance would list specific properties to be preserved and said they might need to look at MU-2 zoning.

Council decided to amend next week's agenda to consider a moratorium on the demolition of buildings in the Town that are over ninety years old.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Heyward moved to adjourn the workshop and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya L. Payne
Municipal Clerk

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the Workshop was posted on the Town bulletin board two weeks before the workshop. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and posted at the meeting location twenty-four hours prior to the workshop.