

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

October 3, 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 Chief Jim Cadien, Assistant
Fire Chief Jim Colwell and Municipal Clerk Tanya
Payne

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Murray called the hearing to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed those present.

II. PURPOSE:

- A. Ordinance 2007-57. An ordinance annexing to the Town of Port Royal approximately 1.956 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County Tax District 100, Map 28, Parcels 557, 558 and 559 (567, 571 and 573 Riley Road)**

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2007-57 by title and explained this was a one hundred percent annexation request. He also reviewed Ordinance 2007-58 which would zone the property as an MU-2 zoning district. Mr. Willis showed the property on the map pointing out other properties already in the Town and their zoning. He said this zoning request was unanimously recommended by the Joint Municipal Planning Commission.

There were no comments from the public on these issues.

- B. Ordinance 2007-58. An ordinance to zone approximately 1.956 acres of real estate located in Beaufort County described as Beaufort County Tax District 112, (formerly Beaufort County Tax District 100, Map 28, Parcels 557, 558 and 559 as a Mixed Use-2 (MU-2) zoning district**
- C. Ordinance 2007-60. An ordinance amending Chapter 22, Article V. of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina permitting an additional sign type, Light Emitting Diode (LED)**

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2007-60 by title. He said this ordinance would allow LED signs in Highway Commercial and General Commercial zoning districts only. Mr. Willis said the Joint Municipal Planning Commission had not recommended this ordinance because they felt the signs were not in keeping with the Town's image.

Councilmember DeLoach expressed concerns over how the signs would affect traffic and asked how often the ads would change.

Claude Dinkins explained the ads would change only a few times an hour depending on how many ads there were and when the businesses wished to advertise. He explained the sign would tone down at night and would possibly be turned off if no one ran an ad during the night hours. Mr. Dinkins said the signs were not very intrusive.

Town Manager Willis read an excerpt from a research study performed by a professor at Villanova University saying the signs were not distracting to drivers and do not present a safety hazard.

Eileen Newton expressed concerns that the sign would be placed at an intersection and said it might be distracting to drivers.

John Ellerbe stated that Lamar Advertising had over four hundred of these signs on interstate highways. He said if there were problems with the signs it would show up in the stock market and that this had not been the case.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comment the Public Hearing adjourned at 6:37 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 hearing was posted in the local newspaper and on the Town bulletin board fifteen days prior to the hearing. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and posted at the meeting location twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.