

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

December 12, 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, Fire Chief Wendell Wilburn, Assistant Fire Chief Jim Colwell and Municipal Clerk Tanya Payne

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Murray opened the meeting at 6:38 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION:

Councilmember Robinson offered the invocation.

III. OATH OF OFFICE:

A. Judge James Grimsley

Councilmember Heyward moved to reappoint James Grimsley as Town Judge and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Murray administered the Oath of Office to Judge Grimsley.

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IV. OATH OF OFFICE:

- A. Mayor Samuel E. Murray**
- B. Councilmembers Joe Lee and Henry Robinson**

Judge Grimsley administered the Oath of Office to newly re-elected Mayor Samuel Murray and Councilmembers Joe Lee and Henry Robinson.

V. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE:

By secret ballot, Council re-elected Councilmember Mary Beth Heyward to fill the position of Mayor Pro Tempore by a vote of four to one.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Minutes from the Public Hearing of November 7, 2007**
- B. Minutes from the Council Workshop of November 7, 2007**
- C. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of November 14, 2007**

Councilmember Robinson moved to adopt the minutes from the Public Hearing of November 7, 2007, the Council Workshop of November 7, 2007 and the Regular Council Meeting of November 14, 2007. Councilmember Heyward seconded the motion.

Corrections were made to the November 7, 2007 Council Workshop minutes to include: Section II, Item A., the word Impact Fees was changed to Development Fees and paragraph 4 on page 3 where it stated the estimated cost of the Estuarium facility would cost six to seven thousand dollars when it should have stated six to seven million dollars. A typographical correction was made to Section VIII., Item A of the November 14, 2007 Council Meeting minutes. It should have stated Mixed Use-1 rather than Mixed Uwe-1.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

There were no amendments to the agenda at this time.

VIII. COUNCIL BRIEFING:

Town Manager Willis told Council the Shrimp Dock was operating and that some minor problems were still being worked out. He explained that fuel and ice were available for the shrimpers. He also briefed Council concerning the:

- very preliminary plans to turn the Shed into a Cultural Arts Center
- upgrading stormwater management policies
- requested additional TIF District information from County
- the new sign at the intersection of Ribaut Road and Paris Avenue
- Beaufort County Regional Plan meeting scheduled for Nov. 18th
- audit is underway; performed by Doug Crowley
- scheduling a Visioning Retreat
- Casablanca project
- West Paris Avenue sidewalk project almost complete
- potential buyer for Port
- Portrait Homes drainage

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At this time, the Mayor will recognize members of the audience who have submitted speaker forms to address the Council on agenda items. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.

There were no public comments at this time.

X. 2nd READINGS:

- A. Ordinance 2007-65. An ordinance to authorize the Town Manager to convey excess real property to facilitate construction of sidewalks within the Town described as Beaufort County Tax District 110, Map 11, Parcel 8 (approximately 100 ft. on 16th Street)**

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2007-65 by title and showed the property on the map. He explained this side walk would adjoin existing sidewalk on 16th Street.

Councilmember Lee moved to adopt Ordinance 2007-65 and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- B. Ordinance 2007-66. An Historic Preservation ordinance for the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina**

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2007-66 by title.

Councilmember Lee moved to adopt Ordinance 2007-66 and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Lee previewed the Historic Port Royal website which shows a picture of properties identified in 1997 for historic preservation. He said the site also has

background information concerning each building and a map of where each is located in the Town. Mr. Lee explained the Historic Preservation Commission when appointed would continue this work and decide how the district would be designated. He explained the ordinance had been prepared through the guidance of the State. He explained the district would include not only homes but also other places of interest such as the buoy at Buoy Park and the Fort Frederick site. Councilmember Lee explained if a home should fall into disrepair and would be a financial hardship to repair, it could be demolished after a one-hundred eighty day waiting period with approval of the Commission. He said if the owner desired to repair the home, they would have the option of applying for Federal funds.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

XI. 1st READINGS:

- A. Ordinance 2007-67. An ordinance amending Chapter 22, Zoning, Article V. Section 93 Definitions and Interpretations to add Led Video Display on existing off-premise signs and Section 95 Table 1.5A of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Port Royal, South Carolina**

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2007-67 by title and told Council the Joint Municipal Planning Commission had not recommended this change.

Jonathan Yates representing the requesting company told Council they would like the opportunity to present benefits of the sign at a Workshop before first reading.

Councilmember Robinson moved to table Ordinance 2007-67 until January and Councilmember Heyward seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous.

XII. FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:

- A. Fire Impact Fee – Fire Chief Wendell Wilburn**

Fire Chief Wilburn presented the benefits of a Fire Impact Fee and reviewed statistics from municipalities that currently have the fees. He explained how the fees would be applied to different types of structures and said they would be applied only to new development. Mr. Wilburn explained the fees would be used pay for services, equipment and stations that would be needed due to new development.

XIII. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

- A. Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, 2007 – Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of Christmas**

- B. Tuesday, January 1, 2008 – Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of New Year’s Day**
- C. Wednesday, January 2, 2008, 6:30 PM – Public Hearing, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**
- D. Wednesday, January 2, 2008, immediately following the scheduled Public Hearing – Council Workshop, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**
- E. Thursday, January 3, 2008, 5:30 PM – Design Review Board (DRB) Meeting, 700 Paris Avenue**
- F. Monday, January 7, 2008, 5:30 PM – Joint Municipal Planning Commission, 700 Paris Avenue**
- G. Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 6:30 pm – Regular Council Meeting, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

Town Manager Willis reviewed the list of important dates and information.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS: At this time, the Mayor will recognize members of the audience who have submitted Speaker Forms to address the Council on non-agenda items. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes.

Bob Bender told Council two new developments had taken place concerning the proposed Estuarium facility. He explained a meeting with Lowcountry Council of Government’s head grant writer was scheduled for next week for the purpose of pursuing funds for the Estuarium. He further explained that Georgia Southern University’s Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development was very interested in the Estuarium project and said the director and staff of that organization would be in Town on Wednesday. Mr. Bender said this group would be able to do feasibility studies, economic impact forecasts and also assist with grant writing. He said all this was possible because Council had adopted the MOU and thanked them for their support.

Mike Jones asked if playground equipment would be placed at Anchor Park.

Town Manager Willis explained that playground equipment for that park was a possibility. He also said the Farmer’s Market staff had expressed interest in returning the market to the park for one day a week.

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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 meeting was posted on the Town bulletin board two weeks before the meeting. 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.