

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

January 9, 2008

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

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Police Chief Jim Cadien, Assistant Fire Chief Jim Colwell, Building Official Dan Lemieux and Municipal Clerk Tanya Payne

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Murray opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION:

Councilmember DeLoach offered the invocation.

Mayor Murray introduced the Town's new Beaufort Gazette reporter Alexis Garrobo.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes from the Public Hearing of December 12, 2007

B. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of December 12, 2007

Councilmember Heyward moved to adopt the minutes of the Public Hearing of December 12, 2007 and the Regular Council Meeting of December 12, 2007. Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

RE: 080109

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

There were no amendments to the agenda.

V. COUNCIL BRIEFING:

Town Manager Willis told Council that SCE&G would be trimming trees along the Town right-of-ways in the near future. He said because of frequent power outages Port Royal had been moved up on the schedule.

Building Official Dan Lemieux showed a map of the Town and pointed out areas where trimming would take place. He said this routine trimming takes place every five years and is done according to National Arborist Standards. Mr. Lemieux said residents would be notified when the trimming was scheduled for their neighborhood. He invited everyone to check out the display at the back of the room and help themselves to available brochures.

VI. 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.

Augusta Vella read a statement concerning the historic preservation district and expressed concerns about possible loss of value of her property should in be included in the district.

Bill Scheper spoke in opposition of the proposed LED bill boards in the Town. He said they were not suitable for the Town and were not in keeping with the Town's old town image.

Kitt Bruce opposed the LED signs saying they were not appropriate for the Town.

Scott Hammett opposed Ordinance 2008-1 which would allow LED signs to replace existing bill boards along Ribaut Road.

David Kell also opposed the LED signs saying they were tacky. He also expressed concerns over wording used in Ordinance 2008-2.

VII. 1st READINGS:

- A. Ordinance 2008-1. 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 2008-1 by title and explained the ordinance was tabled at the December meeting in order to allow the requesting company the opportunity to make a presentation concerning. Mr. Willis said the Joint Municipal Planning Commission did not recommend this change.

Jonathan Yates reviewed the benefits of LED signs and suggested a six months trial period.

After further discussion Council decided to table the ordinance until the County had time to consider this issue.

Councilmember Heyward moved to table Ordinance 2008-1 and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Ordinance 2008-2. An ordinance approving a second amendment to the Development Agreement between the Town of Port Royal and the State Ports Authority and authorizing the Mayor of Port Royal to execute the same on behalf of the Town

Town Manager Willis read Ordinance 2008-2 by title and said it would change the commencement date of the development agreement from June 7, 2007 to August 31, 2008 or the sale of the property, whichever comes first. He said because the property had not sold as soon as expected the extension was necessary.

Councilmember DeLoach moved that the Town of Port Royal will change the commencement date of the development agreement between the Town of Port Royal and the SCSPA contingent upon closing on the sale of the Port of Port Royal property within calendar year 2008. If the sale does occur, the Town will amend the commencement date to August 31, 2008. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

Town Manager Willis explained he was working with the SPA to keep the shrimp docks open and said they had agreed to extend the agreement until August 31st or until the property sold.

Attorney George Bullwinkel, said he felt the SPA would accept the terms of the motion but said he would have to present it to them for consideration. He further explained that the date change was the only revision and told them all other conditions of the agreement were unchanged.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VIII. RESOLUTION:

- A. Resolution 1-2008. A resolution to extend the agreement between the Town of Port Royal and the State Ports Authority concerning the operation of the Shrimp Docks.**

Town Manager Willis explained that Resolution 1-2008 would extend the operating agreement for the Shrimp Docks to August 31, 2008 or the sale of the port property, whichever comes first. He told Council he recommended passage of this resolution tonight because Ordinance 2008-2 would not receive final reading until next month.

George Bullwinkel recommended that the language in the resolution mirror the language in the ordinance.

Councilmember Heyward moved to adopt Resolution 1-2008 and Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX. FOR COUNCIL'S ACTION:

- A. Appoint members to Historic Preservation Commission**

Councilmember Heyward moved to appoint Erick Erickson, Jane Frederick, Evan Thompson, Bill Scheper, Eileen Newton, Riley Randall and Mike Jones to the Historic Preservation Commission. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX. IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES:

- A. Monday, January 21, 2008 – Town Hall, Public Works and the administrative offices of the Police Department will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day**
- B. Monday, February 4, 2008, 5:30 PM – Joint Municipal Planning Commission, 700 Paris Avenue**
- C. Thursday, February 7, 2008, 5:30 PM – Design Review Board (DRB) Meeting, 700 Paris Avenue**
- D. Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 6:30 PM – Public Hearing, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**
- E. Wednesday, February 6, 2008, immediately following the scheduled Public Hearing – Council Workshop, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**
- F. Wednesday, February 13, 2008, 6:30 pm – Regular Council Meeting, Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

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

Carlotta Ungaro reminded Council that "Beaufort County Day" in Columbia would be Monday, January 31st.

X. 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.

Sing Pappas spoke concerning the Town's Codes Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Murray asked Ms. Pappas to bring this matter to the Town Manager.

John Keller told Council the Anchor Park looked very nice since its renovation but said it needed a little more grass seed. He also spoke concerning the new sign at the intersection of Paris Avenue and Ribaut Road.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Heyward moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 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 meeting was posted on the Town bulletin board two weeks before of 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.