

# TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND

Town Council – Work Session

August 8, 2023 – 1:00PM

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## MINUTES

### Call to Order – Roll Call – Freedom of Information

Mayor Gregg called the August 8, 2023, Town Council Work Session to order at 1:00PM. Councilwomen Finke and Fox, Councilmen Goldstein and Kortvelesy, Town Administrator Joe Cronin, Communications & Events Manager Robin Ochoa, Zoning Administrator Tyler Newman, and Assistant Town Administrator Katharine Watkins participated in the meeting. The Assistant Town Administrator confirmed that notice of the meeting was posted, and the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act had been met.

### Mayor John Gregg (look at Mayors notes)

- Notice of Upcoming Resignations (Council and Board of Zoning Appeals)

Mayor Gregg noted that Councilwoman Fox and her husband will be relocating, and both will be resigning their positions with the Town. Mayor Gregg summarized their years of service to the Town of Seabrook Island.

Mayor Gregg also noted that he will be assuming the role of Chair of the Community Promotions and Engagement Committee for the remainder of his term, and Bob Leggett will be the interim chair of the Board of Zoning Appeals in Mr. Fox's absence.

- Comment Concerning Venue of August Council Meeting

Mayor Gregg made the following statement regarding the venue of the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Town Council Meeting:

"The Town has received numerous comments and inquiries as to the choice of Town Hall for the August Council meeting in light of the overflow attendance at the July Planning Commission meeting. While more spacious meeting rooms are available at the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association ("SIPOA") Lakehouse and at the Seabrook Island Club Island House, access to those facilities is restricted by the SIPOA access control gate. Because Town Council meetings are, by Statute, required to be open to the public, it would be necessary to allow access through the SIPOA access control gate by the general public, essentially defeating controlled access to the community. The Town prefers not to negate that controlled access.

It is noted that while "in-person" attendance at Town Hall will necessarily be limited by capacity, the public can "attend" all Council meetings via video conference. Meetings are live streamed to support interactive participation. Council Chambers at Town Hall have been fitted with equipment that facilitates interactive video conferencing. In particular, multiple large display screens are located for ease of viewing by seated attendees and unmanned video camera

devices autonomously respond to voices to select the field of view being presented. Unlike Town Hall, other venues within the Town lack such equipment. “

- Consider the BCDCOG Proposed Letter of Support Concerning NOAA Funding Opportunity

Mayor Gregg summarized the request from the Executive Director of the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (“BCDCOG”) concerning a sought letter of support from area municipalities concerning NOAA grant funding for use in building resilience of coastal communities. Mayor Gregg noted the proposed letter states the Town’s support for application for funding by BCDCOG and names staff member(s) who will be available to support BCDCOG and project partners on the development of a Regional Resilience Plan and nominated propose Town Administrator and Zoning Administrator staff members for the town with this request.

#### **Town Council Members:**

- **Jeri Finke**

Councilwoman Finke noted the upcoming Environment & Wildlife Committee meeting Thursday August 10<sup>th</sup> will be postponed to a later date.

Councilwoman Finke commented on the public hearing coming and suggested appointing an ad hoc committee to address the issues to the annexation.

Mayor Gregg approved the creation of the ad-hoc committee for the proposed annexation and appointed Councilwoman Finke and Goldstein to this ad-hoc committee.

- **Patricia Fox**

Councilwoman Fox noted the upcoming Communications Promotions and Engagement Committee meeting will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup> and will be the last meeting prior to resigning as a Town Council member.

Councilwoman Fox noted there was no Seabrook Island Property Owners Association (SIPOA) long range planning meeting.

- **Barry Goldstein**

None.

- **Dan Kortvelesy**

Councilman Kortvelesy noted at the upcoming Public Safety Committee meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am, there will be representatives from Charleston County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO) as well.

The Council discussed whether the current coverage from CCSO is similar to the coverage done when the Town of Kiawah Island had a contract with them.

#### **Town Administrator Joe Cronin**

- Action Items for August 22, 2023, Meeting

- Ordinances up for First Reading with public hearing:

- Ord. 2023-06: An ordinance annexing Charleston County Tax Map Number 204-00-00-010 containing approximately 17.75 +/- acres at 4484 Betsy Kerrison Parkway.
    - Ord. 2023-07: An ordinance adopting a Mixed-Use Concept Plan and Development Conditions for the Andell Mixed Use project.

Town Administrator Cronin summarized Ord. 2023-06 and 2023-07 up for first reading and public hearing, and the flow of the meeting.

The council inquired about the development conditions included in the agenda packet and when the agenda will be posted.

Zoning Administrator Newman summarized the changes that will be shown in the redline version of Ord. 2023-07.

- Ordinances up for First Reading:

- Ord. 2023-10: An ordinance relating to the recovery of collection costs as part of delinquent debts collected pursuant to the setoff debt collection act.

Town Administrator Cronin and Assistant Town Administrator Watkins summarized Ord. 2023-10 related to set off debt collection.

The council inquired about the number of fines outstanding and if the CCSO issues a summons would it be beneficial to have a traffic court. Asst. Town Administrator Watkins noted this would need to go through the traffic court already done by CCSO rather than through the town's municipal court.

- Other Action Items:

- Vehicle on Beach Request for the Seabrook Island Natural History Group (SINHG) on Monday September 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup>

Town Administrator Cronin summarized the vehicle on the beach requested by the Seabrook Island Natural History Group (SINGH) on Monday September 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup>.

The council clarified the number of trips the vehicle will be making and the logistics of the request.

The council clarified the times of the request were matching the tide charts for low tide.

### **Assistant Town Administrator Katharine Watkins**

- June 2023 Financials

Assistant Town Administrator Watkins summarized the June Financials as follows:

- Total fund balance ending on June 30, 2023, was \$9,148,681 an amount about \$1,789,986 more than the balance as June 30, 2022.
  - Unrestricted revenue for June totaled \$356,978 representing about 80.6% for the 2023 annual budget and being about \$17,488 less than for the same period in 2022.
  - Expenditures for June totaled \$136,405 which is 41.1% of the 2023 annual budget. Expenditures for the year were about \$33,718 more compared to the same period of 2022.
  - Excess revenues over expenditures were \$220,574 for June compared to an excess revenues over expenditures of \$271,779 in the same period of 2022, representing a decrease in revenue from this year compared to last.
- Filing Reminder for November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Election

Asst. Town Administrator Watkins noted filing for Mayor, Council, and the Utility Commission for the election on November 7<sup>th</sup> opens on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00PM and closes September 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:00PM.

**Other Action Items:**

- Res. 2023-27: A resolution to appoint and commission Tyrique Brown as a Code Enforcement Officer for the proper security and general welfare for the Town of Seabrook Island.

Zoning Administrator Newman summarized Res. 2023-27 and Tyrique Brown's experience with relation to the Seabrook Island Area.

Councilwoman Finke moved to approve Res. 2023-27; Councilwoman Fox seconded. All voted in favor.

Res. 2023-27 was approved, and Mr. Brown was appointed as a part-time code enforcement officer.

**Adjourn**

Councilwoman Finke moved to adjourn; Councilwoman Fox seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Date: August 8, 2023

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*  
Assistant Town Administrator