



# TOWN COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

### Minutes

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Monday, 23 May 2016

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

This meeting's notice was published in the Post and Courier newspaper.

#### **I. Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Heyward at 6:32 PM.

#### **II. Roll Call**

In attendance were Councilmembers Dunmyer, III, Salters, Smalls, Sr., Townsend, Planner/Zoning Administrator Holton, Attorney Austen, Clerk-Treasurer White, Councilmembers Sausser and Scott arrived after roll call.

#### **III. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation was given by Mayor Heyward followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **IV. Adoption of Agenda**

The following items were added to the agenda: Project Cool Breeze under Committee Reports, an Executive Session for the personnel budget after Old Business and Amendment to Ordinance #2015-16-10 under Town Code, Section 58-100 Town Center District (TC) under New Business. Councilmember Smalls made the motion to adopt the agenda with the additions; Councilmember Sausser seconded and all voted in favor.

#### **V. Public Comments**

None

#### **VI. Presentation**

Sergeant Harold Phillips, Charleston County Sheriff's Office gave an update on the Lunch with a Deputy Program instituted in the Hollywood. He thanked Mayor Heyward for her interest in helping to develop this much needed program in the Town.

Sasha Vargas, Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch, gave an update on Charleston County's Smart 9-1-1- Program and the importance of citizens planning ahead for safety and emergencies. This is free service available to the community. She encouraged everyone to sign-up at Smart 911.com.

#### **VII. Minutes**

Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on April 25, 2016 as prepared; Councilmember Sausser seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **VIII. Committee Reports**

Finance-Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion to accept the Finance Report as information; Councilmember Sausser seconded and all voted in favor.

Planning/Zoning- Councilmember Dunmyer, III asked for clarification on the DOT sign in the right-of-way at the Poplar Grove entrance. Planner/Zoning Administrator Holton responded that technically the sign is in the DOT's right-of-way. As the sign is not on the Town's property, if the DOT has no issue with it, the Town doesn't either.

Councilmember Dunmyer, III had a question about the real estate license vs. business license revenues received by the Town; whether the Town receives a fee each time a home is sold. After some discussion, it was determined that the business license is based on gross revenue for each business and the class to which it is associated.

Planner/Zoning Administrator Holton explained the intent of the amendment to the Town Code, Section 58-100, Town Center (TC) Zoning District with regard to setbacks, tree ordinances, signage and speed limit. This amendment has been heard and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission and staff also recommends approval. He also answered Councilmember Dunmyer, III question about where the Town Center will begin and end. There was a question whether the speed limit could be lowered, to which Mr. Holton noted that it is up to Council to recommend changes in speed limits. Councilmember Sausser made the motion to approve the Planning/Zoning Report as information; Councilmember Scott seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Project Cool Breeze - Councilmember Dunmyer, III distributed a flyer for information. The kick-off date is May 20th. Individuals age 60 and older who have not received an air-conditioner or a fan in the last three years are eligible to participate. Applications will be available at the Town Hall. Those who have contacted Project Cool Breeze to request an air-conditioner or a fan will not be required to complete an application through the Town Hall.

### **IX. Old Business**

*Resolution 23-2015-16: SCE&G Franchise Agreement to include gas* - Mayor Heyward reported that this agenda item was tabled at the last meeting to obtain additional information. This information has been received. The Town of Awendaw and Mt. Pleasant receives 5% in franchise fees and Ravenel and Meggett receives 3%. The Town of Hollywood has received \$185,000 in franchise fees last year. Mayor Heyward asked for a motion to remove the item from the table for discussion. Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion; Councilmember Smalls, Sr., seconded and all voted in favor. Mayor Heyward said we need to agree to stay with the 3% or to increase it. We have not been receiving any fees for natural gas because that service was not available in the Town until the most recent subdivision was built. She also mentioned that the fees are passed on to the citizens. Attorney Austen stated there are two issues, first is whether the Town wants to include gas, and second, whether or not to increase the franchise fees. Councilmember Sausser made the motion to include gas in the Franchise Agreement; Councilmember Dunmyer, III seconded and all voted in favor. Councilmember Sausser made the motion that the franchise fee remains at 3%, Councilman Dunmyer, III seconded and the motion passed with Councilmember Smalls voting no.

Executive Session: Councilmember Smalls made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:32 PM; Councilmember Sausser seconded and all voted in favor.

Return to Regular Session: Council reconvened to regular session at 7:54 PM.

#### **X. New Business**

*Ordinance 2015-16-111st Reading of FY 17 Municipal Budget:* Mayor Heyward gave an overview of the budget that it included a 9% increase over last year. The proposed budget for FY 2016-17 is \$2,347,607. Councilmember Sausser made a motion to approve first reading of the budget; Councilmember Dunmyer, III seconded and the motion passed; Councilmember Townsend voted no.

*Ordinance 2015-16-10: Amendment of Town Code Section 58-100, Town Center (TC) Zoning District:* Councilmember Sausser made the motion for discussion and Councilmember Dunmyer, III seconded. Councilmember Sausser asked Planner/Zoning Administrator Holton to briefly explain the amendment. He explained that it is to add-in or redefine the front yard setbacks. All voted in favor.

#### **XI. Mayor's Update:**

Mayor Heyward mentioned that the St. Paul's Fire Department has formed a non-profit and are asking for volunteers to solicit help from the community. The first event was a fun-day in the park. The Gospel Fest and Serenity Garden dedication was held at Wide Awake Park on May 14th and was received well by the community. She thanked everyone who came out to volunteer and helped with the park.

#### **XII. Comments from Mayor/Council:**

Councilmember Dunmyer, III rose to a point of order asking to make a motion regarding the MASC Annual Conference, that the Town pay the hotel accommodations as it was approved in the budget. Mayor Heyward said since the conference will be held in Charleston this year, that we will not reimburse for hotel accommodation and even though it is in the budget, she feels that the money could be utilized elsewhere. Councilmember Smalls commented that him having to work and with traffic, he would not be able to attend if hotel accommodations were not paid. Councilmember Salters mentioned that she has an issue with parking and traffic and would also not be able to attend if hotel accommodations were not paid. Councilmember Sausser agreed with Mayor Heyward. She noted that the hotel rate is expensive and agree that the money could be used elsewhere. Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion that along with the registration that hotel accommodations be paid; Councilmember Townsend seconded. Votes were recorded as follows:

Councilmember Dunmyer, III    yes

Councilmember Salters            abstain

Councilmember Sausser        no

Councilmember Scott            no

Councilmember Smalls        no  
Councilmember Townsend    yes  
Mayor Heyward                no

The motion failed.

*Councilmember Smalls* mentioned that he enjoyed himself on Saturday at the Gospel Fest and Serenity Garden dedication and thanked the Town for their hard work.

*Councilmember Scott* thanked Councilmember Sausser for her hard work on the Gospel Fest and the Town for its code enforcement efforts.

*Councilmember Sausser* mentioned that James Heyward is retiring and she would like Council to give him a certificate to acknowledge the work that he has done for the Town. She said we can never repay him for the work he has done. Attorney Austen advised against giving gifts; Councilmember Sausser asked if donations could be received from the community; and he answered that would be more acceptable. She suggested that the Gospel Fest become an annual event and involve more churches. It was good to see the community come together.

*Councilmember Smalls* commended Beth Carpenter for all of her hard work and efforts with the organization of the Serenity Garden dedication; it was much appreciated.

*Councilmember Dunmyer* asked if a resolution or proclamation could be done for James Heyward for it to become a part of the history of the Town and all of Council agreed. Councilmember Dunmyer, III will prepare a resolution.

### **XIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

**Prepared by:  
Tynetta White  
Clerk-Treasurer**