

Regular Town Council Meeting

November 14, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Sulka called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PRESENT

Mayor Lisa Sulka

Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Toomer

Councilmember Fred Hamilton

Councilmember Bridgette Frazier

Councilmember Dan Wood

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Mayor Sulka and Invocation by Councilmember Hamilton.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to adopt the agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

Adoption of the Minutes

1. Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/10/2023

Motion made by Councilmember Wood, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/10/23 as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

2. Town Council Quarterly CIP Workshop 10/17/2023

Motion made by Councilmember Frazier, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to approve the Town Council Quarterly CIP Workshop 10/17/2023.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

Presentations, Celebrations and Recognitions

1. Beaufort County School District Character Student of the Month - Mayor Lisa Sulka

Mayor Lisa Sulka, on behalf of Town Council, honored Doris Cahill, a 5th grader from Michael C. Riley Elementary School, for her character trait of acceptance.

2. Lung Cancer Awareness Proclamation - Mayor Lisa Sulka

3. Smoke-Free and Vape-Free Awareness Month Proclamation - Mayor Lisa Sulka

Mayor Lisa Sulka, on behalf of Town Council, presented a smoke-free and vape-free awareness proclamation to representatives of the Lowcountry Alliance for Healthy Youth.

Public Comment

Skip Hoagland - 61 Sparwheel Lane, Hilton Head Island - Mr. Hoagland addressed Mayor Sulka regarding his recently attended court dates and the Power of Attorney on file.

Communications from Mayor and Council

Councilmember Frazier spoke of service to neighbors in need and encouraged donations for the annual turkey drive. Bluffton Self Help has a need for 200 turkey or ham donations to serve the needs of the community.

Mayor-Pro Toomer expressed his gratitude for the election participants and shared his praises to Bluffton for continued support as he transitions into his new role of Mayor in January 2024.

Councilmember Wood congratulated incumbent Councilmember Frazier and Mayor-elect Toomer for their success in the election.

Mayor Sulka spoke on the following items:

On behalf of Ginger Marshall with Beaufort County EMS related the information for the 2nd Annual First Response Food Drive.

In addition to the proclamation for smoke-free and vape-free awareness, fliers providing education on E-Cigs are available for distribution from the Lowcountry Alliance for Healthy Youth.

An outline for the Special Election was discussed with the election taking place on February 13, 2024.

Stephen Steese, Town Manager, outlined upcoming event dates for the upcoming holiday season.

Formal Agenda Items

1. Consideration of the Acceptance of Mosaic Development, LLC's One Hundred Percent (100%) Annexation Petition to Annex Certain Real Property Contiguous to the Town of Bluffton's Corporate Boundaries Consisting of a Total of 7.76 Acres, More or Less, located at 3147 Okatie Highway and Bearing Beaufort County Tax Map No. R600 029 000 0002 0000. - Kevin Icard, Director of Growth Management

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to reject the petition to annex.

The motion was unanimous to reject the petition to annex.

Voting Nay: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

2. Approval to Authorize Intergovernmental Joint Funding Agreement for the Stoney Creek Sewer Project - Stephen Steese, Town Manager

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Seconded by Councilmember Wood to approve the Intergovernmental Joint Funding Agreement for the Stoney Creek Sewer Project.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

3. Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 – Businesses and Business Regulations, Appendix A – Business Licenses Rate Schedule and Appendix B – Business License Class Schedule by NAICS Code of the Town Code as Required by Act 176 of 2020. - First Reading - Natalie Majorkiewicz, Director of Finance

Motion made by Councilmember Wood, Seconded by Councilmember Frazier to approve the first reading of this ordinance.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

Consent Agenda Items

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Town Council unanimously approved the consent agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood

1. Monthly Department Reports: Police, Finance and Administration, Human Resources, Municipal Court, Projects and Watershed Resilience, Public Services, Don Ryan Center for Innovation, and Growth Management
2. Town Manager Monthly Report

Executive Session

1. Discussion Relating to Proposed Land Acquisition in Old Town for the Purpose of Street Right-of-Way (Pursuant to SC Freedom of Information Act 30-4-70 [a][2]) - Heather Colin, Assistant Town Manager

Action from Executive Session

Town Council took no votes nor actions after Executive Session.

Adjournment

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Seconded by Councilmember Hamilton for adjournment at 6:46 pm.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Sulka, Mayor Pro-Tem Toomer, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Frazier, Councilmember Wood