

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Kiawah Island Municipal Center

Council Chambers

May 7, 2019; 2:00 PM

Minutes

I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Present at the meeting:

Craig Weaver, Mayor
Chris Widuch, Mayor Pro Tem
Maryanne Connelly, Councilmember
Dan Prickett, Councilmember
Klaus Said, Councilmember

Also Present:

Stephanie Monroe Tillerson, Town Administrator
Dwayne Green, Town Attorney
Petra Reynolds, Town Clerk

Mayor Weaver performed the swearing-in of John Strauch as the Municipal Court Judge of the Town of Kiawah Island.

III. **Approval of Minutes:**

A. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of April 2, 2019

Councilmember Said made a motion to approve the minutes of April 2, 2019, Town Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Widuch and the minutes were unanimously approved.

B. Minutes of the Town Council Special Call Meeting of April 11, 2019

Councilmember Connelly made a motion to approve the minutes of April 11, 2019, Special Call Town Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Widuch and the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. **Mayor's Update:**

Mayor Weaver stated that former Town Mayor, Bill Wert, passed away on April 29, 2019. He was a former GE executive, moving to Kiawah with his wife, in the late 1990s. Former Mayor Wert was very involved in the community as a Community Association Board member prior to being the longest-term mayor serving four terms for 2002 to 2010 and had a significant impact on the community is not with his involvements but with his number of accomplishments. There will be a Remembrance Day Life celebration on Friday at 4:00 pm at Briars Creek.

Mayor Weaver, on behalf of the Town and Town Council, expressed condolences to his wife, Pat, and family.

V. **Citizens' Comments (Agenda Items Only):**

Kelly Thorvalson – South Carolina Aquarium

Ms. Thorvalson thanked the plastics initiative committee for all their hard work over the past year regarding plastics pollution on Kiawah and thanked the Council for considering this ordinance today.

She indicated that she has worked for the sea turtle rescue program for about 15 years at the aquarium and has witnessed the dramatic increase of turtles coming in with plastics with another turtle admitted very recently. She noted that of the four turtles admitted in 2019, three of those have plastics.

VI. Old Business:

A. To Consider Approval of the Municipal Center Native Plant Demonstration Area Project

Mayor Weaver made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$6,000.00 for Phase 1 of the Municipal Center Native Plant Demonstration Area Project. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Connelly.

Mayor Pro Tem Widuch expressed his concern that the location of the project at Town Hall is going to be very lightly trafficked and struggled to support it based on that concern.

Councilmember Prickett indicated he felt this project was a good use of the land that was purchased by the Town. He did agree that there was some concern about getting people to come, but the more this project is publicized, the more people will come to Town Hall.

Councilmember Connelly agreed that it was a good use of the property the Town owes. She indicated that she and received positive resident feedback and supported the project.

Councilmember Said stated that he also supported the project and hoped that in the future, it could be used as an education tool by teachers and students from the local schools.

Mayor Weaver indicated he was supporting the concept of the native plant project but shared the concern about the location of the project and if residents were willing to come to Town Hall to use it. He noted that the Council would have to approve funding of the continuation of the project before moving on to the next phase.

Following further discussion, the motion to approve the expenditure of \$6,000.00 for Phase 1 of the Municipal Center Native Plant Demonstration Area Project was passed with a 4 to 1 vote. Mayor Pro Tem Widuch voted “no.”

VII. Consent:

A. To Consider Approval of the Proposal from the Greenery for Landscape Services for Town Owned Properties

Town Council voted unanimously to approve the Proposal from the Greenery for Landscape Services for Town Owned Properties.

VIII. New Business:

A. To Consider Approval of the State ATAX Funding Amounts

Mayor Weaver stated the State ATAX (Accommodations Tax) funding amounts that were recommended by the State ATAX Committee were reviewed and recommended for approval without change by the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Prickett made a motion to approve the State ATAX funding amounts as recommended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Widuch.

Councilmember Connelly stated that Freshfields Village requested that Council consider the addition of the \$2,000 cut from their original funding request. She indicated that after researching the programs presented by Freshfields, their Easter activities were attended by between 3,000 to 3,500 people, and along with the other year-round activities that are available, she believed that it was essential for the Town to support them.

Councilmember Connelly stated that she consulted with the Town Treasurer and if Council would concur the additional funding can be funded from the County ATAX fund. Mayor Weaver noted that the request could be raised during the discussion of the budget and if approved would be an amendment to the budget and asked Councilmember Connelly to defer her funding request for consideration during the budget ordinance discussion.

Following the discussion, the approval of the State ATAX funding amounts was unanimously approved.

B. To Consider Approval of the Proposal from McCormick Taylor for Kiawah Island Parkway Engineering Services

Mayor Weaver stated the proposal from McCormick Taylor for the Parkway project engineering services was discussed and recommended for approval by the Ways and Means Committee.

Mayor Weaver made a motion to approve the Proposal and engage McCormick Taylor for the design engineering and construction administration for the Kiawah Island Parkway project in an amount not to exceed \$277,566.00.

Mayor Weaver stated the reason for the “not to exceed” amount was due to the inclusion of items such as; raising the road, ingress, and egress to Freshfields, and curbing which were added to the original bid proposal. Additional discussion with McCormick Taylor has determined that it is unlikely that raising the road in many places can be included in the actual construction project and still have the road repaved before the PGA. If Council approves the engagement of McCormick Taylor, the Town will request they go forward with the Mingo design so that there will be construction design and pricing for raising the road and allowing it to be a separate project which could be completed in the future.

Mr. Prickett seconded Mayor Weaver’s motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. To Consider Approval of Resolution 2019-01 - To Adopt the Revised Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mr. Spicher stated that the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a compilation of a procedural doctrine authored by the Regional Hazard Mitigation Committee. The plan is updated every five years by the members that serve on the regional committee. Kiawah has adopted the Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan since 1999 and adopting the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan authorizes the Town to submit for hazard assistance, whether through grants, supplies, or personnel.

Mayor Pro Tem Widuch made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-01 - To Adopt the Revised Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Prickett, and the motion was unanimously approved.

D. To Consider Approval of Ordinance 2019-02 – An Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget for the Town of Kiawah Island, SC (7/1/19 Through 6/30/20) – First Reading

Mayor Weaver stated this was the first reading of the budget ordinance, which requires two reading. He indicated the FY 19/20 budget had been discussed during the Ways and Means Committee meeting on three occasions discussing revenues, expenditures, and then a recommendation for approval by Town Council.

Mayor Weaver gave an overview of the FY 2019/2020 budget for which he highlighted and discussed what he felt were vital takeaways:

- **Surplus** - \$2.46 million (spending at 75% of projected revenues)
- **Revenue** - flat - moderate increases in revenue sources, offset by a reduction in resort building permits

She added that the County Parks will not be finished with their renovation but intend to open on Memorial Day.

Ms. Tillerson gave an update regarding the Off-Shore Drilling matter in which the Town, as well as other South Carolina coastal communities, participated in a suit with the South Carolina Environmental Law Project. She indicated that as of now, the permit process through the current administration had been placed on hold.

Ms. Tillerson introduced and welcomed the newest employees of the Town of Kiawah Island family; Mr. Todd Kaminski – Code Enforcement and Mr. Brian Gottshalk – Facilities Manager and Public Works.

X. Council Member:

- a. Committee Updates
- b. General Comments

Councilmember Connelly stated that during the Memorial Day Weekend, there would be an additional shift of off-duty deputies to handle the extra crowds. She also indicated that the Kiawah CERT Team had selected a new leader, Mr. Scott Nelson..

Councilmember Connelly stated the Town held its Emergency Management Plan exercise which focused on reaction if there was an earthquake.

Mayor Weaver thank Ms. Fran Wermuth for her service as the CERT Team leader for the past three years.

XI. Citizens' Comments:

Wendy Kulick – 38 Marsh Edge Lane

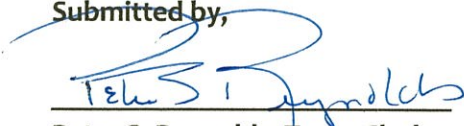
Ms. Kulick indicated she agreed with the previous comments made by Ms. Thorvalson and for the action that Council is taking about single-use plastics. She also thanked the Town for continuing its fiscal conservativeness when it comes to spending funds, and for the deputies which are monitoring traffic coming on to the Island as the speed lowers to 35 mph.

**XII. Executive Session:
None**

XIII. Adjournment:

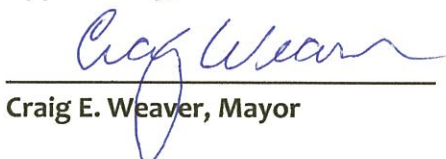
Councilmember Said motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:04 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Prickett and carried unanimously.

Submitted by,



Petra S. Reynolds, Town Clerk

Approved by,



Craig E. Weaver, Mayor

Date